

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

IN RE: SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HEARD BEFORE: VALERIA MITCHELL
SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 8, 2019
CONFERENCE CENTER
EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL
2925 EMERYWOOD PARKWAY
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
8:00 A.M.

COMMONWEALTH REPORTERS, LLC
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1 APPEARANCES:

2 Valeria Mitchell, Presiding
3 System Improvement Committee

4 SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

5 Ann Kuhn

6 Anna Newcomb

7 Greg Neiman

8 Robin Pearce

9 Michelle Pomphrey

10 Narad Mishra

11 Sarah Beth Dinwiddie

12 Sherry Stanley

13 Shelly Arnold

14 VDH/OEMS STAFF:

15 Tim Erskine

16 Cam Crittenden

17 Robin Pearce

18
19 ALSO PRESENT:

20 Michel Aboutanos, MD
21 TAG & EMS Advisory Board

22 Rachel Bailey

23 Ann McDonald
24 Brain Injury Association of Virginia

25 Dan Freeman

1 (The System Improvement Committee meeting
2 commenced at approximately 8:00 a.m. A quorum was
3 present and the Committee's agenda commenced as
4 follows:)

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: I'd like to call
7 this Systems Improvement Committee to order.
8 Just a couple things before we get started.
9 I need to make you aware that this meeting
10 is being audio recorded for the purpose of
11 creating an accurate meeting minutes.

12 When you speak, please
13 introduce yourself. If the -- if for some
14 reason, I don't call you -- say your name,
15 please say who -- who you are before you
16 speak. Thank you.

17 And the other thing that I'd
18 just like to just remind everybody, the
19 seats on this committee have been
20 deliberately determined to provide some
21 diversity of knowledge and -- and expertise
22 to the committee.

23 However, we are not
24 necessarily -- we are not representing our
25 organization. We are representing the

1 Commonwealth. And so when you speak or when
2 you're thinking about concepts or issues,
3 think broadly, not just what -- what you
4 would like to see for your institution.

5 You're really looking at care
6 of trauma patients throughout the
7 Commonwealth. Okay? And so you might want
8 you kind of start around and let everybody
9 go and introduce themselves.

10 Some of us know each other.
11 I'll start. My name is Valeria Mitchell.
12 And I am subbing for Shawn Safford, who is
13 actually chair of this group. He's at a
14 meeting in Houston today.

15 I'm the trauma program manager
16 at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital in
17 Norfolk, Virginia.

18
19 MR. ERSKINE: I'm Tim Erskine,
20 faceless bureaucrat.

21
22 MS. KUHN: I'm Ann Kuhn. I'm the
23 trauma director at CHPB in Norfolk.

24
25 MR. MISHRA: I'm Narad Mishra, the

1 epidemiologist at EMS.

2
3 MS. MCDONALD: I'm Ann McDonald.
4 I'm the executive director of the Brain
5 Injury Association of Virginia, and crossing
6 over from the post-acute committee.

7
8 MS. POMPHREY: My name is Michelle
9 Pomphrey. I am the trauma nurse registrar
10 coordinator for the University of Virginia.

11
12 MS. ARNOLD: I'm Shelly Arnold.
13 I'm the HCA trauma for the Capital Division.
14 And I am the member that's crossing over
15 from the Acute Care Committee.

16
17 MS. STANLEY: Sherry Stanley. I'm
18 the trauma program manager at Carilion New
19 River Valley Medical Center. And I am
20 crossing over from the Pre-Hospital
21 Committee.

22
23 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

24
25 MS. DINWIDDIE: Sarah Beth

1 Dinwiddie. I'm the trauma outreach
2 coordinator from Carilion Roanoke Memorial
3 Hospital and crossing over from IVP.

4
5 MS. PEARCE: I'm Robin Pearce. I'm
6 the trauma performance improvement manager
7 at Henrico Doctors' Forest. And I am on
8 this committee.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah, PI coordinator.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: PI coordinator.

13
14 MS. PEARCE: I'm supposed to be
15 here.

16
17 MR. NEIMAN: I'm Greg Neiman. I'm
18 the EMS community liaison for VCU Health.
19 And I'm representing education.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: What's your name
22 again, sir?

23
24 MR. NEIMAN: Greg Neiman.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Greg, okay. All
2 right, thanks.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: And I'm Mike
5 Aboutanos, I'm the trauma system
6 coordinator.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So everybody
9 has a copy of the agenda? Okay. So -- so
10 this -- since this is our first meeting, I
11 will -- Shawn had asked me -- there's a
12 couple things that we can get to later.

13 But I really don't have a
14 first report because this is really our
15 first meeting. However, thank you all for
16 being here and being willing to help us as
17 we try to improve care for our trauma
18 patients throughout the Commonwealth.

19 So the next thing on the
20 agenda is to select a vice-chair. Hey, how
21 are you? Want to tell us who you are?

22
23 MS. NEWCOMB: I'm Anna Newcomb.
24 I'm the trauma research manager at Inova
25 Fairfax.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Thank you. So the
2 first agenda item is to select a vice-chair.

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I nominate
5 Valeria Mitchell.

6
7 MS. MITCHELL: Oh, please.

8
9 DR. ABOUTANOS: I just want to tell
10 you, so it's a -- really a nomination. It's
11 the chair of this -- of the committee who
12 picks a vice-chair.

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Oh. So he does it,
15 okay.

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: But -- but you can
18 give suggestions.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

21
22 DR. ABOUTANOS: You can say, hey,
23 we'd like to nominate this person. And so
24 for the chair to make the selection.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So we'll pass
2 that on to Shawn.

3
4 MR. ERSKINE: I think -- I think we
5 -- you said --

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: So we put your
8 name, so your name will be one of the things
9 that can be fast forward.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: The function of the
14 -- of the vice-chair is to preside over this
15 committee when the chair can not do it.
16 Function when any manner of the chair is
17 needed.

18 And also present at the TAG
19 the -- the report and the action items if
20 any came out of this committee. But also,
21 if the chair's not present at the Advisory
22 Board to also present.

23 So today, you'll do the same
24 thing, present the report and present an
25 action item if the action item's been

1 approved by TAG.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

4
5 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay. So if an
6 action item comes out of this committee and
7 goes to TAG at 10:30 when we meet. And it
8 does go through -- TAG does approve it.

9 Then it comes back to the
10 chair or the vice-chair of this committee to
11 present at the Advisory Board.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

14
15 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay. So that way
16 the function be of the -- of the vice-chair.

17
18 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So we have
19 three positions that have not been filled.
20 One is the non-trauma center representative
21 and citizen representative.

22 And then we have a[n]
23 epidemiologist spot, but we also have an
24 epidemiologist from your office.

1 MR. MISHRA: That's the spot,
2 right?

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. So --

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So Narad is
7 where people or data in the Office of EMS --

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Yes.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- do data. But
12 you still have an epidemiologist spot on the
13 committee.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Right. So we could
16 -- we would end up with two.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: He's here as a
23 resource.

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Okay, thanks.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: He can interface
2 with the data and the function of the
3 Office.

4
5 MS. MITCHELL: Right. So do we
6 have any suggestions for these empties?
7

8 MR. ERSKINE: For the non-trauma
9 center when we -- we discussed this at
10 Pre-Hospital Care yesterday. We've got a
11 list of the truly rural non-trauma centers,
12 and found the ones that are not affiliated
13 with a health system that has a trauma
14 center within that health system.

15 And I will be reaching out to
16 a couple of them for members here,
17 Pre-Hospital Care. One of them, the first
18 one that I'm going to reach out to is Bath
19 County because they are a critical access
20 hospital.

21 They are not affiliated with
22 any health care system. And the other one
23 that stood out was Wythe County. There are
24 a couple others that we can fall back on.
25 But I mean, these -- these are facilities

1 that if you want the view of somebody who's
2 not a trauma center, these are the places to
3 get those -- to get those folks.

4
5 MS. MITCHELL: And where are these
6 located? I'm sorry. You said Bath County.
7 Where is that?

8
9 MR. ERSKINE: Hot Springs,
10 Virginia.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

13
14 MR. ERSKINE: And Wythe County is
15 in Wytheville, which is at the intersection
16 of I-77 and I-81.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: South of
19 Roanoke.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Is there no,
22 like in that big swathe at the bottom of the
23 State of Virginia where we have --

24
25 MR. ERSKINE: There's a couple, but

1 most -- most of them are affiliated with a
2 health care system. Let's see. What have I
3 --

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We used to have
6 a -- a lady that came -- that was with a
7 hospital that was at Duke -- was affiliated
8 with Duke.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Like Danville, I
13 think.

14
15 MR. ERSKINE: Well, Danville's not
16 -- I -- I checked. Danville is one of the
17 ones that's not affiliated. It's on the
18 list of -- the list of non-affiliated
19 hospitals.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Maybe we
22 stratified it to see who had the -- who
23 might've had the highest amount of trauma
24 patients.

1 MR. ERSKINE: Mm-hmm.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What was the top
4 -- one of those was the top one. Was it
5 Bath County? Was it --

6
7 MR. ERSKINE: Bath County, yeah,
8 was of -- was the top of the unaffiliated
9 ones that -- you know, they don't have a
10 large number. But they transfer 89% of them
11 out to a trauma center.

12 We've got Southern Virginia
13 Regional Medical Center, Buchanan General --
14 I'm probably pronouncing that wrong. I'm no
15 -- it's spelled Buchanan. Okay.

16 Bath County, Southampton
17 Memorial, Wythe County and Danville are the
18 ones that are unaffiliated.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And Danville
21 should be -- Ann -- what is her last name --
22 and she left the organization. And they
23 didn't fill that position for a really long
24 time. I'm not sure who's taken the place
25 now at this point.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And this --
2 that facility was supportive of her coming
3 to the meetings.

4
5 MR. ERSKINE: Okay.

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And so, she was
8 very helpful.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: She was.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That's a huge --
13 when you run the maps, that's a --

14
15 MR. ERSKINE: Oh, yeah.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- one of those
18 areas that really falls out.

19
20 MR. ERSKINE: Okay. If -- if I
21 can't get anybody from Bath, I'll go there
22 second.

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

1 MR. ERSKINE: And then to Wythe.

2
3 DR. ABOUTANOS: So we'll have one
4 by the next -- the next meeting, hopefully.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

7
8 MR. ERSKINE: Hopefully, that's --
9 there's the key word. Hopefully.

10
11 DR. ABOUTANOS: Have we sent out --
12 you said that the -- have we sent out a
13 total request or you're just doing one
14 individually or --

15
16 MR. ERSKINE: Have not sent -- I
17 have not reached out to them yet.

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: Is that something
20 that, also, VHHA can help with? I mean,
21 they are -- as far as reaching out to all
22 the hospitals and just say, you know --

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sure.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- so we could have
2 a good -- especially if we identify -- if we
3 identify where we'd like it to come from.
4 It's been -- it's been going for a while now
5 and we have not found this thing. It's been
6 six months or more than that.

7
8 MR. ERSKINE: Okay.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So any
11 suggestions for the citizen rep? Does it --
12 it's a little -- oh, okay.

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER:

15 [unintelligible], the quality assurance
16 coordinator for Chesterfield County's 911
17 center. She's a former paramedic and was a
18 supervisor with Richmond Ambulance
19 Authority. So she probably would be a good
20 one.

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

23
24 DR. ABOUTANOS: Does that fit the
25 role?

1 MS. MITCHELL: I think so.

2

3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I don't know if
4 that is allowed because she was a 911
5 dispatcher for the -- I think the
6 Pre-Hospital.

7

8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, we're
9 actually, I mean, except -- I'm not saying
10 we can't consider her. But the true feeling
11 behind it was a -- maybe someone who had
12 vicarious interaction with a trauma system.
13 A patient -- you know, that kind of --

14

15 MS. MITCHELL: A patient of the
16 family or somebody like that.

17

18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So that was a
19 question I had.

20

21 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

22

23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Is -- is the
24 preference to have somebody who has really
25 no medical background or --

1 MS. MITCHELL: No medical
2 background.

3
4 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah. We had a -- we
5 had a couple -- we had a couple of
6 nominations for that type of seat on a
7 couple of the committees. And those people
8 are now in health care.

9 And that's not the viewpoint
10 we want to -- them to bring to the table.
11 So we want somebody who's really not in
12 health care to get the --

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

15
16 MR. ERSKINE: -- to get that --
17 that particular perspective.

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: So a family member
20 would be the best?

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: Right, or --

23
24 DR. ABOUTANOS: Or someone --

25

1 MS. MITCHELL: -- or a former
2 trauma patient.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- someone who can
5 work as an advocate. That's the biggest
6 part of the citizen. Someone that can hear
7 us, understand and gives us a perspective of
8 a citizen, not someone who's in the health
9 system.

10 And also, can help with all
11 level -- either with this committee or also
12 at the -- with the -- you know, any type of,
13 you know, government approach. Whichever
14 way, somebody that can be an advocate for us
15 with the system.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: There is a young
18 lady, Kelly Sydnor, whose son was a spinal
19 cord injured --

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Nicole.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- was a spinal
24 cord injury. They were at VCU. They also
25 went down to Shepherd. The whole family has

1 become a huge advocates for individuals with
2 spinal cord injuries.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: They do a lot of
7 work with those community rehab
8 organizations.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: If you can get me
11 their contact information --

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Either -- either
14 Nicole or Kelly, either one, would probably
15 be very good.

16
17 MR. ERSKINE: Can you get me their
18 contact information?

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I can try. You
21 might --

22
23 DR. ABOUTANOS: I know -- I know
24 them very, very well.

1 MR. ERSKINE: Oh.

2

3 DR. ABOUTANOS: So unless you want
4 to.

5

6 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

7

8 DR. ABOUTANOS: So either way, so
9 either Nicole or Kelly. They also serve on
10 our -- our gala committee. And they -- I'm
11 not sure why I didn't think of them. That's
12 a great idea.

13

14 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. That's a --

15

16 DR. ABOUTANOS: They're very active
17 in -- so that's one name.

18

19 MS. MITCHELL: I have a --

20

21 MR. ERSKINE: Dan -- his name is --

22

23 MS. MITCHELL: Dan, I'm sorry.

24

25 MR. FREEMAN: There's another one,

1 very similar. Norma Meyers in the Roanoke
2 region. Had one son killed, another one had
3 a significant brain injury. Went down to
4 Shepherd's.

5 Very active, writes
6 newsletters for the Brain Injury
7 organization. And I can easily get you her
8 contact information.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: Okay. That'd be
11 great, thank you.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: This is also very
14 important because we have a citizen
15 representative also on TAG and -- who is --
16 one of the things that would be kind of
17 helpful is put together a whole ensemble of
18 citizen representatives.

19 Even though they're on
20 different committees, they become also a --
21 a voice together. So the more names, the
22 better. Even if you don't serve --

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

25

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- if we pick one,
2 we don't want to lose the other ones. So
3 the more names people come up with that
4 consent -- we've been working on how we put
5 this together.

6 They want to create a web
7 site, they want to do a lot of stuff. And
8 this would be great.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I think the
11 committee needs a citizen representative,
12 too. So maybe one of them will serve on one
13 and the other on another.

14
15 DR. ABOUTANOS: Perfect.

16
17 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

18
19 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. I have a -- a
22 name as well that I'll submit. We have a
23 young girl that was involved in a motor
24 vehicle crash. Her friend died and her
25 mother -- she ended up with a brain injury.

1 And her mother has started a brain injury
2 support group locally. And -- and the young
3 girl is now -- I think she's a freshman at
4 Virginia Tech.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: And so her mom might
9 -- would be willing to --

10
11 DR. ABOUTANOS: What's her name?

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Debbie.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Last name is Munder
16 -- Mundor.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well, we must --
19 we might be thinking about two different --

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Sabrina is the
22 patient.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That seems to be

25 --

1 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, Sabrina --

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sabrina's the
4 daughter.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Daughter.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mom is Debbie.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, I don't know
11 her mom's name.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Ybarra,
14 Y-B-A-R-R-A, hyphen, Ledger, L-E-D-G-E-R.
15 She's on our board. She just recently
16 joined the board.

17
18 MS. MITCHELL: Oh, okay.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So I can contact
21 her easily.

22
23 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: There's another

1 woman that I thought of who was in an
2 accident with her daughter. The daughter
3 sustained a significant brain injury, mom
4 sustained a brain injury. And they're from
5 Northern Virginia. Her name is Kelly
6 Lange[sp].

7
8 DR. ABOUTANOS: See, this is great.
9 Because the three different areas.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Different people,
12 yeah.

13
14 DR. ABOUTANOS: This -- so we
15 already came up with four names besides
16 Susan who is also on the TAG. That's five
17 people.

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

20
21 DR. ABOUTANOS: That would be
22 great. So --

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: For sure we'll get
25 somebody.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Who do you want
2 the names and contact information to go to?
3

4 MR. ERSKINE: To me.
5

6 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, I would send
7 it to Tim.
8

9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.
10

11 DR. ABOUTANOS: And then Tim will
12 get in touch with Susan and we'll get all
13 this [unintelligible]. Right? Her name is
14 Kelly what?
15

16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Lange.
17

18 DR. ABOUTANOS: Lange. Okay.
19

20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: She's doing a
21 lot of work for us at Fairfax. So I mean, I
22 see her every other week. So she might be
23 booked for that some months, but then after
24 that she may be --
25

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 MR. ERSKINE: Well, that's one of
4 the -- one of the things with -- with all of
5 these committees as they're starting up.
6 And you know, any time there's a new
7 appointment for, you know, just about any
8 position, that first meeting -- even if it
9 is three months away, that first meeting
10 they may not be able to make it. That's why
11 Dr. Safford's not here.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So any
16 suggestions for the epidemiologist? Can you
17 remember the young lady's name -- Ann --
18 that was on --

19
20 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, Ann's at VDH.

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: -- the original
23 committee with us? Is she --

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I think there

1 was a -- isn't there a problem with her
2 grant or something?

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: She's somewhere
5 else now. She left the --

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: She left the --

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- and she's the
10 epidemiologist at EMS, yes.

11
12 DR. ABOUTANOS: I suggest we go
13 back to the Office -- we can reach the
14 Office -- VDH office.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: They haven't
17 filled that position yet. I'm not sure who
18 --

19
20 DR. ABOUTANOS: This would be the
21 strategic -- for this committee is to have
22 someone from -- from VDH. Because we're
23 talking about State epidemiology to come
24 work with the Office here, work with you.
25 So we'll have synergy in doing this.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, she's really
2 good. Because she talked about -- I mean,
3 there is a lot of data that she worked with
4 every day that she thought would've been
5 very helpful for us. So --

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. She's --
8 she's an educated epidemiologist.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: Yes. Yeah,
11 definitely. So -- okay. So we'll reach out
12 to VDH for a rep for this group. Okay.

13
14 DR. ABOUTANOS: VDH epidemiologist.

15
16 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. So it looks
17 like we've -- well, on the road to being
18 able to fill these positions. So I would
19 think that's -- we meet again in May?
20 That's right?

21 So we should certainly find
22 some people before our next big meeting.
23 Okay. The next item on the agenda is to
24 define our meeting frequency. Should we --
25 this group would meet again -- the big group

1 would meet again in May. We follow that
2 same schedule. And -- so I don't know if we
3 want to talk about that today or that we
4 want Shawn to be a part of that discussion.
5

6 DR. ABOUTANOS: Well, Shawn should
7 definitely be a part of that discussion.
8

9 MS. MITCHELL: Part of that
10 discussion.
11

12 DR. ABOUTANOS: I think the -- the
13 -- you don't want to meet to meet. You want
14 to meet because you have to meet.
15

16 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm, right.
17

18 DR. ABOUTANOS: So the function of
19 the committee is going to be most important
20 part. So I would actually venture that we
21 should -- need to find what's the function
22 of this committee, what we're here to do.
23 And then, once you -- I would leave how
24 often we're going to meet be the last thing
25 on this committee. Because then once you

1 look at the work, you decide can we do this
2 in two months or do we need to meet? Or --

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- should only part
7 of this committee meet if there's something
8 that only if it was cross on the floor that
9 we start talking about it before at a
10 different time.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. Okay.

13
14 MR. ERSKINE: Okay. Everybody
15 should have the goals and objectives.

16
17 MS. MITCHELL: So these are the
18 goals that we identified in our sub-group
19 that we were creating in this whole process.
20 So I guess we can go through these and see
21 if there's any other things we want to add.

22
23 DR. ABOUTANOS: Well, there was
24 something very important yesterday at the
25 Post-Acute Committee --

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- that you guys
4 informed us of the Governor's Task Force.
5 And did -- do you want to talk about it,
6 because that fits in the very first one.
7 And that's system --

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

10
11 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- entry print
12 their systems.

13
14 MS. MCDONNELL: I'm very happy to
15 do that. I'm Ann McDonnell, Brain Injury
16 Association of Virginia. And we were
17 discussing yesterday in the Post-Acute Care
18 group that one of the early executive orders
19 that Governor Northam signed -- and I had
20 the Code citation yesterday, but I don't
21 have my lap top this morning, created a
22 secretarial level data-sharing task force,
23 data analysis, trying to figure out what we
24 had and how we could better share it. The
25 HHR reps, the Department of Health and Human

1 Services reps to the committee are Gina
2 Berger [sp] and Martin Figueroa [sp], who
3 are both deputy secretaries in HHR to the --
4 to the State -- State level task force.

5 The chief data officer, which
6 is a new position in the Commonwealth of
7 Virginia, is a gentleman named Carlos Ribero
8 [sp]. And so they're just now starting to
9 get work.

10 There's a couple of meeting
11 minutes on the web that you can find. But
12 their whole -- their whole thing is how we
13 -- how we share data. So we're paying
14 attention.

15 We have a federal grant
16 related to data-sharing, you know, on -- on
17 brain injury data. So we're paying
18 attention to that and we'll keep folks
19 updated as we learn more.

20 But if you're really geeky and
21 you -- you search out data dissemination and
22 analysis in Virginia, Google it. You'll,
23 you know, they click there eventually.
24 There's an interim -- there's an interim
25 study report that's due sometime in the next

1 couple of months to the General Assembly.
2 So that should have some recommendations
3 going forward for what the next steps are.
4

5 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So if you
6 want to look at the -- the various goals we
7 have here, we can start with goal one and
8 see if there's anything that we feel like
9 needs to be added or -- or to clarify what's
10 here.

11 So I know that one of the
12 things that Shawn had sent me is that he
13 thought that we needed to -- and I don't
14 know if we can do that today.

15 We'll maybe start the
16 conversation about -- he wanted to -- us to
17 identify the list of databases that we have
18 or we have access to.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

21
22 DR. ABOUTANOS: This is key. Let's
23 start it where we -- there's a reason why
24 there's so many different representatives.
25

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 DR. ABOUTANOS: And crossovers from
4 the various -- from the various committees
5 because -- so the system -- so let's -- if
6 we step back a little bit.

7 So the System Improvement
8 Committee is -- is one of the infrastructure
9 committees, not an operational committee in
10 that -- in that sense.

11 And so, the -- the function of
12 this committee is to serve every other
13 committee. That's like the most important
14 function, especially the TAG.

15 So this is where the -- the
16 data is. This is where we -- we look at it
17 and find out how does the data impact with
18 what we do.

19 And give that feedback to the
20 other committees. So this -- the reason why
21 during the task force -- when it was a --
22 when it was a task force prior to becoming a
23 committee, this became number one objective.
24 And you notice in all of you guys
25 committees, everyone -- we don't -- we don't

1 know what's out there. Everybody's cycled
2 within their own committee. So that's why
3 this was put out -- out there.

4 We need to know what exists at
5 every level of the trauma system. We take
6 the patient pathway from the pre-injury, so
7 injury prevention such as -- and that was
8 one part.

9 And then you go into the
10 pre-hospital, then the hospital, then the
11 post-acute. Those are the four big phases
12 of the patient pathway in the trauma system.

13 And so the -- this is also --
14 I mean, the -- the additional databases,
15 etcetera, also with the other aspect of a
16 trauma system, including legislative,
17 finance, etcetera.

18 So there are many, many ways.
19 So the first thing that we put together is
20 really what's out there. Because we mainly
21 have the trauma registry, right?

22 And we have the State
23 registry. And then we also have the
24 pre-hospital registry. Those are kind of --
25 and there's a lot more than those two that

1 exist, especially when you look at whether
2 -- you know, for example, brain.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: The brain injury,
5 yeah.

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: Brain injury,
8 orthopedic, we -- I mean, there's so much.
9 And so the whole idea was, can we put all
10 these together, find out what data elements
11 exist, what -- what -- so it -- that's why I
12 asked that you talk about the data-sharing
13 task force.

14 I wonder if they're doing the
15 same thing, if they have -- except theirs
16 will not be limited to injury work goal.

17
18 MS. MCDONNELL: Yeah, it's
19 statewide. They're, you know, different
20 secretarial level representatives. So I
21 think they're assessing everybody's, you
22 know, data capacity including the Department
23 of Medical Assistant Services and, you know,
24 all of that. So --

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: Tim, what do you
2 think? Can we -- can we own the part of our
3 injury in-depth task force by only
4 contribute to it and say, hey, we want to be
5 involved in all these databases.

6 So instead of having somebody
7 else look at all that and we're also looking
8 at it, this would be kind of a combined
9 effort. This is part of the integrative
10 process of the trauma system and to the rest
11 of the VDH systems. What do you think?

12
13 MR. ERSKINE: Can look into where
14 they are in the process. And if we can
15 assist or participate in some way.

16
17 MS. MCDONNELL: And it's probably a
18 little too early. They've only met just a
19 couple of times and they're -- they're
20 deciding it for the whole state.

21 But I think that, you know,
22 Dr. Oliver talking to whichever -- Berger or
23 Figueroa -- has jurisdiction, if you will,
24 over VDH would probably be the way to go.
25 Just to drop a little thing in there, hey,

1 have you heard about this? And we've got a
2 lot of interest. And keep us in mind.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, because they
5 keep the --

6
7 MS. MCDONNELL: Yeah.

8
9 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- the big -- the
10 big thing is that, see I'm happy that
11 they're starting -- they're starting early.
12 You don't want to come in at a late stage.

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: You want to come in
17 early and just say, by the way, this is what
18 we're starting to look at. And -- and
19 therefore, we may actually be able to walk
20 very early with them into having one
21 representative from here help on that task
22 force eventually.

23
24 MS. MCDONNELL: So yeah, it is --
25 and -- and Gina Berger and Figueroa are the

1 mirror. We're aware of that and that was
2 Carlos and Pam are updated as being -- we're
3 a part of that, what we can do when kind of
4 integrating and I'll say, yeah, this -- it's
5 a great thing.

6 We're really excited about it.
7 It ties in with who's in the Cloud. And
8 it's a lot -- a new day. Yes. So at OEMS,
9 we do our part of that in some ways. But it
10 is really high level right now. And just in
11 the early stages of --

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

14
15 MS. MCDONNELL: -- even figuring
16 out who the right people are and what we're
17 looking at.

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Have you guys
22 looked into maybe tapping in to the
23 emergency department care coordination
24 program that just was implemented last year?
25

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: What is that?

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: What -- yeah.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's a platform
6 that governor -- they received a federal
7 grant from the High Tech Ops funds to create
8 the emergency department care coordination
9 to allow for interoperability, real time
10 data between the emergency departments
11 throughout the state.

12 The first one in the nation to
13 do it actually. It's updated with all your
14 transfer patients for all of your emergency
15 rooms who can receive real time data instead
16 of waiting for certain things to come with
17 the patient effort of getting transferred
18 in.

19 So there -- I don't know if
20 there's going to be a trauma component to
21 that. But I know that they just, last year,
22 finally got committee members going. And
23 they're starting the first steps, the stage
24 one steps this year. They started them last
25 year, excuse me.

1 MR. ERSKINE: Has she got the
2 contact information for that so we --

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Debbie Condrey
5 is the --

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's Debbie
8 Condrey.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: Oh, okay.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- chief
13 information officer.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. It's
16 greater -- they're really kind of at this
17 point -- or the beginning meetings of
18 opioids. They're really kind of focusing on
19 that data-sharing on the opioid crisis.

20 EMS is part of the phase two.
21 They actually incorporate the EMS medical
22 records and that information into the
23 platform. So that's being -- phase one is
24 how we implement it and that's part of phase
25 two from that end. Yeah, it's fantastic.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Phase one is --
2 phase one is what? What's phase one?

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Is getting it up
5 and running. It's actually getting the
6 hospitals on and -- and --

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, providing
9 local contracts between all the ER's --

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: But it's just
12 ER's. It's limited to ER's.

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right. But I
15 don't know if it could be a trauma component
16 to [inaudible] or injury.

17
18 DR. ABOUTANOS: See, just imagine
19 that because that's -- that's the missing
20 link for us, right? We have the
21 Pre-Hospital. We have with the trauma
22 registry, the ER [unintelligible] and
23 trauma. And I was wondering is there a
24 database for the ER's specifically. Because
25 we don't include those in the data. It's

1 only admitted patients. Okay? So this is
2 an opportunity --

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, and these
5 -- and these are not -- it's not mandatory.
6 It's voluntary participation. So again,
7 it's only probably four months now that
8 they've actually been --

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So it's coming.
13 It's been worked on. And then the goal will
14 be, in the phase two, to actually take that
15 EMS medical record, which has all that
16 pre-injury info and put that in there.

17 So I mean, it's -- it's
18 building that database. But we're really
19 new into it, but it's amazing.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So that -- so
22 now might be a good time to maybe get
23 somebody --

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well and Debbie

1 -- Debbie is our CIO. And I helped with the
2 database, so we work with her. She's very
3 familiar with it and is trying to move --
4 yeah, she's the only colleague we know. We
5 said we want to be a part of it, too. So...

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay, great. So
8 what do you think, we go down and see if
9 anybody knows a list? And then have
10 everybody send you and Shawn the list and
11 the --

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: List of databases?

14
15 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah.

16
17 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: Because you
20 mentioned all four it sounds like. And you
21 mentioned the -- you mentioned the -- we
22 have our Pre-Hospital database already.

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: And we have our
2 data -- the Hospital database. And mention
3 the possibility of -- I'm not sure how to do
4 this and how -- if there's anything there
5 that, in the emergency --

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: VDH has access
8 to the VHI. It's not in real time. It's
9 behind, but we do have access to that.

10
11 DR. ABOUTANOS: Well, we -- that
12 was discussed in the Post-Acute meeting,
13 sorry, committee meeting. And the big
14 discussion was there's a cost associated
15 with it. You have to pay to get the data.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I -- I don't --

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: Do we, or we don't?
20 Does the Office of EMS have --

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We don't -- VDH,
23 the epidemiology, that department does have
24 that data. We share it with us -- looked
25 like the opening dashboard. They have

1 access to it. I don't know what that would
2 cost. I'm not sure.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: But if they share
5 with you, they're not sharing with you at
6 any cost. If we ask for the information,
7 you get it.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I do not ask --

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes, but the
12 data that -- I say share. We are -- we send
13 data to the opioid dashboard and some of the
14 VHI data goes into opioid dashboard.

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: Oh, I see.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: As far as the
19 cost, I don't know that. There is the
20 essence database, too. But I think that's
21 mainly -- that's the main ER information.
22 But it's not trauma-specific. OCME is part
23 of VDH. And Rosie Hobron is their
24 epidemiologist. And they have, obviously,
25 the medical examiner data.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: So with OCME is
2 medical examiner data?

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: So the -- the
9 information from the brain injury -- office
10 of -- do you all have -- you have data as
11 well. Correct?

12
13 MS. MCDONNELL: No, we don't.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: You don't.

16
17 MS. MCDONNELL: I mean, we have --
18 we have what we're able to get from a
19 variety of state -- state agencies.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. Right.

22
23 MS. MCDONNELL: But we have --
24 right now, we have a federal grant trying to
25 determine where all our brain injury data

1 sources are.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

4
5 MS. MCDONNELL: So that's why we've
6 been looking into it and digging around and
7 sending letters and --

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

10
11 MS. MCDONNELL: -- things like
12 that.

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: So you pull -- and
15 I've been in this a long time. But it seems
16 like years ago when I first started, we used
17 to submit data to the brain injury --

18
19 MS. MCDONNELL: We used to have a
20 central registry --

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, right.

23
24 MS. MCDONNELL: -- and it's
25 maintained by the Department of Rehab

1 Services.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

4
5 MS. MCDONNELL: But in 2007, JLARC
6 suggested, and it was followed through on,
7 that that registry be eliminated.

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

10
11 MS. MCDONNELL: And we report -- we
12 get reports from the trauma registry, which
13 meant -- at that point -- that we lost all
14 ER level data.

15 So we're not getting any ER
16 level data on individuals who sustain a
17 brain injury, only if they're admitted.

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Admitted. Okay.

20
21 MS. MCDONNELL: And -- and we do
22 work with the Department of Rehab Services's
23 outreach efforts to those individuals who
24 are reported.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So any other
2 databases? Sounds like one of the
3 opportunities to figure out how we can get
4 data on people that -- we seem to have a lot
5 of data, or potential data, on inpatients.

6 But it's the people that, you
7 know, sustain an injury and -- or are
8 discharged from the ED that we have limited
9 or not a lot of data.

10
11 MS. MCDONNELL: And I -- and you
12 know, I think that there are a number of
13 community-based programs that do have some
14 long term data. There's the model systems
15 program at VCU which is tracking people over
16 30 years.

17 But the issue, as we discussed
18 yesterday, is actually attaching a unique
19 patient identifier that lets us track
20 someone all the way through the system.

21 You know, we can't -- we can't
22 do that. And that's going to take a
23 tremendous amount of work --

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

1 MS. MCDONNELL: -- if it ever, you
2 know, gets done.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. I mean,
5 something that the doctors -- what it is
6 they think is, you know [unintelligible]
7 just as a basic familiar, I think just
8 having all -- everything that's mentioned
9 here. But then having -- if everybody else
10 can just send in anything they could think
11 of as far as --

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

14
15 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- data list. And
16 then deciding, what you said, what exists at
17 every level would be good.

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

20
21 DR. ABOUTANOS: If it be injury or
22 other databases. Of course, what are the
23 databases, the Pre-Hospital -- and then
24 maybe we should just put it here once we
25 have those done and try to figure out -- you

1 know, at the end our objective, obviously,
2 is to figure out what happened to the --
3 what happened to our average Virginian who
4 gets injured in our system.

5 And which database can tell us
6 what, so we could have a clear picture of
7 whether -- whether our system of care is
8 having an impact.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: All right.

11
12 MS. MCDONNELL: Well the -- the GBI
13 model system's database is something that
14 you might want to look into. So VCU has had
15 a -- a federally designated model system of
16 care for probably 30-40 some years now.

17 And they -- they're tracking
18 long term outcomes in individuals who are
19 seen, you know, some at VCU, some at other
20 Virginia hospitals.

21 But they've all been through
22 some sort of traumatic episode and are being
23 followed many years post. So there may be
24 some -- some information that we can glean
25 from that. They're working on a report now

1 for our federal grant on, you know, all the
2 -- the data that they have on 30 years worth
3 of Virginia residents.

4 Who's still struggling to get
5 a job, who's living where, how many people
6 went home, how many people went to a nursing
7 home. So that may -- that may have
8 something that you'd like to see in there.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: And where did -- is
11 there -- I'm just wondering, is there a
12 database that -- or some database we could
13 pull information by where -- what happens to
14 people. Do they go back to work or do they
15 --

16
17 MS. MCDONNELL: Well, they would --
18 they would have some of that information --

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: That would -- that
21 --

22
23 MS. MCDONNELL: -- in their -- in
24 their model systems database.

1 MS. MITCHELL: And it's just their
2 patients.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: Is it just VCU.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Is it just VCU?
7 They don't have any --

8
9 MS. MCDONNELL: It's people who end
10 up at VCU at some point --

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Point, okay.

13
14 MS. MCDONNELL: -- not necessarily
15 for the trauma. They may have sustained
16 trauma and been seen at UVa, but are getting
17 follow up care through this model systems
18 program at VCU.

19 So individuals may have been
20 seen at any Virginia hospital or even their
21 hospital out of state. But they would have
22 some long term --

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

1 MS. MCDONNELL: -- and I imagine
2 that they have a -- a method of unique
3 identifiers for the ones that they're
4 following.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

9
10 MS. MCDONNELL: The
11 bio-statistician -- I mean, if you had some
12 interest in talking to him, I could put you
13 in touch with the bio-statistician.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. That would be
16 good to send to Tim.

17
18 MS. MCDONNELL: Okay.

19
20 DR. ABOUTANOS: Anything else on
21 objective -- this is a database as
22 [unintelligible]. This is -- the second
23 one. Just for that -- that list we're
24 projecting. And then we can start talking
25 about all of them without -- and it's going

1 to be most useful for us to use. Okay?

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Michelle Pomphrey,
4 did you have something to -- because you
5 were --

6
7 MS. POMPHREY: Oh, I was just --

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Listening, okay. I
10 didn't know whether you needed to be
11 recognized. Okay. Thank you. All righty,
12 so -- so we're -- we're going to send any
13 list of database and -- and then contact
14 information to Tim. Correct? Okay, that's
15 what we decided. Okay.

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: And -- and I would
18 include Shawn also.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Shawn, okay.

21
22 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yes.

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. Right. Goal
25 two is -- the second goal is to promote

1 education, empower institutions and
2 providers to reduce the burden of
3 preventable deaths and suffering as a result
4 of injury through optimized care,
5 implementation of best practice, development
6 of clinical practice guidelines and
7 engagement of our populace and their trauma
8 system through training advocacy and
9 understanding.

10 I know that when Forrest was
11 part of this group, one of his goals for
12 this group was that we would eventually have
13 risk adjusted mortality reports by
14 institution. And that was one of the things
15 that he had talked a lot about.

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: What we had is a --

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

20
21 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- is a couple of
22 things, you know. So the -- the committee
23 with that -- where this committee came from.
24 Most of what we used to discuss was all
25 Pre-Hospital data. And we're very limited

1 in -- and that still needs to happen. We
2 still need to look at all the pre-hospital
3 data and the triage and presentation. And
4 then --

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

7
8 DR. ABOUTANOS: What we have not
9 done is start looking at the actual hospital
10 data being presented. That's going to --
11 that was where this committee needs to move
12 the system forward.

13 And as a help with that, we
14 need to drive all -- lock down the data as
15 far as this is what happened, patients come
16 out of the hospital and then we could look
17 in the post-acute.

18 What happened before, we look
19 at the pre-hospital. And -- and so the --
20 and this is where we need the Office of EMS
21 help. And to -- what would -- what kind of
22 report can come out of the trauma registry
23 and not as we have. Because we don't have a
24 report from the trauma registry currently.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Narad's been
2 working on one. He's been looking at what
3 the other -- the trauma triage report was,
4 which was so heavily focused on just -- just
5 -- on the vital signs --

6
7 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, right.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- in
10 pre-hospital. And we have got him working
11 on -- he's working on pulling in -- looking
12 at the patients that didn't go trauma
13 centers, pulling in where they -- registry
14 data where they transferred.

15 Looking at bound for trauma
16 center, were they discharged, were they
17 admitted, what time, you know. Anything we
18 can get.

19 So he is in the process of
20 that, to get inside a little bit, to even
21 understand how it -- how and if we can link
22 it to the pre-hospital --

23
24 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. And even --
25 even if we can start have an -- Tim has a

1 good example from the Ohio. But the report
2 that VDH used to have a while back on
3 injured-emiology [phonetic], you know, this
4 -- they stopped because they ran out of
5 claims.

6 You know, I used -- that was
7 very useful to the folks in the hospital.
8 And before looking at who goes where, it was
9 at least a basic demographics were there.

10 So if you understand, what is
11 the state of the injury in Virginia? So you
12 know, how many we have that are -- what is
13 the basic databases, you know. What's the
14 demographic, male, female.

15 What jurisdiction, what are
16 the highest mortality for which mechanism
17 and where. Because the -- the most
18 important part of this committee is to drive
19 all the other committees.

20 So we have to, as a committee
21 here, get this report. And then generate
22 what is the issues in the -- in the trauma
23 system indicated in Virginia. And then
24 start on that to the various committees.
25 And this work -- all of the crossovers will

1 end up working with of saying, yeah, you
2 know, I -- I know we're talking about how to
3 present raccoon bites. But the most
4 important part is the falls. That's number
5 one -- that's an example.

6 Or the second is traumatic
7 brain injury or whatever -- whatever --
8 those are the three big things that are
9 killing our citizens. And therefore,
10 everything that we do in the committee must
11 address this overarching thing.

12 And so this is what we need
13 from those -- from the database. We need
14 that basic report that's helpful. So I
15 think -- correct me if I'm wrong, Cam, that
16 they ran -- the grant ran out. That's why
17 -- that's why we stopped having that report.

18
19 MS. CRITTENDEN: That's years
20 before my time. I don't know. I've been
21 here three years and -- I mean, the last one
22 that I -- are you talking about the one that
23 was sort of published in the --

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. I think

1 that's the one.

2
3 MS. CRITTENDEN: I am not -- I am
4 not -- Robin, you were there a year before I
5 was. Do you know --

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: Was it the year
8 before --

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: That was before you,
11 Robin.

12
13 MS. PEARCE: It was -- it wasn't
14 through us. It was --

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: Was it from VDH,
17 right? Maybe it was epidemiology.

18
19 MS. PEARCE: It was the --
20 epidemiology had it. They printed it out.
21 It wasn't -- it wasn't --

22
23 DR. ABOUTANOS: No, it wasn't
24 through us, but it was provided --

1 MS. PEARCE: They gave it to us --

2

3 MS. MITCHELL: Yes.

4

5 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah.

6

7 MS. PEARCE: -- and we used it for
8 quite a bit of work.

9

10 DR. ABOUTANOS: And so -- but they
11 stopped because it was -- the biggest
12 problem with it wasn't hardwired, it was
13 grant-based. That's the problem with all
14 our grant-based as well.

15 And then grant had also
16 stopped. But I just heard that VDH, again,
17 have gotten some funds with regard to
18 restarting it.

19 So I think this will be very
20 important to link with them and find out who
21 in the -- in mediation part epidemiology
22 working on injury data. All of it.

23 And they still, you know, work
24 -- that's why we need their epidemiologist.
25 That's why I was advocating that be from

1 that department. So then -- then we look at
2 what is -- are they still doing this report
3 or not, you know. What we don't want to do
4 is for us come out -- we're coming out with
5 a report and they're coming out with a
6 separate --

7
8 MS. CRITTENDEN: So the Violence
9 and Injury Prevention program web page on
10 VDH actually has a 2016 -- it's a dashboard,
11 it's a tabloid dashboard. But it's injury
12 hospitalization rate trend number. It's got
13 deaths and it's got all kind of stuff. So
14 --

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. So do -- do
17 we share our trauma registry data with them?

18
19 MS. CRITTENDEN: If they ask, I'm
20 sure we do.

21
22 DR. ABOUTANOS: Do they ask for it.

23
24 MS. CRITTENDEN: They haven't asked
25 for it.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: So how do they come
2 up with this report? What is their database
3 source?
4

5 MS. CRITTENDEN: Death would be at
6 the offices of the OCME. I mean, that would
7 come from them, the death, purely from OCME.
8 And then the -- the hospital admission
9 trends would come from, I guess, VHI or --
10 don't know. I'd have to check. Yeah, but
11 this is 2016, so this is the latest
12 information.

13
14 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Do all the
17 deaths go through the medical examiner?
18

19 MS. CRITTENDEN: We have a vital
20 records department. I -- I'm speaking from
21 my other state. But do -- do you have a
22 vital records department that tracks all
23 births and deaths in the entire state?
24

25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes.

1 MS. CRITTENDEN: I would assume --
2 and I would think you could certainly get
3 death data from there. I mean, it's only as
4 clean as what -- as what was filled out on
5 the form by the physician that declared the
6 death, you know, how people miss --

7
8 MR. ERSKINE: Cause of death,
9 cardiopulmonary arrest.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Right, mm-hmm.

12
13 MS. CRITTENDEN: You should be able
14 to get injury deaths from that.

15
16 MR. ERSKINE: Secondary to intense
17 cranial --

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

20
21 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, so what I'm
22 asking is does the office of epidemiology
23 get us one of its source or not. It may be.
24 So this is -- this is why this committee is
25 here, that's why we formed it. Because of

1 all these ambiguities which for some is not
2 a -- because they know what they're doing.
3 They just need to be part of us here.

4 And so, we definitely have to
5 reach out to the office of epidemiology at
6 VDH, find out where this report's coming
7 from, why did it stop in 2016.

8 And if they say no, we have
9 infrastructure to continue it, that's great.
10 So we don't exhaust resources.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

13
14 DR. ABOUTANOS: And then how can we
15 combine now to either they share data with
16 us or we augment this report that we need to
17 use to drive our trauma system. This is
18 probably the most important part right now.

19 Even though we're getting the
20 list of the big -- so somebody asked me
21 already if we have this -- this list, and is
22 getting all that information. And if we're
23 not -- if we didn't contribute the data
24 registry to them, I mean, they don't have
25 any of the -- the hospital -- I mean, all of

1 us know from our own hospital the -- if you
2 look at EMR and if you look at your own
3 data, you have to abstract it to your
4 registry.

5 It's totally different in
6 terms of the accuracy, the regularity, the
7 type of -- of what you need. So our data
8 registry has a lot of information that -- we
9 just have to combine it.

10
11 MR. ERSKINE: Okay.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

14
15 MR. ERSKINE: Another potential
16 source --

17
18 DR. ABOUTANOS: So who's going to
19 do that -- sorry, Tim. Who's going to do
20 that. Who's going to reach out to -- is
21 that -- our office going to do it or --

22
23 MS. CRITTENDEN: There's a --
24 vdh.virginia.gov has a database which lists
25 all of the data resources of VDH by subject

1 and then again by sources. So that's a good
2 place to start it.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Oh, great.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: So that list what
7 we need for the next meeting. That needs to
8 come in along -- so next meeting, we really
9 should have a presentation on, this is what
10 we know so far from all these lists.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

13
14 DR. ABOUTANOS: And we definitely
15 have to have somebody from that office.

16
17 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

18
19 MS. CRITTENDEN: Yeah, so this is
20 all different offices, so -- so I mean,
21 these data are all different. It's just a
22 big master list. So for your injury you
23 got -- the available reports for data are
24 injured death rates, injury hospitalization
25 rates. And then the sources are school

1 reporting, immunization surveys, the health
2 opportunity index -- just some different
3 required disease reporting. Virginia Cancer
4 Registry -- VOIRS, that's the one that was
5 the -- the grant-related one.

6 Vital statistics and then --
7 it's a whole bunch of different places,
8 people, systems. I'll look into that and
9 we'll get it.

10
11 MS. CRITTENDEN: Another potential
12 source is the Department of Motor Vehicles.
13 And they have what is federally required
14 traffic records coordinating committee.

15 And one of the big things that
16 they will have that would be of interest to
17 this group is the crash records. There's a
18 lot of people that die at the scene that
19 just aren't known to the clinicians.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

22
23 MS. CRITTENDEN: And that -- that
24 will have, you know, the majority of what
25 they do is engineering and enforcement.

1 They're big into roadways and traffic
2 engineering and seat belts, speed limits,
3 etcetera. But they do -- they will be the
4 source for those crash records.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I can reach --

9
10 MS. CRITTENDEN: We submit our EMS
11 data to them for -- wholly for that. And
12 actually OEMS -- like I sit on their
13 quarterly committee, too, [inaudible] health
14 system.

15 All of that, we're getting
16 ready to [inaudible], and I'm on that, too.
17 We'll come from -- Tim and I will come next
18 month with everything and anything that
19 we'll have access to from VDH, just a
20 listing.

21 And send information on
22 [inaudible] just as a starting place that we
23 -- we could --

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah.

1 MS. CRITTENDEN: -- work with.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: In Virginia, do
4 you have a child's fatality review panel,
5 and do they collect data at the source?
6

7 MS. CRITTENDEN: We do.

8
9 MR. ERSKINE: Yes.
10

11 MS. CRITTENDEN: All states do.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: It's another
14 source.
15

16 MS. CRITTENDEN: Another source of
17 data.
18

19 MS. PEARCE: In emergency
20 management during -- I don't know if they
21 have anything -- deaths related to natural
22 causes and things -- anything of that
23 source.
24

25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Law enforcement

1 because, again, that would be deaths as --
2 at the scene. They're still -- include law
3 enforcement there, wherever, the gun shot
4 wound --

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That -- and that
7 would go back to OCME, yeah.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Usually some
10 [unintelligible] will also have them.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. Okay so, I
13 guess we can look -- anything else for that
14 goal or anything else anybody wants to add?
15 So if we look at the next goal, goal three.

16
17 DR. ABOUTANOS: Sorry, I just want
18 to --

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Sorry.

21
22 DR. ABOUTANOS: Sorry, I have a
23 statement on --

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: So the -- the three
2 sound like, when you heard me said conduct
3 educational gap analysis of --

4
5 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

6
7 DR. ABOUTANOS: So this -- so this
8 goal has -- there's something else. So one
9 -- so one part is just finding out the data.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: Which was one of
14 the function of this System Improvement, and
15 the system from -- we've added an
16 educational component to it just for this.
17 Which is really will be based on this
18 educational gap analysis.

19 You know, so if you look at
20 your second objection, second goal -- I'm
21 sorry, second goal and the second objective
22 in the goal -- in that goal. It says
23 conduct educational gap analysis of
24 institutions, populace and providers
25 regarding the role of the trauma system in

1 the community, etcetera. So I think the --
2 the big part will be once we have this data
3 system and -- and find out which data we're
4 going to use, even though -- that might take
5 a long time even though we could right off
6 the bat look at the two databases that we
7 actually own.

8 Look at the thermal registry
9 that we have and look at the -- the
10 Pre-Hospital registry that we have. And get
11 the report on those initially.

12 Okay, meanwhile a separate
13 part is getting the rest of other databases
14 that should augment what these two big
15 databases are doing.

16 Because I'm -- I have a fear
17 that we're -- the educational gap analysis
18 and then develop regional benchmarking and
19 all this stuff.

20 We can't do any of that if we
21 don't know -- if we don't have the basic
22 first. So like goal number three, goal
23 number -- we aren't even going to get to
24 those -- four or five -- if we -- if we
25 don't concentrate first on objective number

1 one and objective number two.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

4
5 DR. ABOUTANOS: So I think it may
6 behooves us to kind of spend some time to
7 look at -- I see that Tim has a report here
8 with him. You have a sample report.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: Mm-hmm.

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, we have that.

13
14 DR. ABOUTANOS: You know, that
15 maybe in the future take a look at it, even
16 see is this the kind of data we want,
17 etcetera.

18 And then -- then move into
19 this -- like the education gap analysis of
20 institution, we need to know what
21 institution need to know first before we can
22 figure out what the gap, right? If we have
23 come up and just say, these are the various
24 solution what -- and this is the knowledge
25 base that we want all the citizens to know.

1 That we want all the hospitals to know. We
2 don't know what it is --

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: -- unless -- like
7 if I ask any member here what are the top 10
8 causes of mortality in Virginia, do we know,
9 do we have a table? We can't even start.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm, no.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: So that's --

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: We have thoughts,
16 but we don't really specifically know.

17
18 DR. ABOUTANOS: Well you know, we
19 can find it. None of us have this brain.
20 We just say, let me go find it. You going
21 to go to the same web site you just had.

22
23 MS. CRITTENDEN: You -- you can
24 pull it from the CDC web site.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. Where is the
2 CDC getting their data from?

3
4 MS. CRITTENDEN: Required reporting
5 from the states. We -- we -- you know, our
6 EMS data goes to NEMSIS and that's put out
7 nationally -- level.

8 Trauma data, you know, we've
9 all -- entities, TBB standard and you guys
10 were all submitting your data. And so
11 that's --

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

14
15 MS. CRITTENDEN: -- that's -- it's
16 coming from this organization for submitting
17 data, too. So...

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: So can we have --
20 and make sure we are going to discuss this
21 with Shawn --

22
23 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, mm-hmm.

24
25 DR. ABOUTANOS: Can we have for

1 next time or even if you send all the
2 committee, just the basic report of -- of
3 what I just mentioned, whether it's CDC or
4 our data registry. Something that gets us
5 started.

6 I think maybe -- maybe a good
7 way to be able to look at what Tim has from
8 his -- or how you sample that. I think
9 Shawn sent everybody --

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. Yeah.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: Even a sample
14 registry. If you that -- I'm going to take
15 a look at it.

16
17 MR. ERSKINE: Well, I thought maybe
18 -- I -- I was waiting until we were finished
19 with the -- going over the goals and
20 objectives. But yeah, we can do that.

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: Yes, Michelle.

23
24 MS. POMPHREY: From a data
25 standpoint, I just have a lot of alarm bells

1 going off in my head because we just spent
2 the last couple meetings talking about all
3 of the data and what the data needs to do --
4

5 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.
6

7 MS. POMPHREY: -- for our state.
8 But I think we need to put on our docket to
9 address a fundamental question is how good
10 is the data that we have.
11

12 MS. MITCHELL: That we happen to
13 have, right.
14

15 MS. POMPHREY: Because if we make a
16 trend based on the data to go forward
17 because of what we have now, and then we
18 find that we have an inter-rated liability
19 of 60% or 50% on our data, then we are
20 implementing tremendous change based on bad
21 data.
22

23 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.
24

25 MS. POMPHREY: So I think that

1 needs to be part of our foundation as we do
2 the education, the graph analysis to
3 actually look at the validity of the data
4 that's being reported.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Right. Okay, thank
7 you.

8
9 DR. ABOUTANOS: So that's a --

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Good point.

12
13 DR. ABOUTANOS: So just to let you
14 know, so the -- the Trauma Performance
15 Improvement Committee, which is what this
16 committee came from, that's what we've been
17 doing for the past two and a half years,
18 three years.

19 It was all on the pre-hospital
20 part. So what we had done, we looked at the
21 pre-hospital data and we find out it's just
22 -- it's not complete, it's not adequate.
23 When -- when we had to give the report to
24 Advisory Board, which we have to do today,
25 our report essentially was, hey, the data's

1 not -- you know, more than 60% of -- the
2 vital signs not present, you know. And then
3 we started an improvement system, the
4 pre-hospital then.

5 But that limited to that one
6 part. I do think we need to bring this back
7 so that we want the function to bring back
8 that -- that same reporting we have right
9 now.

10 But now we have to add the
11 hospital to it. Then every registry that we
12 have exact to look at the various -- what's
13 missing and how valid is this data.

14
15 MS. POMPHREY: Because even with
16 the -- the trauma registry systems that we
17 have in each individual hospital and their
18 trauma registrar, there's some national
19 education that's out there.

20 But that's not a mandate that
21 everyone take the monthly TQIP quizzes.
22 It's kind of a, it's here for you. As TQIP
23 reports rolled out, that was one of the
24 first feedback is realizing how
25 institutional-level data was not up to par.

1 That it wasn't a true reflection of their
2 cases. And so there -- there definitely --
3 things in place for the hospital-level
4 trauma registry and data validity that we --
5 we should look at.

6
7 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

8
9 DR. ABOUTANOS: During the last
10 meeting that we had for the TAG, the whole
11 concept of the -- the trauma registrar work
12 group, had -- does that exist currently?
13 Isn't there a trauma registrar group?

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, there is a
16 work group. Right.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Is it meeting?

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Is it meeting?

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: They -- they --
23 we have a quarterly meeting.

24
25 DR. ABOUTANOS: Who heads that, or

1 is that 600?

2
3 MR. ERSKINE: That is -- it's an
4 independent organization.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: It's independent
7 organization?

8
9 MR. ERSKINE: Yes. It is not part
10 of -- of the government structure.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What are they
13 called? They have a name. If we can --

14
15 MR. ERSKINE: Avatar. The
16 Association of Virginia Trauma Registrars.

17
18 DR. ABOUTANOS: So it's a trauma
19 registrars, I thought he said outside of the
20 trauma system plan. How does that work?

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's the group
23 that they want to, you know --

24
25 MR. ERSKINE: It's like the program

1 managers. They are an independent
2 organization.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

5
6 MR. ERSKINE: It's like the College
7 of Surgeons.

8
9 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, but -- okay.
10 The trauma program manager, where do they
11 meet?

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Maybe --
14 sometimes they'll get office space and
15 they'll have it at the office. And they'll
16 come and get that --

17
18 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. I think
19 that's where --

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It quarterly and
22 the registrars typically meet the same day.

23
24 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. But what
25 kind of -- what was reported to the -- the

1 TSOMC as part of their report? That was an
2 official report that was given.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, but I think
5 that what has happened with the registrars
6 group and the trauma program managers group,
7 the plan is that we're going to meet
8 off-cycle.

9 We used to meet as part of
10 this -- these meetings. We'd meet the day
11 before the meetings and now we're having two
12 -- two days of meetings. So now, we're
13 going to meet at a different time.

14 Because that would mean that
15 we would meet three days, be away from work
16 three days. So -- and then we've kind of
17 gotten away from having the registrars and
18 the program managers meet at the same time.

19 Because there was an issue
20 with submitting data. We -- we met near the
21 time that you had to submit TQIP data and
22 state data so that people didn't really want
23 to try to do it then. So the registrars are
24 now meeting at a different time.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: Because the last
2 time -- what we've -- what we discussed came
3 about that the trauma registrars should have
4 along with them a -- one trauma program
5 manager to be involved so they won't be --
6 and -- and that they will report, you know,
7 have a report.

8 And it should be this
9 committee that should be asking for it. And
10 they will report either to this committee.
11 We decided trauma program managers should
12 report to TAG as a form of reporting --

13
14 MS. CRITTENDEN: This is the trauma
15 program managers and the -- when they
16 started the registrar. But they're not --
17 they were not official staff committees by
18 OEMS. And the trauma program managers, all
19 of them meet -- how many -- a long time,
20 right?

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. They've
23 been meeting for years.

24
25 DR. ABOUTANOS: They don't have to

1 be -- they don't have to be staff OEMS to
2 report to here.

3
4 MS. CRITTENDEN: And that's -- and
5 so what I'm just saying, though, is that we
6 don't -- we don't staff -- we don't keep
7 meeting minutes. We don't do any of that.
8 They use public meeting space.

9 So if they want -- yeah,
10 that's just kind of -- it's not been -- so
11 it's not been subject to all of the things
12 that --

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, just what
17 Michelle said, that kind of remind me. So
18 -- so this is a huge resource. Right? And
19 this resource should be part of this.

20 So for example, like for TAG,
21 we're going to be asking the trauma program
22 managers to report if they continue to meet
23 as a work group. The same thing as we --
24 you know, we could ask -- we ask anyone to
25 report. You know, the -- the -- you know,

1 and so this would be something that we
2 should really consider, whether the
3 registrar for the trauma registry for the
4 hospitals who meet and have the input.

5 And whether they should report
6 on issues, report on what -- report on
7 what's missing and how this is -- you know,
8 this would be a huge asset to -- to us.

9 So I -- I'm not a member of
10 this committee, but if somebody wants to
11 make a motion to have them report and then
12 just see how that work. Would somebody
13 contact them?

14 Then you have to approach
15 them, I think. Reach out and just say,
16 where do they fit now? What is their voice,
17 what is that outlet? If they don't have an
18 outlet then they're not part of trauma
19 system plan. And that's a problem.

20 They have to be part of trauma
21 system plan. You can not say they're
22 separate entity, they live somewhere else.
23 That doesn't exist. That's why we created
24 the trauma system plan.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 DR. ABOUTANOS: We're done with
4 this stuff. We really have to be able to
5 say, who are you? Do you serve the citizen?
6 Please come. Report, tell us what's the
7 problem so we can fix it.

8
9 MR. FREEMAN: Well, there are also

10 --

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Dan.

13
14 MR. FREEMAN: -- performance
15 improvement committee there. It was short-
16 lived, but it was kind of tagged on to the
17 trauma program managers meeting and the
18 registrar meetings.

19 And then there's currently
20 their outreach committee, which I'm not sure
21 that's accurate in those type ways or not.
22 But I mean, really, we got four committees
23 essentially that could be a work group, if
24 that's what you're talking about, from those
25 areas of the trauma world if that's what you

1 want to do is report all of those or have
2 members from each one. Or just a couple of
3 those that just don't think about that.
4 There's other groups out there that exist.
5

6 DR. ABOUTANOS: For the -- for the
7 -- so what are the groups, can you name
8 them?
9

10 MR. FREEMAN: Trauma program
11 managers, registrar group, outreach and the
12 performance improvement group met briefly.
13 And I'm not sure what happened in the group,
14 but --
15

16 DR. ABOUTANOS: What's the
17 performance improvement group?
18

19 MS. CRITTENDEN: That was the PI --
20

21 MS. MITCHELL: The PI group that
22 ran --
23

24 MS. CRITTENDEN: -- the managers
25 and coordinators for each of the trauma

1 centers. And we met at the same time that
2 the trauma registrars were meeting. And we
3 talked about glue closures and
4 documentations and process --

5
6 MR. FREEMAN: It was really a brain
7 storming meeting. It really wasn't work --

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It -- it was --
10 it was a way for us to -- to share like what
11 we were doing to help educate our trauma
12 registrars to help with our data validity
13 concerns. What our interpretations of
14 various parts of the State and ACS
15 guidelines were.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It really is
18 just all your components of your trauma
19 program in your hospital that are your
20 people that are meeting in their groups of
21 their respective jobs, of what they do. And
22 sharing information.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It was more of a
25 support, slash, education meeting and not a

1 formal reporting thing. So it was -- it was
2 very helpful to those because a lot of us
3 were very new in the worlds at the time that
4 we were meeting.

5 And so it was nice for us to
6 be able to throw ideas back and forth. I
7 think we stole a couple documents from each
8 other and that kind of stuff.

9
10 MR. ERSKINE: And that's the --
11 that's the strength of those organizations
12 is the networking.

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

15
16 MR. ERSKINE: You know --

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And not being
19 tied to the -- all the rules that go with
20 these formal --

21
22 MR. ERSKINE: Right.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- committees.
25 But they can share emails back and forth,

1 meet in groups, discuss whatever --

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Have conference
4 calls and stuff like that.

5
6 DR. ABOUTANOS: I -- I mean, that's
7 fine. We need to do that.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes.

10
11 DR. ABOUTANOS: That's been one of
12 the -- that's one of the issues. You know,
13 we have the same thing as, you know, the --
14 you think about the committee on trauma, all
15 the trauma surgeons get together and we're
16 -- we're talking, you know, what happened,
17 some separate organization.

18 I just think if this committee
19 is a performance improvement committee and
20 you just mentioned the actual work of this
21 committee, those four separate things.

22 This is the meat of this
23 committee. So this is a wonderful
24 opportunity. We already have the work
25 group. You're already working together.

1 And -- but the idea that they're -- so this
2 committee is not dictating when you would
3 meet, not dictating to the public, none of
4 that. You're your own group.

5 But is asking that the idea of
6 somebody representing here. So I'm asking
7 whether this should be something that we
8 want to have.

9 The coordinators, the
10 representative, you know, before
11 [unintelligible]. You -- you always have a
12 chance to report what's going on here. So
13 -- so this will become a source -- plan.

14 You know, of -- so they --
15 there's a reason why we've added education
16 to this part, an education representative.
17 Kind of silly to have an education
18 representative but -- who's not tied in to
19 what all the education role. I mean, you
20 got to identify together.

21 So that's what the whole point
22 is. How can we start bringing all this to
23 work together? It's a constraint that we
24 can not meet -- I mean, it has to be public.
25 So we won't put any constraint of -- of the

1 various work group. But there's got to be a
2 way to bring it here --

3
4 MS. CRITTENDEN: And invite them to
5 come in for public comment or for -- I don't
6 know if they'd come. I mean, we can extend
7 an invitation. They're no longer open, so
8 anybody can come forward.

9 Every meeting has a public
10 comment period. We can send an invitation
11 to come report. I don't know if they
12 will --

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I don't think --
15 inform me -- correct me if I'm wrong, but I
16 don't think the Performance Improvement -- I
17 mean, we have not gotten together in
18 probably two years.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, it -- it
21 dissolved probably about a year and a half
22 ago. But I think there's probably still
23 interest --

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sure.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- for the group
4 and program managers, I think, we can
5 probably facilitate that.

6
7 MS. MITCHELL: Right. We probably
8 should, yeah.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And if the
11 Office of EMS would help with space,
12 especially since we're meeting next month.
13 And it sounds like we want to move forward
14 with quarterly meetings on the next month
15 ahead with these orders.

16 We can certainly get those
17 groups together and help facilitate that as
18 program managers.

19
20 DR. ABOUTANOS: Because a program
21 manager used to report all the time. And
22 actually they were on every agenda every
23 since I work with TSOMC, there was a trauma
24 program managers report. That was part of
25 TSOMC.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I'm a program
2 manager who was on the committee and
3 reported out.
4

5 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, which we do
6 have now also. And so -- but that was, you
7 know, instead of official representation,
8 you know, of this is what we decided for me
9 to do, we want everybody to know about this.
10 And then -- that was very important. And I
11 think we need -- this has to continue.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Right.
14

15 DR. ABOUTANOS: For this -- for
16 this committee specifically, that's what I
17 was thinking about the registrar would be
18 more -- makes more sense registrars report
19 also to here, at least have a
20 representative. We have a registrar here,
21 right? It says registrar representative.
22

23 MS. MITCHELL: Yes, Michelle.
24

25 MR. ERSKINE: It's Michelle.

1 MS. MITCHELL: It's Michelle
2 Pomphrey.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: So Michelle, that
5 would be your part, I would say to say, this
6 is what -- you are the voice. And that's
7 why -- that's why that function is put on
8 here, to report as the registrar.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

11
12 MS. POMPHREY: We have a -- I'll
13 speak to them and I can coordinate with
14 Jennifer for an official report.

15
16 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah. So -- so
17 what I'm saying is that I would reach out to
18 Shawn and Shawn decided Valeria will be the
19 vice-president to both of the -- to be
20 included on the agenda.

21 So the agenda will have a
22 registrar. This is a voice that needs to
23 come in and say, this is issue.

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

1 DR. ABOUTANOS: You know, this --
2 this will extend more when we start talking
3 about other registries and how their -- what
4 their registrars are doing.

5 Because they may have done
6 some things and gained insight to some
7 things that -- that would be very helpful
8 for everyone.

9 You know, or -- or vice versa,
10 they have a[n] issue with some kind of
11 definition. We say, well, this is how we
12 solved it and this is how we -- or this is
13 work we need to bring it up forth.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: And they kind of do
16 some of that now. But I think Michelle
17 brings up a really good point about knowing
18 what -- how valid and accurate our data is
19 that we are putting into our registry.

20 And one of the things that
21 with -- that was very helpful for us as a
22 center with part of TQIP, Michelle came to
23 our facility and did an audit of some of our
24 charts. And it was nice to have an outside
25 person come and look at them. And she gave

1 us some really good recommendations that we
2 took to heart and tried to make some
3 changes. And I think about how we don't
4 really do that at State level.

5 That would be really helpful,
6 just to figure out a way that from -- that
7 we -- we'd have someone come in and look at
8 -- you know, look at our data in our
9 different institutions.

10 And just -- just check to see
11 if the data is valid. I mean, there are
12 things that she picked up that I was -- we
13 were able to teach our registrars and the
14 changes to their practice and how they
15 abstract the data just based on that input.

16 So I think that if we could
17 identify some things that we want to look at
18 and then figure out how we can go to each
19 other facilities.

20 Because sometimes when you
21 look at it all the time, you see something
22 very different than some -- when fresh eyes
23 look at it and say, why are you doing it
24 that way? And sometimes our registrars, you
25 know, will have difficulty making changes

1 because they see it as more work and -- and
2 it's just easier to not deal with it. And
3 it's nice sometimes to have someone come in.

4
5 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay, so -- so my
6 question though --

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

9
10 DR. ABOUTANOS: Okay. So how do
11 you take this and make it more into
12 something that's useful, so it does not --
13 it's more useful, what I meant, for
14 everyone.

15 Show the system improvement
16 committee, for example, and say that from
17 the registrars, we would need a -- a
18 reporting in this one aspect. But other
19 part is that the, you know, what should
20 everyone shall have?

21 What are the -- there is -- is
22 there a -- is there anything that will --
23 that is attributed to the function of -- of
24 the registrar, the educational level, what
25 they need to do. And --

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That's in your
2 State designation criteria.

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And that --
5 those are out there. There is national
6 guidelines for education in the ACS manual.
7 There's two classes that they need to have
8 within the first two years.

9 There's no mandate for
10 certification nationally. Different
11 hospitals will put that in their
12 implementation. But the problem that we see
13 on a national level is the individual
14 hospitals support of the registrar.

15 So in other words, the college
16 can give you an FTE guideline and hospitals
17 don't necessarily follow that. The State
18 can make a recommendation that there needs
19 to be a staffing or x,y,z.

20 The hospital sometimes doesn't
21 follow that. So there is guidelines, but
22 there's sometimes implementation barriers as
23 well.

24
25 DR. ABOUTANOS: Yeah, so -- so this

1 what I'm talking -- so this is actually very
2 important information that should be
3 filtered out.

4 Because -- so the Acute Care
5 surgery committee, they're looking at now --
6 one of the -- one of the -- the work group
7 that was just formed yesterday was the
8 development of the group's going to work on
9 the manual, right?

10 So -- so what would be -- see
11 if the registrars don't have a voice -- this
12 goes to back what I was just saying earlier
13 -- then you're not going to contribute to
14 that manual. It's going to be top down
15 instead of bottom up. You need both.

16
17 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

18
19 DR. ABOUTANOS: And so, this is
20 when you formalize yourself and you just
21 say, hey, we want to present here. This is
22 what's -- what's important to us. So that
23 will -- you need to contribute to that
24 manual. This is what you just said. This
25 is very important, what can we do -- look at

1 the criteria and just say, this is why we
2 think should be important. And so -- so
3 that's one thing. I will -- I will
4 encourage the talk.

5 I think Beth was -- was put in
6 charge of that manual -- of the -- of the
7 manual. She put together a small work
8 group. You're able to reach out to her and
9 just say, this is -- let's look at -- let's
10 look at -- what I'm just saying.

11 So this is what happened when
12 you bring in these issues that have been
13 talk only about in one session. Bring in
14 more out to -- so everybody can hear.

15 And what -- what you have
16 stated about was reading which was very
17 important was all the -- all the ways that
18 we can improve our system. What you just
19 said, that's an educational aspect of
20 learning, going, benchmarking, you know.

21 Those are the part that will
22 come into it. I guess that -- that can be
23 moved into that -- that goal three. Even
24 though we are not yet discuss it yet. It
25 sounds like where they were benchmarking,

1 seeing other people do -- improve our -- our
2 system.

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So Tim, would it
5 be possible to do -- like run out of Image
6 Trend a validity per EMS region for the EMS
7 data and the -- a validity report for the --
8 like how many errors or whatever that's
9 hitting for the hospital submissions?

10
11 MR. ERSKINE: Perhaps.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Is it something
14 that we could see?

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I was going to
17 say, I want -- I want to kind of -- before
18 we -- as registrars, before we can report
19 data to the State, any hospital individual,
20 we have to run what's called a validator
21 report.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Correct.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That is only

1 schematic errors. So in other words, it
2 will check our data from a hospital
3 perspective and see that my blood pressure
4 is 180. It's a three-digit blood pressure.

5 It's above zero and it's below
6 300. So it says, okay, this is the right
7 format. Therefore, you can submit your data
8 to the State.

9 But that -- that validator has
10 no way of checking, is that -- should it
11 have been 80/108 or 180. And so, when we
12 report data to the State --

13
14 MR. ERSKINE: We can check
15 validity, but not accuracy.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Exactly. They
18 can check and make sure that everything has
19 a blood pressure, but we don't know if the
20 blood pressure's right.

21 It can check and make sure
22 that there's an 'e' code there, but there is
23 no validity to, is that 'e' code actually
24 what happened to the patient.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: When -- when I
2 was there, we ran -- we did 10 spot check on
3 charts for different ones.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Mm-hmm.

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And there was a
8 guy who got hit by a car on the side --
9 walking on the sidewalk. And he was entered
10 by the EMS agency as an overdose.

11 So I -- I know that -- that
12 that is a problem that -- I was just
13 wondering if there was any way that we can
14 like look to see if things aren't matching
15 up to what they were.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You can. And I
18 think -- I don't know too much because I --
19 I mean, I'm very new. But with
20 Pre-Hospital, we -- we regularly do the
21 Pre-Hospital validity thing.

22 And it's improving a lot. And
23 recently started doing the trauma as well,
24 so -- but we can do the validity. And like
25 she said, you don't know about the accuracy.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And with part of
2 the trauma registry, unfortunately, that --
3 and we go -- the Pre-Hospital side has more
4 robust reporting than the validity and more
5 tracking on it.

6 The trauma registry program is
7 not -- they didn't -- it seems to not --
8 it's not in yet and it's horrible. It
9 doesn't have the same tools that the Elite
10 does.

11 We're working with them on
12 really tightening up the validity and trying
13 to improve it. But it's just not -- the
14 vendor doesn't appear to have committed as
15 much.

16 EMS is their bailiwick, I
17 think, of anyone. And so the trauma
18 registry is -- is improving. They're
19 working on it, but it's catching up.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I also think
22 that with the trauma centers, the validity
23 is probably a lot better than your
24 non-trauma centers. Because your non-trauma
25 centers are just putting -- they're really

1 not -- they're -- they're taking probably
2 information from the coders who are coding
3 for -- for billing versus trauma. So that
4 -- that data is not as valid as your trauma
5 center data. So that's --

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's a lot less
8 data.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And a lot of the
13 trauma centers are doing some inter-rater
14 reliability of multiple levels. In fact --

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Correct.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- if you are a
19 higher level trauma center, you should be
20 doing that.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Correct.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You know,
25 you're -- you're one check of how this is

1 billed out is one thing. But there's higher
2 levels.

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And most of them
7 are probably doing that. So the higher the
8 level of trauma center, you know, should
9 have more valid data.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Your -- your
12 non-trauma centers --

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I was going to
15 -- your non-trauma centers are just putting
16 in -- and it's probably somebody who is not
17 even trained in doing a registry.

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Correct.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's the ER
22 nurse at 3:00 in the morning, because it
23 happens to be quiet. That's one incident
24 and it's probably 10 or 12 different people
25 at a facility doing it, not one or two that

1 are trained.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And they're not
4 capturing all the data that they need to
5 catch. But --

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: But that's the
8 issue.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right. But we
11 do have a sample for the State that we can
12 look at. It may not be a complete sample,
13 but it is there.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: But I think that if
16 we're going to try to use this data to make
17 decisions, we need to really back up and
18 make sure that we've got accurate data. And
19 -- and we -- yeah.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: To at least then
22 look if it's accurate, what we're dealing
23 with and what's not so we can say, we're
24 pretty sure -- and this is an assumption.
25 Yeah.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. So we just
2 need to figure that out. So I guess --
3 okay, where are we now? Let's see. So we
4 are going to now look at this report.

5 I know that Shawn wanted us to
6 look at this, but I don't know that we can
7 look through it today, or just that he wants
8 us to have it.

9 And look at it and think about
10 -- he -- he would like to have some type of
11 trauma report produced by the end of the
12 year. And you know, he thinks some of the
13 fields in here are things that we would want
14 to look at.

15 But then, of course, it kind
16 of raises a question. We could put together
17 a report, but we want to make sure our data
18 is accurate, too, that we're going to put in
19 this report.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So -- so I did
22 my training in Ohio. So I'm very familiar
23 with this -- this report from years and
24 years ago. But they -- they've actually
25 improved upon it since I was there.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Ohio State --
4 the State of Ohio, I should say, has a
5 fairly robust trauma program. And their --
6 their trauma programs are heavily funded by
7 the state. So there's a lot of interest in
8 having this data available to them. Yeah,
9 but --

10
11 MR. ERSKINE: Whoa. There's -- not
12 a dime --

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: No.

15
16 MR. ERSKINE: -- goes from the
17 state to the trauma programs. I was -- was
18 --

19
20 MS. CRITTENDEN: Tim was the trauma
21 --

22
23 MR. ERSKINE: I was -- I was Cam
24 for 10 years.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Oh, okay. Back
2 in the -- back in the day, they were heavily
3 funded by the state. So they've changed
4 that?

5
6 MR. ERSKINE: There was a federal
7 grant from 2000 to 2003 or '05.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

10
11 MR. ERSKINE: But that was to the
12 tune of about \$100,000.00 for the whole
13 state that went to the Division of EMS. And
14 they used that for system level activities.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

17
18 MR. ERSKINE: The trauma registry,
19 the staffing for the trauma registry, that's
20 all carved out of the Division of Emergency
21 Medical Services. It doesn't have its own
22 separate funding. None of the trauma
23 centers, you know, and the system started
24 out with 14 Level I's and II's. It's now up
25 to 53.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

2
3 MR. ERSKINE: Nobody received a
4 dime.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Got it. So I'm
7 mistaken on where the money came from. But
8 they had -- they had a fairly -- at least
9 when I was a resident there, they had a
10 fairly robust financial reward for doing
11 trauma. Where that came from, I have no
12 idea. But --

13
14 MR. ERSKINE: Well, because you can
15 make money doing trauma.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. So they
18 -- they did very well. However, I think
19 that what we have to do is take -- and I
20 think this is what Shawn's intent was with
21 this report -- is to take the data that's
22 contained in this report, compare it to what
23 we do in Virginia, and then what works for
24 us and what doesn't. So a lot of this is
25 just population data and trauma data, which

1 is probably stuff that we already collect.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And we can
6 organize it in whatever fashion works the
7 best for our system. I mean, I think a lot
8 of the information is probably what we
9 already have. Is that correct, Tim?

10
11 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah. This is --
12 this is all out of National Trauma Databank
13 --

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

16
17 MR. ERSKINE: -- data, which we
18 also collect.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So I think --
21 and I don't know, do -- do we have --
22 because that's the one thing, do we have a
23 formal report like this?

24
25 MR. ERSKINE: No.

1
2
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25

MS. MITCHELL: No, mm-mm.

COMMITTEE MEMBER: So basically, just take our data and put it into a formal report.

MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. I -- I think that's his intent.

COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah.

MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, is to put together some type of report. And this was what he considered a good example of what it could be. Whether --

COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

MS. MITCHELL: -- we have it -- one exactly like this. I don't think that's his intent, but certainly, wanted us to see what, you know, the possible data points are.

COMMITTEE MEMBER: It depends what

1 you want to know. If you want to know the
2 total numbers of what happens -- what kind
3 of trauma throughout the state, this is
4 really good one.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: If you want to
9 know about whether trauma patient is going
10 to write or not, you have different like
11 what --

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- that they
16 used to produce with -- that which is --
17 what I'm -- I was working on.

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And we can
22 definitely do this. This just shows more of
23 like numbers, what -- what is happening type
24 thing.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. Okay.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I mean, it's a
4 good report.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It has a lot of
9 data in it. And it's --

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And -- and
14 again, for anybody who just wants to know
15 what is happening in the State, this is a
16 good one resource. Pull it up and you've
17 got all that data.

18 Where -- and again, correct me
19 if I'm wrong, you sort of have to search
20 around for it a little bit in different
21 sites. Is that the way we are right now?

22
23 MS. MITCHELL: No, I think this
24 would come from our registry.

1 MR. ERSKINE: This is all from
2 trauma registry, yeah.

3
4 DR. ABOUTANOS: Trauma registry.

5
6 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: We have a lot of
9 stuff --

10
11 MR. ERSKINE: And you know, there
12 -- but there is a lot -- there are a lot of
13 different resources depending on what you're
14 looking for.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

17
18 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So that's what
21 I'm saying. I think that -- I think Shawn's
22 intent was pick what we really wanted --

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Wanted to know.

25

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- in one
2 location. And then gather that into one
3 report.

4
5 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Because each --
8 I guess it's eight.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: Date of the report?

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's table one,
13 duration of hospital stay by mechanism of
14 injury.

15
16 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: If we were to do
19 something like this -- personally, I would
20 like to see it like broken out, trauma
21 center versus non-trauma center.

22 And even maybe by trauma
23 center level, like Level I, Level II, Level
24 III. And -- and ISS IV put to it like the
25 ISS of this to this stays this many days in

1 the hospital. I think a prior level of
2 control would be very helpful. And you
3 would -- because it would be all Level I's,
4 all Level II's, all Level III's.

5 And it could say, you know,
6 Norfolk General's doing better than Roanoke.
7 It would be -- if you have an ISS for -- of
8 30 and you survive, you're in the hospital
9 for 25 to 30 days no matter which hospital
10 you're in. I think that would be very
11 useful information for us as --

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It would be very
14 interesting to compare this to the CDC web
15 site and their mechanisms of injury. And it
16 may be a way to kind of check up with the --
17 the --

18
19 COMMITTEE MEMBER: People leaving.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Thank you. And
22 just where are those numbers coming from and
23 are we --

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Are we producing
2 the same numbers.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And they've --
7 they've got it over here in table two, it
8 says number of hospital days by injury,
9 severity score.

10 But I -- I think being able to
11 look at it at a higher or a little bit
12 slightly more granular level would be very
13 helpful.

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: And some of this
16 data would be helpful even to the Post-Acute
17 Care committee in terms of looking at length
18 of stay for certain injuries. And then, you
19 know --

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Discharge
22 disposition.

23
24 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. And then
25 figuring out whether --

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Continuing care
2 maybe add do they go to a nursing home, do
3 they go to back home. I mean, that would be
4 huge to know, you know, as a state.

5 We're keeping you alive and
6 we're going to rehab as opposed to we're
7 keeping you alive and you're -- yeah.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: The point is to
10 know.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. The point
13 is to know.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Or even whether
16 the -- you know, yeah. Yeah.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Like what are
19 the outcomes, what the long terms outcomes
20 are for those individuals, yeah.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So you know, you
23 have an ISS IV greater than 25. They're in
24 the hospital for more than 30 days. And
25 they're all going to nursing homes, then

1 maybe we need to look at what we're doing
2 that's keeping people alive for over 30
3 days. Could this reduce scores and then
4 they're still ending up in a nursing home.
5

6 MS. MITCHELL: We're looking at,
7 you know, maybe help us to see whether we
8 have the -- enough -- we have beds for
9 patients that go to and where -- and why are
10 they staying in the hospital so long before
11 they go to rehab.

12 Because sometimes that's a
13 real issue that people, you know, stay. And
14 -- and that's me trying to look at what
15 things we need in our community to support
16 our trauma service to try to get a sense of
17 where the barriers are to disposition from
18 the hospital would certainly help us as
19 well.
20

21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: This is also
22 information that's one of our goals as the
23 IVP group.
24

25 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So -- so we
2 aren't duplicating efforts --

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

5
6 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- and we could
7 be working on together.

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Right, right. I do
10 think that one of the really good things
11 about reorganizing our trauma meetings and
12 bringing in more people is I think we do
13 have an opportunity to look broader and look
14 at where we're really going.

15 Because I think, prior to now
16 -- at this point, we've all been looking at
17 care from our hospital standpoint. And we
18 even realize that there's opportunity -- I,
19 for example, Lou Ann is in our region and we
20 -- we talk a lot.

21 But we don't really get
22 together and really plan and look at care.
23 And we've got three centers right there
24 together, two in the Sentara system and --
25 and Lou Ann's system. And we really should

1 probably be looking at regional things that
2 we could be working on. You know, rather
3 than Lou Ann doing all the work by herself
4 and I'm doing it by myself.

5 And then -- and then Mark is
6 doing it. Certainly, we could make some
7 impact just regionally that we could share
8 and replicate other places. Because we all
9 are, you know, together somewhere.

10 You know, you have a sister
11 trauma center, whether it's part of your
12 system or not or a neighbor. And you know,
13 we -- we tend to work together whether we're
14 in the same system or not because we're all
15 doing the same thing.

16 Working together, trying to
17 take care of injured patients. So I think
18 this is good. We're going to -- so I know
19 that he wanted us to look at this.

20 And I think they probably -- I
21 don't know whether he wants -- I guess we
22 could certainly think about what data points
23 we'd like to collect. What we would like --
24 what we would like -- how a report
25 reflecting the Virginia trauma service --

1 trauma injuries would look. What it would
2 look like, what it would contain. And so, I
3 think we could share that with Shawn. And
4 then we could talk about that at a future
5 meeting.

6 Maybe our next meeting if his
7 goal is to try to have something like this
8 at the end of year. We probably need to
9 know a little bit more about what it's going
10 to be.

11
12 MR. ERSKINE: The first thing that
13 we would need --

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

16
17 MR. ERSKINE: -- and this is
18 something that -- that just helps to focus
19 it is a table of contents.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

22
23 MR. ERSKINE: You know, don't worry
24 about what it's going to look like --

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 MR. ERSKINE: -- whether it's going
4 to be a table or a pie chart or anything
5 like that.

6
7 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

8
9 MR. ERSKINE: Just tell us what you
10 want to see. And we can work on it from
11 there.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Well, the only
16 thing I printed out was the table of
17 contents. I just kind of wanted to know
18 what we might do.

19 And if you read down this
20 table of contents, I -- I don't know -- do
21 you draft considerations? I don't know that
22 I would have --

23
24 MR. ERSKINE: That's a -- that's a
25 -- that's an Ohio political thing.

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. I -- I
2 don't know that that would be something.
3 Injury characteristics, when you go back and
4 you start looking at it, it does talk about
5 intent.

6 Was there intentional,
7 unintentional, which I think would be very
8 helpful to our peers in the Pre-Hospital and
9 in Injury Prevention.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Prevention.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I think that
14 would be huge for them.

15
16 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Outcome
19 measures, it looks like in here that they
20 talk about whether they died or whether they
21 went to rehab, which would be a huge benefit
22 to our rehab colleagues. So I -- I think
23 that's really good. Their registry
24 inclusion criteria and data dictionary, I
25 don't know about that part.

1 MR. ERSKINE: The appendices,
2 that's just -- that's --

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Definitions.

5
6 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah, that's
7 definitions and information.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: The maps are
10 very helpful if you're looking at the
11 audience that's going to look at this. But
12 it would be really great if those maps were
13 kept on that OEMS web site and kept updated
14 constantly.

15 Because we're always asked to
16 give presentations and things to our
17 different groups. And it would be really
18 nice to have real maps.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: And even some of the
21 outcome data, if it could be separated by
22 injury type. So if we had some information
23 for the section on traumatic brain injuries,
24 spinal cord injuries. Some of those
25 patients that are challenging for us to

1 manage or challenging from a resource
2 standpoint. But if we could look at some of
3 the data, you know, age spread, you know,
4 how they got injured.

5 That could -- may have some
6 implications for Injury Prevention
7 opportunities. And then also could help
8 focus some of the -- the care or resources
9 that we need for them.

10 But if you put them all
11 together, they kind of get all mixed in.
12 But if you look at -- because we all know
13 that, you know, our -- I know from us,
14 traumatic brain injury patients are a real
15 challenge in terms of what we're able to do
16 with them.

17 And if you roll them up with
18 everybody else, they kind of -- it looks
19 better. But the reality is is that group,
20 you still -- that's a pod of people that --

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What about
23 insurance? As -- I mean, our uninsured
24 population, especially with TBI's, we have a
25 horrible, horrible time with placement for

1 those patients.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes, they just
6 expanded Medicaid. But what -- what does it
7 really --

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What is the
12 impact of that on our patient population?

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That goes back
15 to Robin's point earlier. I think all of
16 these, you know, do it for the whole
17 registry. But then do it for the Level I's,
18 the Level II's, the Level III's.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: II's, the Level
21 III's.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And the
24 non-trauma centers.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Because I think
4 we'll see some very interesting data come
5 out. It'll help you with your validity when
6 you run these reports.

7 Because even when you look at
8 this, you go why are there so many not
9 reported fields in here? Why is it that
10 way?

11 It'll at least be a smidge
12 above -- of a glean as to how good is your
13 statewide trauma registry, you know. And
14 you can start looking at -- at least a
15 little bit of some of the validity to the
16 data fields.

17
18 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I mean, I don't
21 know what the current numbers are, but at
22 one point in time, 50% of the people who met
23 step one trauma triage in Virginia were not
24 going to a trauma center. So if we broke it
25 down by, as you say, the non-trauma centers

1 and the trauma centers, it would -- I think
2 it would be able to give us some ammunition
3 to be able to say, yes, we need to bring up
4 either -- we're doing the -- what's the --
5 rural trauma team development programs --

6
7 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

8
9 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- just for
10 hospitals. But what do we need to do to
11 help get those people --

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: But that's where
14 your geographic data used to -- you know,
15 you said we don't probably need that. But
16 that's where your geographic data actually
17 helps you a little bit.

18 Because then you can show in
19 this area where there's no trauma center,
20 here's how many deaths there were.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I would --

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I was looking at
25 that as being under the -- the maps of the

1 trauma centers --

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right. Yeah,
4 but I think that -- I think it does help --
5 the geographic stuff does help you. Because
6 it kind of convinces -- like when you look
7 at that data, it convinces you, hey, we --
8 we have an area here that needs something.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah. But I
11 mean, I think we need to -- to drill it down
12 a little further than what they did in here.

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. It's a good
15 discussion. Okay, so we'll look at the
16 table of contents in this report and -- and
17 try to identify that -- that we think we --
18 you know, we'd like to see in a report.

19 Share that back with Shawn and
20 then we can -- I guess, I think one of the
21 things he will need to decide is how often
22 we'll meet because some of this stuff we --
23 we need to talk about. Let's see, done
24 that. Okay. So do we want to go through
25 the -- these other goals or you just want to

1 stop with this -- the first two and --

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I think until we
4 find out about all of this -- about how this
5 stuff is connected and where we can get data
6 from, I think that --

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- we can do
11 this other stuff another time.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Right. I know that
14 Forrest had a real vision for some things
15 that I think we're just not ready for. He
16 had this vision that, you know, patients
17 didn't have vital signs -- we were --
18 because he was focused a lot on vital signs
19 in the -- in the last couple years.

20 But you know, there were --
21 and actually, the EM -- the Pre-Hospital
22 providers really showed some -- a lot of
23 improvement. Because in the beginning, we
24 had lots of patients that didn't have
25 complete vital signs. And so, that improved

1 over time. One of the things I think we
2 really want to make sure we are able to do
3 is some of the -- the data that Dwight would
4 put together, which is now -- what's the
5 gentleman's name that just --

6
7 MR. ERSKINE: Narad.

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Narad, will put
10 together. I think it needs to be close to
11 as real time as possible. Because we --
12 when we would take that information and try
13 to talk about it in our regional PI
14 committees, he's like the hero.

15 And so -- you know, it's kind
16 of hard to get the EMS providers engaged in
17 trying to make things better when they're
18 sensing that it's not -- it is better
19 already and you -- what you're showing me
20 doesn't make any sense.

21 Or it's very old. So we need
22 to really see how we can make that as real
23 time as possible. You know, because --

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I have a

1 question. We get ME reports on our patients
2 that die.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: You get what
5 reports?

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: The medical
8 examiner reports --

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: Uh-huh.

11
12 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- on our
13 traumatic deaths. And we get, I would say
14 probably 90 plus percent of them are view
15 only's. And we don't really get any
16 detailed exams.

17
18 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Would there be
21 any way like to get that kind of information
22 statewide to see if -- how -- what the
23 percentages are, view only's versus exams?

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That's up to

1 medical examiner. That's -- it's very
2 frustrating because you can ask for a
3 complete exam and they can say, no, sorry.
4 We're not going to do it. Yeah, it's very
5 frustrating.

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: What about a
8 single -- a 17-year-old with not a mark on
9 him --

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes, it's very
12 frustrating.

13
14 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- is dead in a
15 car.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It's very
18 frustrating.

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You know, it's
21 -- when you have out of state reviewers come
22 and look at your information and they're
23 like, why don't you know why these people
24 died? And we have no --

1 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Right.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. Yeah, that
4 would be -- so one of the things that we
5 realized -- you know, for a while we weren't
6 getting anything from the medical examiners
7 because they were just looking at people and
8 just, you know, saying no suspicious injury.

9 And then I actually called and
10 talked to the medical examiner's office
11 because we had all these -- our penetrating
12 trauma when we'd code it and send it in to
13 TQIP, you know, they'd have like a one.

14 And -- but they died. So then
15 they had all these people with low ISS
16 scores that are dying. I talked to the
17 medical examiner and realized that they
18 actually did autopsies on all penetrating
19 trauma.

20 And we worked out a way for it
21 -- they said you just have to request it.
22 Well, we thought they didn't -- they weren't
23 doing them. So now, we request -- request a
24 report on all our penetrating traumas. And
25 it lists out all the injuries. And we've

1 been able to really get better ISS scores
2 out of these patients and our numbers look
3 better and benchmark. And -- but for years
4 we thought that we couldn't get anything.

5 So for penetrating, I'd
6 recommend that you reach out and ask them
7 because I was pleasantly surprised. And now
8 we just -- we send a -- we send a request
9 and they send it back to us.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I've got the
12 penetrating head mark -- head wound.

13
14 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Been very
17 detailed and very pretty. But like I get
18 some that are view only and they don't even
19 roll them over. Patient too big to turn.
20 And that's on like three --

21
22 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

23
24 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- or four of
25 the ones I've gotten recently. So -- okay.

1 MS. MITCHELL: So we've been really
2 good --

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And they impact
5 our -- could improve our data if we knew
6 what they really -- what's wrong with them.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

9
10 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It seems to be
11 related mostly to the motor vehicle -- what
12 they consider motor vehicle. They -- they
13 just do external, which doesn't make any
14 sense.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We've had the
17 fall patients and we've had elderly falls
18 that broke all the pieces. It would be
19 lovely to know.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Well, but that -- it
22 may be an opportunity if -- I could talk to
23 Shawn about. Maybe you know, reaching out
24 to the Office of the Medical Examiners and
25 talk to them about what we're trying to do.

1 Maybe there's -- I don't know, sometimes it
2 doesn't hurt to talk to people and find out
3 -- I mean, they'd understand what you're
4 trying to do because there maybe a
5 willingness to help us in the ways that we
6 just assumed that wouldn't occur.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I will.

9
10 MS. MITCHELL: It would be worth
11 asking.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We're going to
14 work on our data through --

15
16 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: If that would
19 work, that would -- if either of us could
20 say this had not.

21
22 COMMITTEE MEMBER: I think that
23 would be huge.

24
25 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. Okay, thank

1 you.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yeah, we talked
4 to our medical examiner in the Roanoke
5 region. And it came down -- we asked them
6 these same questions. It came down to
7 resource allocation --

8
9 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

10
11 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- and the
12 ability to do these extensive exams on
13 patients. And -- and at least, they
14 expressed some frustration with really not
15 being able to do some of that work that we
16 would think that they would do because of
17 it. It's just manpower, really.

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: We're actually
22 lucky enough in Roanoke at the medical
23 examiner's office that they've got a CT
24 Scanner. And so they're able to actually do
25 some post-mortem scans on folks --

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- which have
4 gotten us some information related to
5 injuries that we weren't -- you know,
6 somebody comes in dead and stays dead in the
7 ER.

8 And they're in there for 10
9 minutes and they get pronounced. So they
10 don't get a scan, you know, because they're
11 dead.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

14
15 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And so the
16 hospital's not going to pay for us to do
17 post-mortem scans. But at least the Roanoke
18 office occasionally will pull that trigger
19 and they'll do a post-mortem scan. But it's
20 a -- it's a challenge and they -- they have
21 some reasons.

22
23 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And it all comes

1 down to manpower. But --

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. I think
4 they're workload is pretty high. And I
5 think that's --

6
7 COMMITTEE MEMBER: At a state level
8 committee is requesting the information,
9 maybe they give you the leverage that could
10 help them get the manpower. I mean, I don't
11 know.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Or the CT
14 Scanners to do more of them.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Some can --

17
18 COMMITTEE MEMBER: You know --

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Yes, that
21 mistake, it's actually supposed to be in
22 Richmond. But for whatever reason, the --
23 that building that was there, it couldn't
24 house a CT Scanner. So the Roanoke office
25 actually ended up getting it. It was a

1 great mistake for our region.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. All righty.
4 So you passed out this report. Did you want
5 to talk to us about it, or just --

6
7 MR. MISHRA: This is quarterly
8 trauma report that EMS used to produce and
9 hasn't been producing it because of the
10 [inaudible].

11
12 MS. MITCHELL: Right.

13
14 MR. MISHRA: This will give you an
15 idea of what Robin was saying about, you
16 know, who goes to the trauma center, who
17 doesn't go to -- and those numbers. And I
18 added a map of Virginia with all the trauma
19 centers with the 30-minute drive time.

20 To -- so what part of the --
21 of this status has to at least to exist to
22 the trauma centers? And why -- why are we
23 getting -- why are -- why are the EMS taking
24 the patient that needed to go to a certain
25 level of trauma not going to their -- the --

1 that could be -- that's a factor.

2
3 MS. CRITTENDEN: This -- Dwight --
4 this was -- [inaudible] to his report and
5 kind of massaged it a little bit. And maybe
6 there were some redundancies. He kind of
7 streamlined it a bit.

8 It's just a starting point.
9 The next phase would be -- I mentioned a
10 little earlier. And I'll look and see if we
11 can try it.

12 The patients at the non-trauma
13 centers, if we can get in the trauma
14 registry and -- and again, where they end up
15 getting transferred to, if they got
16 transferred, if they got discharged, if they
17 -- you know.

18 Kind of a little bit more of
19 the story. But he's had some great ideas on
20 it. But again, this is just a -- massaging
21 it is what we call it. And so, we can
22 continue on with it. Do y'all want to make
23 changes to it? Just letting you know he's
24 been working on it since then.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Is that -- or is
4 it at least 50% --

5
6 MS. CRITTENDEN: Yeah, it's a lot.
7 That [inaudible] really getting the original
8 parties involved and talking about it and
9 the medical directors about what -- a lot of
10 them are documenting stuff, you know, in the
11 wrong place.

12 And we're able to get them to
13 put it in the drop down fields of the
14 narrative. We've got richer data. So it's
15 -- yeah, a lot of work on how we get it.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: That's kind of a
18 lot.

19
20 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

21
22 MR. MISHRA: This figure the -- the
23 vital signs recording has got a lot better,
24 Tim, you wouldn't believe.

1 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm. Yeah, it is
2 better.

3
4 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Did we get a --
5 I know this is fourth quarter, 2018. I know
6 we got the first two quarters. Did we get
7 the third quarter?

8
9 MS. CRITTENDEN: We haven't --

10
11 MR. MISHRA: I -- I don't even know
12 if you got the first two quarters. The last
13 one I -- I saw in the computer that I used
14 now is of quarter 2, 2017.

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

17
18 MR. MISHRA: I don't see anything
19 close to that.

20
21 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

22
23 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

24
25 MR. MISHRA: It could be not saved

1 in there, I don't know.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Okay.

4
5 MS. MITCHELL: I don't remember
6 getting it.

7
8 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Maybe -- maybe
9 it might be missing years.

10
11 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

12
13 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So --

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: It could be.

16
17 COMMITTEE MEMBER: It'll take --
18 they take away 2017 instead of '18. But I
19 -- I know we got -- you're probably right.

20
21 MS. MITCHELL: Mm-hmm.

22
23 COMMITTEE MEMBER: And we can share
24 this --

1 MR. ERSKINE: Yes.

2
3 COMMITTEE MEMBER: -- with our --

4
5 MS. MITCHELL: With -- it says --
6 okay.

7
8 MS. CRITTENDEN: We wanted to show
9 it to y'all before we distributed it. But
10 if you guys are okay, we can send it out to
11 the councils and it'll be on the web site.

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. All righty,
14 so. Let me see, so --

15
16 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Thank you for
17 letting us [inaudible].

18
19 MS. MITCHELL: That's nice. So do
20 we have any public comments? I think we've
21 kind of all been talking all the way through
22 this, so -- which is fine. It just -- make
23 sure that -- okay. Can you think of
24 anything that we're leaving off?

25

1 MR. ERSKINE: I think we covered it
2 all.

3
4 MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

5
6 MR. ERSKINE: And then some.

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. Does anybody
9 have anything else they would like to add or
10 say before we adjourn the meeting?

11
12 (At this time, several committee members
13 started speaking at once.)

14
15 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah, I guess we --
16 kind of -- I'm not real sure without Shawn
17 here to do that. That's why I'm thinking I
18 will --

19
20 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Because they
21 probably would --

22
23 MR. ERSKINE: Yeah.

24
25 COMMITTEE MEMBER: So I don't know

1 if they had a special grant.

2
3 MS. MITCHELL: Yeah.

4
5 COMMITTEE MEMBER: Do you think
6 they had a special --

7
8 MS. MITCHELL: So I was going to --

9
10 (At this time, the committee members began
11 talking and laughing all together.)

12
13 MS. MITCHELL: Okay. So one of the
14 -- the question that was asked is whether we
15 would determine the frequency of meetings.
16 And I -- I think probably I'd like to pass
17 that information on to Shawn and let Shawn
18 -- I don't know whether he'll -- we have
19 everybody's email addresses, right?

20
21 MR. ERSKINE: Yes.

22
23 MS. MITCHELL: So if Shawn wants to
24 -- can he email them and ask them -- like
25 can we deal with that, how frequency via

1 email?

2
3 MR. ERSKINE: That would be meeting
4 planning, so that would be okay.

5
6 MS. MITCHELL: Okay, okay. So
7 Shawn will disseminate something
8 informational, poll people and figure out
9 how we want to do that. Anything else
10 anybody has?

11 Well, I'd like to thank you
12 for coming and participating. I -- actually
13 last night I was thinking, oh, my God. I
14 have to see if I can -- you know, we had all
15 this time this morning.

16 I thought, I hope we don't
17 finish in 15 minutes, and then I don't know
18 what to do. So luckily as -- as, you know,
19 when you get people that are passionate
20 about what we're doing and you get us in a
21 room, we find something to talk -- something
22 to talk about for sure. So seeing nothing
23 further, we'll adjourn the meeting. Thank
24 you.

1 (The System Improvement Committee meeting
2 concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

I, Debroah Carter, do hereby certify that I transcribed the foregoing SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING heard on February 8, 2019, from digital media, and that the foregoing is a full and complete transcript of the said System Improvement committee meeting to the best of my ability.

Given under my hand this 16th day of March 2019.



Debroah Carter, CMRS, CCR
Virginia Certified
Court Reporter

My certification expires June 30, 2019.

20