

**Communications Committee Meeting
Office of EMS
1041 Technology Park Drive
February 11, 2011
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Pokey Harris, Richard Rubino, Connie Purvis, William Quarles, Hershel Kreis, Emily Totten, Mike Crockett, Gary Critzer

OEMS Staff: Karen Owens, Ken Crumpler, Wanda Street, George Lindbeck, Amanda Davis, Marian Hunter

Guests: Bruce Edwards, Jennie Collins, Steve Ennis

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order:	The Committee Chair, Mrs. Pokey Harris, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Approval of the Minutes dated November 10, 2010:	A motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was moved by Richard Rubino and seconded by Gary Critzer.	The minutes were approved with no further discussion.
Committee Chair Report (Mrs. Pokey Harris):	<p>a. EMD Discussion with GAB Chair Jennie Collins and OMD Dr. Lindbeck Jennie said that the EMD map that was created is phenomenal. Jennie is concerned about the cost of the EMD program as well as the sustainability. Her suggestion is for the committee to consider other avenues instead of legislative mandate action due to the economic situation. The white paper is a great start as well as contacting localities and researching possible grant funding for EMD. She also spoke with Ed Rhodes and he was not sure if the timing is right to bring it forward before the legislature. Pokey said that the committee will focus more on the education element through VACO, Fire Chiefs, VA Chief of Police and especially Sheriffs Associations. Ken and Pokey will continue to reach out to these organizations. Mr. Quarles informed the committee that VACO has a communications committee also. He will see if he can get OEMS on the agenda at the next meeting. He will provide the name of the Chair to Pokey as soon as possible. Karen reported that the Virginia Chiefs of Police has two conferences in April and September. Gary Critzer stated that his current police chief is the president of the Virginia Chiefs of Police and he will discuss this with him. Gary also suggested putting together a marketing program including a short video, a mailing to all PSAPs in the Commonwealth with an offer to meet with their jurisdiction and elected officials. The committee also discussed providing grant funding to get them started with the EMD program. Bruce stated that the legislative approach should not be taken. But that it should be promoted as the standard of care. Pokey closed the discussion by stating that the focus will be on educating the localities/jurisdictions and not the legislative initiative that was previous discussed. Over the next year the committee will look into the costs, the liability questions, and any other questions that may be asked.</p> <p>b. Other The Governor's advisory board committee structure has been re-aligned, and a living guidance document is being created to reflect the changes. There are four coordinators who will oversee and work with the committee chairs on their membership makeup and mission statements. The coordinators and their committees are listed as follows:</p>	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	<p>Administrative Coordinator – Gary Dalton Rules & Regulations Legislative & Planning</p> <p>Infrastructure Coordinator – Larry Oliver Transportation Communications Emergency Management</p> <p>Patient Care Coordinator – Dr. Allen Yee Medical Direction Medevac Trauma System Oversight & Management EMS for Children</p> <p>Professional Development Coordinator – Jason Campbell Training & Certification Workforce Development Provider Health & Safety</p> <p>Pokey asked the committee members to think about the communications committee membership and make suggestions as to what other stakeholders may be needed or possibly removed from the membership list. Please share your ideas with Pokey by email to pharris@washcova.com. She also asked them to review the mission statement and send comments by email also.</p> <p>Also, the Advisory Board memberships will soon change because there are 8 board members who are not eligible for reappointment and 11 who are.</p>	
OEMS Communications Coordinators Report (Ken Crumpler):	<p>Ken received emails from Chris McIntosh and Paul Hoppes saying they were not able to attend today’s meeting. To follow up on the November EMD accreditations, Norfolk’s certificate was presented at symposium and Dinwiddie’s certificate was presented on January 18, 2011. Reaccreditation visits were made to Waynesboro, Charlottesville, Rockingham, Harrisonburg, Luray, Gloucester, Chesapeake, and Eastern Shore 911. Kudos to all of them. As for the 2011 symposium, EMD related classes will be taught as follows: Hershel & Richard will teach a PSAP liability class, National Association of Emergency Dispatchers (NAED) will do the Horizons & 911 class, Ken and Richard will do the Narrowbanding mandate class, Gary Critzer will do the Medevac class, Chris McIntosh will do the Interoperability update and Buster Brown of Danville will do the crisis negotiations class and Ken needs to find a sponsor for this class due the cost being \$6,000 under the offices of APCO and not Danville. There are no pending applications at this time. Ken is scheduled to go to James City next week for reaccreditation and Danville in March. He will also visit Prince William County. The EMD map is on the Office of EMS website; all the PSAPs in red are not offering any pre-arrival instructions.</p>	

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Unfinished Business:	<p>OEMS Regulations – No update.</p> <p>During the last grant cycle OEMS applied for a DHS grant for the purchase of Portable radios in every patient transport vehicle in the amount of \$1.7 million. The request was denied but OEMS will reapply for the grant.</p>	
Paul Hoppes – Radio and Communications Update:	<p>No Report. Paul was not in attendance at this meeting.</p>	
New Business:	<p>a. Presentation from Jeff Flournoy, ESVA 9-1-1 CritiCall Software</p> <p> CritiCall Presentation.ppt</p> <p>CritiCall software is used to test applicants for Communications and Dispatch positions. It tests actual skills such as keyboarding (data entry), decision making, memory recall, map reading, etc. It also tests call summary, cross reference, prioritization, math and probability, etc. This is a tool used in the hiring process. Gary Critzer said that they have a similar software testing tool called the 911 Zone by Professional Pride it also has periodic training once the candidate is hired.</p> <p>b. OEMS Recognition of Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 10-16, 2011</p> <p>Ken asked the members to submit ideas to promote Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Amanda said that it might be good to showcase all of the EMD programs that RSAF has funded. It was suggested to ask APCO and NENA about posting something on their website. Another suggestion was to check with VAVRS. William Quarles stated that Virginia Association of Counties has a newsletter and the Near Miss Program was successfully put in the newsletter. The National Association of Counties may also post the article. He has a contact person for the national organization.</p> <p>c. OEMS Staff – Division Report</p> <p>No report.</p> <p>d. Other –</p> <p>Gary Critzer informed the committee that they are doing a pilot project initiated by PHI where EMD dictated launches of air medical services. See Gary for more information. Pokey wants to know more about this program.</p>	
Open Discussion:	None.	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m. The next meeting is in May 13, 2011.	