State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board
Crowne Plaza West, Richmond, Virginia
Friday, February 10, 2012
1:00 PM

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Others:	Staff:
Anita Ashby *Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association* **B.R. "Beau" Blevins, III** *Virginia Association of Counties* **J. David Barrick** *Peninsulas EMS Council* **Dreama D. Chandler** *VA Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads* **Gary Critzer** *Central Shenandoah EMS Council* **James R. Dudley, M.D., MBA** *Virginia College of Emergency Physicians* **Bruce Edwards** *Tidewater EMS Council* **Stephen J. Elliott** *Thomas Jefferson EMS Council* **Steve Ennis** *Virginia State Firefighters Association* **R. Christian Eudailey** *Rappahannock EMS Council* **Robin L. Foster, M.D.** *American Academy of Pediatrics* **Cathy C. Fox, RN, CEN, CPEN** *Virginia Emergency Nurses Association / Virginia Nurses Association* **L.V. Pokey Harris** *Southwest VA EMS Council* **David Hoback** *VA Association of Governmental EMS Administrators* **Brian Hricik** *Northern VA EMS Council* **Marilyn McLeod, M.D.** *Blue Ridge EMS Council* **Richard D. McClure** *Old Dominion EMS Alliance*	**Michael Crockett** (Excused) *Associated Public Safety Communications Officials* **Ajai Malhotra, M.D.** *American College of Surgeons* **Anthony D. Wilson** (Excused) *Virginia Ambulance Association*	**Chip Decker** *Richmond Ambulance Authority* **Ed Rhodes** **Connie Purvis** *Blue Ridge EMS Council* **Karen Wagner** *Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS)* **Gary Dalton** *Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS)* **Mindy Carter** *CJW Medical Center* **Michael Player** *Peninsulas EMS Council* **Jim Chandler** *Tidewater EMS Council* **Wayne Peer** *Rockingham County Fire & Rescue* **Gregory Woods** *Southwest Virginia EMS Council* **Tracey McLaurin** *Lord Fairfax EMS Council* **Marissa Levine** *Virginia Department of Health* **Mary Nelson** *VCU School of Medicine* **Billy Altman** *Roanoke Fire-EMS / FARC* **Bianca Johnson** *Dale City Volunteer Fire Dept.* **Rob Logan** *Western Virginia EMS Council* **Melinda Duncan** *Northern Virginia EMS Council*	Jim Nogle Adam Harrell Dennis Molnar Michael D. Berg Deborah T. Akers Warren Short Terry Coy David P. Edwards George Lindbeck Tim Perkins Wanda Street Carol S. Morrow Irene Hamilton Marian Hunter Carol Pugh Chad Blosser Gary Brown Scott Winston

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Wayne Myers, Jr. *VA Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads* **Andrea W. Oakes** *Virginia Municipal League* **Larry A. Oliver** *Lord Fairfax EMS Council* **Gary Samuels** *VA Chapter of the International Association of Firefighters* **Matthew Tatum** *Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators (VAGEMSA)* **John Dale Wagoner** *Western Virginia EMS Council* **Allen Yee, M.D., FAAEM** *Medical Society of Virginia*		**Rob Lawrence** *Richmond Ambulance Authority* **Cam Crittenden** *Bon Secours Richmond* **Dr. Karen Remley** *Virginia Department of Health* **Wayne Perry** *Rappahannock EMS Council* **John R. Dugan** *American Heart Association* **David E. Cullen, Jr.** *Central Shenandoah EMS Council* **Keith Morrison** *Fairfax County Fire Rescue Department* **Eddie Ferguson** *Goochland County Fire-Rescue* **Al Thompson** *Chesterfield Fire & EMS* **Jennie Collins** *Prince William County* **Lynn Barbour** *Old Dominion EMS Council* **Jose Salazar** *Loudoun County Fire Rescue* **Mike Harmon** *Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators (VAGEMSA)* **Dan Norville** *Norfolk Fire-Rescue*	

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Call to Order – Gary Critzer, Chair	Mr. Critzer called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. A brief moment of silence was requested for Paramedic Joshua Weissman , Alexandria Fire Department who was killed in the line of duty earlier in the week. Following a moment of silence, Mr. Critzer requested everyone face the US flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.	
Approval of November 9, 2011 Meeting Minutes	The minutes from the November 9, 2011 meeting were approved with no corrections.	
Approval of February 10, 2012 Meeting Agenda	The meeting agenda for the meeting was approved with a couple of changes that were noted by the Chair.	
Chair Report – Gary Critzer	Mr. Critzer reported that since becoming Chair he has attended as many committee meetings as possible. Other than committee meetings, Mr. Critzer said that he has also met with Jennie Collins, the	

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	outgoing Chair, to get an overview of the Board's goals and missions. Mr. Critzer reported that he also met with Drs. Remley and Levine, and Bruce Edwards on January 27. At the meeting they discussed several issues related to EMS. They agreed to make this a routine meeting, at least quarterly. Mr. Critzer said that he will also be attending the State Fire Chiefs and the Fire Board meeting at the end of February in Virginia Beach. Mr. Critzer also reported that he has plans to attend the VAVRS Board of Governors in April, as well as several other meetings. Mr. Critzer said the General Assembly session has been very active and will be discussed in more detail later in the meeting.	
Vice Chair Report – Dale Wagoner	Mr. Wagoner reported he had reached out to board members regarding committee assignments. Mr. Wagoner said the Executive Committee was committed to having every board member active on at least one committee. Mr. Wagoner said that this goal has been met and that every board member is now a member of at least one committee. Mr. Wagoner reminded the committee chairs that there are still some vacant spots on some committees, and he encouraged them to work to make sure all the committees are fully staffed. Mr. Wagoner thanked Gary Samuels for his work and efforts in putting the data together. Mr. Wagoner talked about some of the work that the committees were doing and how important their missions are to EMS. Mr. Wagoner also recognized Chad Blosser for his work on the EMS portal and talked about how that has proven to be an effective tool for him. Mr. Critzer advised that the Executive Committee wants to make sure Board members have adequate time to review and make informed decisions on any action items. Committees are asked to make sure that they get any action items to Irene and the Office of EMS in a timely manner to assure that they can be placed in the Quarterly Report and reviewed by board members prior to the board meetings.	
Commissioner of Health – Dr. Karen Remley	Dr. Remley said that this is her fifth year as Commissioner and recalled attending an EMS Advisory Board meeting during her first year as Commissioner. Dr. Remley talked about the success of the Pertussis vaccination and reported that Virginia has increased the adult Pertussis vaccination rate by 15 percent. She also reported that they are currently working with Emergency physicians to encourage patients to get the adult Tdap vaccination when patients come in to get a tetanus shot. Dr. Remley reported that they are also working with health plans to make sure it is covered. Dr. Remley also reported that Virginia ranks first in the country for pneumococcal vaccine rates among high-risk adults. Dr. Remley said she appreciates the role of EMS providers in encouraging patients to get the Pertussis and Tdap vaccinations. She also recognized and thanked the Medevac committee for the work they are	

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	doing with the CDC in regards to what is going on with Medevac nationwide. Dr. Remley reported that she is now the Chair of the Emergency Preparedness Committee for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). Dr. Remley also recognized Bruce Edwards, a member of the State EMS Advisory Board, who is also the first EMS Advisory Board member who was appointed to the new EMS position on the Board of Health, and also being elected as Chair of the Board of Health. Dr. Remley talked about the great job that Bruce is doing and said that his performance speaks to the character of the EMS community as a whole. Dr. Remley talked about the leverage and leadership of EMS providers in helping the Virginia's leadership know the crucial issues that need to be addressed in the state. She challenged EMS providers to use their voice to bring crucial issues to the forefront. Gary Samuels said the State Regulations have been on the Governor's desk for a long time. He asked if she could give any help in getting those regulations moved along and signed. Dr. Remley suggested that someone remind her a week after crossover and then again the day the General Assembly goes home. Dr. Remley said she will remind Deputy Secretary Matt Cobb that the EMS Regulations are on the Governor's desk.	**Mr. Critzer said that he will remind her of the need to get the State EMS Regulations signed after General Assembly is over.**
Deputy Commissioner of Public Health & Preparedness - Dr. Marissa Levine	Dr. Levine wanted to make sure that everyone is aware of new capabilities that have been produced by the Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Levine reported that recently eight specific health care emergency capabilities have been released. Dr. Levine said that all eight of them relate in some way to the EMS community. Dr. Levine said it is critical that regional EMS councils and individuals who are working closely with the hospital systems be involved with the planning process around these capabilities. The eight capabilities are: 1) Health Care System Preparedness; 2) Health Care System Recovery; 3) Emergency Operations Coordination; 4) Fatality Management; 5) Information Sharing; 6) Medical Surge; 7) Responder Safety and Health; 8)Volunteer Management. Dr. Levine said that there will be additional intensive activity going on in the hospital regions and she encouraged regional coordination and planning to promote a cooperative venture through systems that already exist. Dr. Levine asked that the committees of the state EMSAdvisory Board specifically embrace these capabilities as they talk about the various aspects of their work. Dr. Levine said that VDH/OEMS will work to make sure that updated information gets out to the EMS community.	
Office of EMS Report – Gary Brown	Mr. Brown thanked Drs. Remley and Levine for giving their approval to allow the EMS Advisory Board the opportunity to once again meet under one roof. Mr. Brown also welcomed newly appointed board member, David Hoback, who will be representing the Virginia Fire Chief's Association.	

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	Mr. Brown referred the group to the Office of EMS Quarterly Report to the EMS Advisory Board, which can be accessed on the OEMS website and covers recent EMS activities. The report includes a section "EMS on the National Scene" and that section includes crucial information that is taking place nationally that will impact EMS in Virginia. Mr. Brown reported that several OEMS staff are active on the national level, including Paul Sharpe, who is an active member of the NASEMSO Data Manager and Trauma Manager Councils; and David Edwards, the EMSC Coordinator is active on the Pediatric Care Council and is President-Elect of that council. Mr. Brown also recognized Matthew Tatum, a member of the EMS Advisory Board who is also a member of the National EMS Advisory Council. Mr. Brown also said that he is on the Executive Committee of the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO). Mr. Brown gave a brief overview of legislation for which OEMS has been assigned lead. HB177; HB380 which has been rolled into HB352; HB533 and SB312, which are companion bills that deal with Four-for Life. Mr. Brown asked Ed Rhodes, a lobbyist at the General Assembly who represents four major EMS stakeholder groups in Virginia, to give a legislative report. General Assembly Update – Ed Rhodes Mr. Rhodes talked about the Budget amendments – (1) Poison Control Center Funds Request and (2) Language Amendment for giving the agency a funding stream if they decide to go to the National Registry EMT. Poison Control Funds- Mr. Rhodes gave an overview of this budget amendment. He said that in the introduced budget there was language from the Department of Health taking $500,000 dollars each year of the bienniumfrom Special Emergency Medicine Fund. A budget amendment was submitted deleting this and returning the money back to EMS. Mr. Rhodes said that the budget amendment requests that instead the $500,000 for the Poison Control be taken from the Vehicle Registrations $2 increase from two years ago that has never gone to EMS and goes straight to the General Fund; and this does not affect the training funds within Four-for-Life. Line of Duty- Mr. Rhodes reported that two bills were introduced concerning Line of Duty, one by Senator Watkins (SB125) and one by Delegate Jones (HB740). SB125, scheduled to be implemented on July 1, 2012, took the budget language from two years ago and put it in the Code. Mr. Rhodes said that they were able to convince Senate Finance to extend the implementation date by a year so that it now takes effect July 1, 2013. It will allow localities to investigate and manage Line of Duty claims for their employees if they are non-participating employees and also creates an appeal process. They are still working on it but some of the retirement issues have taken precedent. Mr. Rhodes reported that SB947 by Senator Watkins, a retirement bill, would change the way that the	

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	system is set up, allowing localities to have the employees pay the 5 percent contribution rate towards VRS retirement. An amendment was made to that in Senate Finance subcommittee, requiring a five percent offset; this would require that individuals would get a five percent pay raise to offset what is going to VRS. This bill was passed by Senate Finance. SB498 creates a mandatory hybrid plan that takes effect July 1, 2014. This bill would change the multiplier to one percent and there is also a defined contribution plan. Mr. Rhodes reported that Public Safety is exempt from both of these two bills. HB1129 (Delegate Howell) that reduces the multiplier from 1.7 to 1.6 and reduces the cost of living increase by one percent, and make some other changes. Public Safety is exempt. HB1130 (Delegate Howell) This bill is strictly for state employees and also makes some changes. Other Legislation of Interest- HB490 is an EMS Advisory Board bill that staggers the terms after July 1 for appointments and reappointments. Mr. Rhodes also gave highlights of other legislation of interest. Executive Committee Meeting- Mr. Brown reported the group discussed what might be future issues facing EMS. He said it was a thought provoking conversation. NASEMSO Strategic Planning Session- Mr. Brown shared that at the NASEMSO Strategic Planning session he attended in December the meeting was devoted to discussing and brainstorming on a plan developed by the five councils of NASEMSO (Data Managers, Medical Directors, the Education and Professional Standards, the Pediatric and Emergency Care, and the Trauma Managers). Each council developed a plan with goals, objectives and strategies. Mr. Brown reported that at the meeting they also discussed development of an interstate compact for EMS. This involves helicopters that may have a base in one state but can be serving multiple states. Mr. Brown said that the federal government has EMT's and Paramedics and they are being deployed to various states for help with disasters. This creates an issue of meeting a state's licensing requirements. Mr. Brown said this is what has brought about the development of the interstate compact. State EMS Plan- The Legislative and Planning committee has done a good job of identifying goals, objectives and	

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	strategies for EMS in the Commonwealth. Mr. Brown said that the EMS Advisory Board agenda in the future will include the State EMS Plan and the Board will start getting quarterly updates on where they are at each EMS Advisory Board meeting. National EMS Memorial Service- Mr. Brown reported that 20 individuals will be memorialized in the 2012 service. He said that normally most of the inductees are casualties of Medevac crashes; however he said that this year 12 or 60 percent died from on duty cardiac arrest. OEMS Assistant Director, Scott Winston- Mr. Winston has no report. OEMS Trauma Coordinator, Paul Sharpe- Mr. Sharpe reported that NEMSIS is changing the data set again. The roll out plan for the Virginia Version 3.0 Data Dictionary (vaV3) is in the Quarterly Report. Mr. Sharpe said that they are going to start a Wiki page in the next week with the hope that committees will look at it and give them feedback. The Wiki page will close on April 30 and then they will make another draft which should be in the next Quarterly Report. Mr. Sharpe said they hope to bring the document to the EMS Advisory Board for approval in August. Mr. Sharpe said that January 2013 is the projected implementation date. Mr. Brown encouraged the group to visit the OEMS website where they can find a wealth of information on the EMS Registry. Mr. Brown also reported that as of last month with the EMS agencies reporting to the EMS Registry they are at 95.75 percent compliant across the state. George Lindbeck, OEMS State Medical Director- Dr. Lindbeck reported that he attended the NAEMSP meeting in Tucson where there were a lot of discussion about drug shortages, drug kits, and DEA. Drug Shortages – Dr. Lindbeck discussed drug shortages. He said that there is not much OEMS or state departments can do about this problem. He said that there is no one who tells drug companies what to make, how much to make and in what form to make it. Dr. Lindbeck said that everyone is experiencing shortages. Out of Date Drug Issue- Dr. Lindbeck said there was also a discussion as to what point can you use medications past their expiration date and if there is a way that purchasers, distributors and prescribers can get waivers or variances. Dr. Lindbeck said that he understands that there is a process for drug manufacturers to apply to the FDA for waiver but not for anyone else. Drug Kits and the DEA- Dr. Lindbeck said that there is discussion about how EMS physicians and hospitals work with the DEA. He said there are more questions than answers regarding this issue. Dr.	

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	Lindbeck said there is an active collaboration between NAEMSP, ACEP, and NASEMSO to approach the DEA to begin the process of resolving some of those issues. Dr. Lindbeck explained that the bottom line issue is that what EMS does on a daily basis does not fit the DEA paradigm of prescriber, prescription and patient. He said they have ignored it for a long period of time but it is no longer working well. Electronic Signature- Dr. Lindbeck also reported that along those lines the Electronic Signature issue will remain for the same reasons and you will need to work with your local pharmacies on that issue. Dr. Lindbeck said that there are some ways to work around the process but at the moment they do not have a good way to accept electronic signatures for DEA controlled substance drug exchange, Schedules 2-5. Dr. Remley said as far as the drug shortages, they do have a platform on a national level to talk to the FDA on a regular basis. She suggests that OEMS comes up with some type of quarterly report highlighting the general shortages are and their impact on what they are doing. This should eventually get through to the necessary people. Dr. Remley said some of the pharmaceutical companies have very large government contracts and that might help to give us some leverage. On another note, Dr. Remley said that she had sent an email to Deputy Secretary Cobb who said that he would make sure the EMS Regulations get to the top of stack once the General Assembly has concluded.	
Board of Health EMS Representative Report – Bruce Edwards	Mr. Edwards said there was only one regulatory item on the agenda at the last meeting in December. It was dealing with some amendments to nursing scholarships regulations. Mr. Edwards said that the Board of Health meetings are always educational because they get various briefings on numerous issues. Mr. Edwards concurred with Dr. Remley's thoughts that EMS community can have a great impact and influence in helping to get important messages out to the general public. Mr. Edwards reported that he is keeping the Board of Health briefed on the project on the mental health issue. He said that the project is proceeding well. Mr. Edwards reported recently he had a teleconference with individuals from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as well as some CSB representatives where they discussed approaches on how EMS can be of assistance. Mr. Edwards also reported that the Board of Health will be making some changes to their Bylaws. The Bylaws changes will be discussed at the next Board of Health meeting.	
National EMS Advisory Council Representative– Matthew Tatum	Mr. Tatum encouraged individuals to keep abreast on the issues outlined in the Quarterly Report regarding national EMS issues. Mr. Tatum said that the Communications community really needs to keep abreast on the Next Generation 9-1-1 which he said will probably have a major impact on 9-1-1, especially EMS.	

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	Mr. Tatum suggested individuals visit www.ems.gov to view the work of the NEMSAC. He talked about some of the topics and information that can be found on that site. Mr. Tatum said that the next meeting of the NEMSAC committee will be held on March 28, 29, and 30 at the FHI Conference Center, 1825 Connecticut Avenue in Washington, DC. Mr. Tatum said that the discussion on the first day of the meeting will be a round table discussion on the EMS Agenda for the Future. Mr. Tatum said there has been an opportunity for NEMSAC to recommend five topics to be heavily researched and white papers to be developed on. The only stipulation to the funding is that one topic had to be focused on pediatric care within EMS but the other four topics are open. NEMSAC has an opportunity to make recommendations or suggestions as to what those topics should be researched. Mr. Tatum asked anyone with recommendations to send him an email with their suggested topic. Mr. Tatum said that the March meeting will be the deadline for submitting topics for research.	
Standing Committee Reports and Action Items:		
Executive Committee – Gary Critzer	Mr. Critzer reported that they have met three days since the last EMS Advisory Board meeting. They met December 5 and 6 at the Office of EMS. At these meetings they got updates from all of the different OEMS programs. Dr. Levine attended on December 5. The committee met again on February 9. The committee plans to meet at least once between each Board meeting. EMS Funding- Mr. Critzer gave an overview of some of the topics that the committee had discussed at their meetings. The topics included EMS Funding, and the committee has asked that in the future they are kept abreast of where things are in the State budget that relates to EMS funding as well as having the EMS Advisory Board involved in discussions that will impact EMS funding. National Registry Testing Fee- The committee also discussed the issue on the National Registry testing fee. Mr. Critzer reported that in his meeting with Dr. Levine it has been agreed that the option to pay for testing is not off the table. The Training Committee is tasked with going back and developing proposals on how to address that funding and a process on how to make that happen. Mr. Critzer said they would like to have a preliminary report back from the Training Committee by the May meeting. The Executive Committee will share that report with VDH Administration. VDH/EMS Health Initiatives- Mr. Critzer emphasized and reiterated the need for the EMS community to get involved in health initiatives that will impact the public. EMS can at a minimum lend their support and endorsement to health issues that will impact the public.	

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	EMS Certification Examination waiver process- Mr. Critzer reported that the Health Department's legislative package included addressing the certification waiver and elimination of that test waiver. This was supported by VDH Administration but the bill was not picked up by the Governor's office. Mr. Critzer said that this does not mean the Governor doesn't support it but simply means it did not rise to level of being picked up, and they will attempt to send the legislation through again next year. In the interim, Gary Brown will be working with the OAG to see if there is any latitude on how they can have a work around with the EMS certification waiver to achieve the same thing that was intended in language. The committee also discussed long range planning and starting on the state EMS Plan. They will get updates from OEMS staff on keeping up with those issues.	
Financial Assistance Review Committee – Wayne Peer	Mr. Peer reported that the committee met on Thursday, February 9. The Quarterly Report contains a detailed report of the awards from the last cycle. Mr. Peer said ambulances continued to be the number one funding item. They had 108 applicants in the last cycle and they awarded money to 93 agencies. They awarded $4,459,402, and this was up from the previous cycle. There will be two new requirements in the upcoming cycle. (1) P25 Requirement – when awarding communication equipment it must be P25 compliant. (2) Memorandums of Understanding with multi-jurisdictional equipment – they are asking that anyone doing something that will be affecting several EMS agencies that they have written memorandums endorsed by each EMS agency or jurisdiction. Mr. Peer said this is his last cycle representing Central Shenandoah EMS Council, and Tidewater EMS Council is the next council in line. They will have to submit three names for the May meeting to have a new member on board. Lastly, Mr. Peer reminded everyone that the current cycle closes on March 15.	
Administrative Coordinator – Gary Samuels	Rules and Regulations Committee: Mr. Samuels reported that they are still waiting on the Governor to sign the Regulations. There was no meeting held of the Rules and Regulations Committee since they are waiting for the signed Regulations. Legislative & Planning Committee – Chris Eudailey Mr. Eudailey reported that the committee met earlier in the day. Most of the meeting was spent discussing the General Assembly legislation.	

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	Mr. Eudailey also reported that the committee formalized their structure and said they will present it to the Executive Committee. OEMS staff will be working with the committee over the next several meeting as they begin their work on the State Plan.	
Infrastructure Coordinator – Matt Tatum	Mr. Tatum reported that he had the opportunity to attend the Transportation Committee. Mr. Tatum said he has been working on getting all the seats on the committees filled. He reported that the Transportation Committee is full; the Communications Committee is full; and he is still working with Steve Ennis on getting all he seats on the Emergency Management Committee filled. Communications Committee – Gary Critzer Mr. Critzer reported that they met earlier in the day. They adopted the EMD White Paper they have been working on for several months. Mr. Critzer thanked Pokey Harris for all the work she did on that paper. He said that they will probably be presenting this paper to the Board at the May meeting. Mr. Critzer reported that they are working with Amanda Davis and the FARC in regards to the P25 requirement for communications equipment grants. Mr. Critzer said they are recommending to the FARC that there be a requirement that all mobile and portable radio equipment that is purchased with RSAF funds that they have to be programmed with state and federal interoperability channels. In addition, EMD grants should have language that the 911 Centers must be OEMS accredited when they apply for the grants or do so within 12 months to be eligible for that funding. The committee also discussed Next Generation 9-1-1 and Interoperability. He said that this will have a major and expensive impact on their Public Safety Answering Points nationwide. He said the technology will be expensive. He said at the May meeting they are going to try to have at least a half day workshop and have some individuals from VITA Public Safety do a presentation for the committee and also have Vic Buissitt from VDEM present information about Interoperability. Ms. Harris asked if the workshop is open to anyone who wants to attend. Mr. Critzer said it would be open to anyone. Emergency Management Committee – Steve Ennis Mr. Ennis said they met recently. They are in the process of reviewing their goals and mission and making sure that their future agenda is directed to satisfying those needs. They are in the process of filling the open positions on the committee. They are reviewing the current membership to assure they have the right stakeholders at the table. Transportation Committee – David Barrick Mr. Barrick reported the committee met on January 30. The committee discussed the NFPA 1917 Standard for Automotive Ambulances and their current status. Mr. Barrick said a conference call came	

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	up shortly after the meeting and Dale Wagoner participated in the conference call and will give a report on that call. NFPA Technical Committee Webinar- Dale Wagoner Mr. Wagoner reported that he took part on the webinar, and there is a proposal, NFPA 1917, that will set the standard for ambulance construction and design. Mr. Wagoner said the initiative was derived several years ago through the federal GSA Contracting for Federal Contractors to have a standard for ambulances. Once the standard goes into effect the NFPA 1917 will replace the KKK standard for ambulances. Mr. Wagoner reported that technical committee has finished their recommendations to the full NFPA and are awaiting a final approval from that body with an anticipated implementation in 2013. He said there is not any dramatic increase in the cost of ambulances in the new standards. There are some new safety items that will increase the cost of ambulances. Mr. Wagoner said they have discussed with Scott Winston and Gary Brown about the possibility of having some type of lecture series at the state EMS Symposium regarding this issue. Mr. Barrick said they also reviewed some information from the National Institution of Standards and Technology, and they are not sure if that is included in the NFPA 1917 Standard. They will check to see if it is included. Mr. Barrick reported they had received a recommended equipment list from the American College of Surgeons. OEMS is already in line with the recommendations for equipment they are putting forth. The next meeting will be April 23 at 10, and the location will be determined. Steve Ennis said he would like to know who makes up the NFPA Technical Committee. Mr. Wagoner said they will have the representations when they do the presentation.	
Patient Care Coordinator – Dr. Allen Yee	Dr. Yee reported that with the work of all the committee chairs they have been able to increase the diversity of all the committees. They have also ensured that there is an EMS provider on each committee. Medical Direction Committee – Dr. Marilyn McLeod Dr. McLeod they have one action item recommending that the Office of EMS move to National Registry Testing in all levels. However, due to the work that they have asked the Training & Certification Committee to work on they ask to postpone that action until May. Medevac Committee – Dr. Allen Yee The committee met on Thursday. They are continuing to move forward on their Project Remley and Project Synergy. At their next meeting, they are going to have on the agenda what future projects they should undertake. They are going to send out a survey to the Medevac agencies to look at their formulary. They will ask them to look at their formulary and see what they are doing at an agency	

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	level. Trauma System Oversight & Management – Paul Sharpe Mr. Sharpe said the Trauma Center Designation Manual has some revisions and will be going to the next Board of Health meeting in March.. Also, Carol Pugh gave the group an update on some of the analysis she had done. EMS for Children – Dr. Robin Foster Dr. Foster said they last met on January 5 and they will meet on March 29. She said they have no agenda items and referred the Board to the Quarterly Report for an overview of their actions.	
Professional Development Coordinator – Larry Oliver	Mr. Oliver gave a review on all of the three committees that he coordinates. He reported that the EMS Workforce Development committee met in late January and they are doing an informational session to the Virginia Fire Chief's Association at their conference at the end of this month, as well as trying to fill a couple of their vacant seats. Mr. Oliver reported that Brian Hricik is not here today because the line of duty death in his region. However, he said that the committee is moving forward. Letters have been sent to the stakeholders for the vacant positions and they have scheduled a meeting for March 7. Training and Certification Committee – Larry Oliver The committee met on January 4. The biggest agenda item was the National Registry Test information. OEMS Staff asked the committee to affirm or not affirm their position on transitioning testing to National Registrybased on the fact that the proposed legislation making changes to the EMS recertification process did not go forward to the General Assembly. A motion is in the Quarterly Report that was originally done from the committee. The committee will probably meet in March and try to get some feedback. Mr. Oliver asked based on the way the budget amendment regarding paying for the initial testing fee for basic level EMS training is written how should they proceed. Mr. Oliver indicated the committee will be holding the motion for the time. Mr. Oliver also thanked OEMS staff for their hard work in updating the OEMS website to show information from the standing committees of the EMS Advisory Board in one location. Carrie Mitchell from the OAG office said she will look at the language in the budget amendment (Item 290 #4h) and give the office an answer to Mr. Oliver's question. Workforce Development Committee – Dreama Chandler The committee met on January 27. They discussed the committee make up. Andrea Oakes from VML will start working on the committee. They are also looking at putting some members on from the fire organizations. The committee also discussed some of the programs they are working on now, the EMS Officer Standard and the Standards of Excellence. Provider Health & Safety Committee – Karen Owens	

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	Ms. Owens reported that the suggested committee members have been set and the first meeting is scheduled on March 7 at 10 AM at OEMS. They have sent letters to organizations asking them to appoint a representative to the committee.	
Regional EMS Councils Executive Directors – Greg Woods	The regional directors group has met three times since the last EMS Advisory Board meeting. They met on December 1 at which time officers were elected. Chair – Greg Woods; Vice-Chair – Jim Chandler; Treasure – Melinda Duncan and Secretary – Tracey McLaurin. The group had a special called meeting on January 5 with OEMS to review and make recommendations concerning regional council contract language. At their meeting on Thursday they discussed conducting training related to Information Technologies by the Councils as well as exploring medical insurance coverage for council employees.	
Provider Health Safety Track at Symposium – Jennie Collins	Ms. Collins said she spoke with Brian Hricik when they started the process to assure that some of the committee goals were adequately reflected. She said that Gary's comments about the Line of Duty deaths in the EMS industry is consistent with what they see in firefighter line of duty deaths with medical emergencies being 55 percent or greater of those deaths. Ms Collins reported that this year they were thinking they would have a half track at Symposium. However, they had so many submissions of topics that they are planning to offer a full track at EMS Symposium this year.	
Public Comment Period	None	
Unfinished Business	None	
New Business	Dr. Levine reminded the group that this is the flu season that has not yet materialized and she encouraged the group to not let their guard down because they have several seasons that peak late. She talked about the connection between Noiro virus and Influenza. She said that this year they are having a severe Noiro virus outbreak and the last time that happened there was also a late outbreak of Influenza.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM	
Next Meeting	May 18, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Richmond West, Richmond, Virginia.	

DRAFT