

**State EMS Advisory Board Meeting  
 Courtyard by Marriott, Glen Allen, Virginia  
 Friday, February 13, 2015  
 1:00 p.m.**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>	<b>Staff:</b>	<b>Others:</b>
<b>Michel B. Aboutanos</b> <i>American College of Surgeons</i>	<b>Sherrin C. Alsop</b> <i>Virginia Association of Counties</i>	<b>Gary R. Brown</b>	<b>Amanda Lavin</b> <i>Office of the Attorney General</i>
	<b>Byron F. Andrews, III (Excused)</b> <i>Virginia State Firefighters Association</i>	<b>Scott Winston</b>	<b>David Trump, MD, MPH</b> <i>Chief Deputy Commissioner, Public Health &amp; Preparedness</i>
<b>Samuel T. Bartle, MD</b> <i>American Academy of Pediatrics</i>	<b>Jason R. Jenkins</b> <i>VA Chapter of the International Assoc. of Fire Fighters</i>	<b>Warren Short</b>	<b>Michael B. Player</b> <i>Peninsulas EMS Council</i>
<b>Gary P. Critzer</b> <i>Central Shenandoah EMS Council</i>	<b>Corina D. Nuckols (Excused)</b> <i>Associated Public Safety Communications Officials</i>	<b>David P. Edwards</b>	<b>Connie Purvis</b> <i>Blue Ridge EMS Council</i>
<b>Valeta C. Daniels</b> <i>Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS)</i>		<b>George Lindbeck, MD</b>	<b>Tracey McLaurin</b> <i>Lord Fairfax EMS Council</i>
<b>Richard H. Decker, III</b> <i>Old Dominion EMS Alliance (ODEMSA)</i>		<b>Deborah T. Akers</b>	<b>Ed Rhodes</b> <i>VFCA/VAVRS/VAGEMSA/RDG</i>
<b>Lisa M. Dodd, DO</b> <i>Virginia College of Emergency Physicians</i>		<b>Bob Swander</b>	<b>Jim Chandler</b> <i>Tidewater EMS Council</i>
<b>Bruce W. Edwards</b> <i>State EMS Advisory Board Representative to the Board of Health</i>		<b>Carol B. Pugh</b>	<b>Anthony Wilson</b> <i>Virginia Ambulance Association</i>
<b>Stephen J. Elliott</b> <i>Thomas Jefferson EMS Council</i>		<b>Greg Neiman</b>	<b>Larry A. Oliver</b> <i>Frederick County Fire &amp; Rescue</i>
<b>Jason D. Ferguson</b> <i>Western Virginia EMS Council</i>		<b>Dennis Molnar</b>	<b>Vic Buisset</b> <i>VA Dept. of Emergency Management</i>
<b>Joan F. Foster</b> <i>Virginia Municipal League</i>		<b>Scotty Williams</b>	<b>Lisa Baber</b> <i>New Kent Fire-Rescue</i>
<b>S. Denene Hannon</b> <i>Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads</i>		<b>Heather Phillips</b>	<b>Karen Wagner</b> <i>Virginia Assoc. of Volunteer Rescue Squads/FARC</i>
<b>Jonathan D. Henschel</b> <i>Lord Fairfax EMS Council</i>		<b>Steve McNeer</b>	<b>Gary Dalton</b> <i>VA Assoc of Volunteer Rescue Squads/Valley Medical</i>
<b>David Hoback</b> <i>Virginia Fire Chief's Association</i>		<b>Doug Layton</b>	<b>Randy Breton</b> <i>VAA/Physicians Transport</i>
<b>Sudha Jayaraman, MD</b> <i>Medical Society of Virginia</i>		<b>Wayne Berry</b>	<b>Christopher Lindsay</b> <i>HCA Virginia Health System</i>

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<p><b>Cheryl Lawson, MD</b> <i>Peninsulas EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Julie Marsden</b> <i>Consumer</i></p> <p><b>Genemarie W. McGee</b> <i>Tidewater EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Marilyn K. McLeod, MD</b> <i>Blue Ridge EMS Council</i></p>		<p><b>Paul Sharpe</b></p> <p><b>Adam Harrell</b></p> <p><b>Robin Pearce</b></p> <p><b>Karen Owens</b></p>	<p><b>Bob Ramsey</b> <i>Virginia College of Emergency Physicians</i></p> <p><b>Damien Coy</b> <i>Old Dominion EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Daniel S. Harvey</b> <i>Staunton-Augusta Rescue Squad</i></p> <p><b>Kim W. Craig</b> <i>SARS/VA Assoc. of Volunteer Rescue Squads, Vice President</i></p>
<p><b>Christopher L. Parker</b> <i>VA Emergency Nurses Assoc. / VA Nurses Assoc.</i></p> <p><b>Ronald Passmore</b> <i>Southwest VA EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Anita Perry</b> <i>Virginia Hospital &amp; Healthcare Association</i></p> <p><b>Jose V. Salazar</b> <i>Northern Virginia EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Kelly G. Southard</b> <i>Rappahannock EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Matthew J. Tatum</b> <i>VA Association of Governmental EMS Administrators (VAGEMSA)</i></p> <p><b>Daniel C. Wildman</b> <i>Virginia Ambulance Association</i></p>		<p><b>Timothy J. Perkins</b></p> <p><b>Amanda Davis</b></p> <p><b>Carol Morrow</b></p> <p><b>Ken Crumpler</b></p> <p><b>Wanda Street</b></p> <p><b>Irene Hamilton</b></p>	<p><b>Bobby Bish</b> <i>VA Assoc. of Volunteer Rescue Squads</i></p> <p><b>Rob Logan</b> <i>Western Virginia EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Bryan McRay</b> <i>VAGEMSA</i></p> <p><b>Jeff Michael</b> <i>Rockingham County Fire/Rescue</i></p> <p><b>Kevin Dillard</b> <i>Rappahannock EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Gregory Woods</b> <i>Southwest Virginia EMS Council</i></p>
			<p><b>Jeff Meyer</b> <i>Portsmouth Fire/Rescue</i></p> <p><b>Jason Ambrose</b> <i>Tidewater Community College</i></p> <p><b>Tom Calogrides</b> <i>Tidewater Community College</i></p> <p><b>Brian Hricik</b> <i>Alexandria Fire Department</i></p> <p><b>Gary Morris</b> <i>Thomas Jefferson EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Chad Blosser</b> <i>Central Shenandoah EMS Council</i></p> <p><b>Rob Lawrence</b> <i>Richmond Ambulance Authority</i></p> <p><b>Brad Taylor</b> <i>HCA</i></p>

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>Call to Order</b>	<p>Gary Critzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.</p> <p><u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> – Mr. Critzer asked the group to stand and Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.</p> <p><u>Approval of Minutes</u> – A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2014 meeting.</p> <p><u>Approval of the Draft Agenda</u> – A motion was made and seconded to approve the draft agenda for this meeting.</p>	<p><b>The minutes were approved as presented.</b></p> <p><b>The draft agenda was approved as presented.</b></p>
<b>Chairman’s Report</b>	Mr. Critzer deferred his report until the Executive Committee report is given.	
<b>Vice Chair Report</b>	Genemarie McGee, the Vice Chair, had no report.	
<b>Chief Deputy Commissioner, Public Health and Preparedness</b>	<p>Chief Deputy Commission, Dr. David Trump, addressed the Board and audience.</p> <p>Dr. Trump gave the Board an update on Ebola preparedness. He reported that lessons learned during the Ebola outbreak has given them a focus on techniques and procedures that should be established and followed going forward to address not only Ebola concerns but for infectious disease outbreaks. Dr. Trump encouraged the audience to look within their agencies to discover what their needs are and any identified gaps that might hinder them in responding to infectious disease outbreaks.</p> <p>Dr. Trump stated that the Commissioner and he are very receptive to seeing grant requests in the upcoming cycle of the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund that will help EMS agencies improve their infection control programs.</p>	
<b>Office of EMS Report</b>	<p>Gary Brown, Director of the Office of EMS, reminded the Board that the activities of the Office of EMS over the past quarter can be found in the Office of EMS Quarterly Report to the State EMS Advisory Board. The report is also available on the OEMS website.</p> <p>Mr. Brown gave the Board some updates on key items which affect the EMS system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The February Quarterly Report has detailed information regarding the General Assembly session and the Budget Bill.</li> <li>• Mr. Brown reviewed some key portions of the Budget Bill and the General Assembly session legislation that affects OEMS and the EMS community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HB1584 and SB938 – these two bills are a technical clean-up and rewrite for EMS legislation already in the Code of Virginia. Both bills have been passed out of their chambers with amendments.</li> <li>○ HB1660 and SB997 – these two bills are related to criminal background checks. Mr. Berg gave the audience an update on these two bills. He said SB997 allows the locality to make a decision based on EMS regulations if the individual is eligible for certification. The locality will notify the Office of EMS and the locality can then make any additional exclusionary criteria they may wish as to whether an individual is eligible for employment with their agency. It has been passed on the House for</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<p style="text-align: center;">action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HB1584 and SB938 – These two bills relate to the recognition of EMS personnel licensure interstate compact. Mr. Brown reminded the group that this information has been in discussion with the Board and contained in the Quarterly Reports for the last two years.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Brown explained that the Senate bill was passed and is now going over to the House for action. It has been assigned to HWI Subcommittee 3. The House bill however was killed in HWI Subcommittee 3. Therefore, it is doubtful if the Senate bill will be passed in the House.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Personnel in OEMS – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Paul Sharpe introduced his new Trauma Critical Care Coordinator, Robin Pearce.</li> <li>○ Michael Berg introduced his two new Program Representatives – Scotty Williams who will be representing the Northern Virginia area and Doug Layton who will be representing the Central Shenandoah, Thomas Jefferson and part of the Blue Ridge region. Mr. Berg also announced that Regina Garcia is the wage employee who does all the Fingerprint/Background work.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• State EMS Medical Director – George Lindbeck, MD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ DEA – Dr. Lindbeck reported that he met with the DEA when attending the NAEMSP meeting. He said that the DEA is looking at their regulations that relate to EMS. Even after his meeting, Dr. Lindbeck is concerned that the Virginia EMS drug kit program does not adhere to DEA’s paradigm for drug registration and control.</li> <li>○ Naloxone – Dr. Lindbeck said that the Naloxone legislation will probably be approved in some form and he encouraged the system to start thinking about how they will deal with that program.</li> <li>○ OMD Workshops – Dr. Lindbeck reported that the cycle is underway and that the schedule is posted on the OEMS and VACEP websites. Dr. Lindbeck encouraged the audience to let him know of any topics that they would like to have covered in the workshops.</li> <li>○ Dr. Lindbeck announced that EMS is now a board certified specialty for physicians. Approximately 14 Virginia doctors, including Dr. Lindbeck, have taken and passed the EMS board to obtain certification.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EMS Certification Course Proposal Presentation – Warren Short from OEMS gave a presentation regarding a proposed EMS Certification Course program. OEMS plans for this program to take effect on July 1, 2015. The presentation identified some issues in regards to how EMS education courses are being delivered in the State; issues regarding how EMS courses are currently funded; information regarding the proposed policy change and how it will affect EMS providers. Mr. Short emphasized that the proposed program only applies to initial EMS certification courses.</li> </ul>	

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<b>Board of Health EMS Representative Report</b>	<p>Bruce Edwards, EMS Representative to the Board of Health, gave the audience an update on actions from the last Board of Health meeting, which was held on December 4, 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Abortion regulations were a major agenda item that was discussed at the meeting.</li> <li>• The educational luncheon topic was about the VDH Rural Health Program .</li> <li>• The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled on Thursday, March 19 at 9 am at the Perimeter Center.</li> </ul> <p>Gary Brown added that the State Trauma Care Program will be the educational topic for the working lunch at the next Board of Health meeting. It will be conducted by Paul Sharpe and Robin Pearce from the Office of EMS.</p>	
<b>Standing Committee Reports and Action Items</b>		
<b>Executive Committee</b>	<p>Mr. Critzer reported that the Executive Committee met on Thursday and they also met in January.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In January they had an organizational meeting for the new Executive Committee members. They received staff updates from OEMS and discussed priorities for the upcoming year.</li> <li>• At the meeting on Thursday, they discussed legislation and received additional updates from OEMS staff, including an update from Paul Sharpe on V3 of NEMSIS..</li> <li>• Mr. Critzer reported that the REPLICA bill, which is very important to EMS, is scheduled to be heard on Tuesday, February 17 at 8 am by HWI Subcommittee 3 in House Room D. The Governor supports this bill, as well as the EMS Advisory Board, who voted to support the bill at its November meeting; and all of the constituent organizations. Mr. Critzer encouraged the audience to contact the members of the committee and ask them to support the bill.</li> <li>• The inaugural meeting for the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Workgroup, which Mr. Critzer appointed, was held on Thursday. The group’s purpose is to investigate and develop an opinion and best practices ideas for mobile integrated healthcare in Virginia.</li> </ul>	
<b>Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC)</b>	<p>Robert Trimmer, Chair of FARC gave the report to the Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group met on Thursday.</li> <li>• In December 2014 grant cycle there were \$8.9 million of funding requested and they awarded \$5.2 million. This quarter they have processed \$2.1 million in payments.</li> <li>• Michael Berg attended the meeting to discuss Change Notice 8 and how it may affect requests for ambulance funding to the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund. They are looking into adjusting prices based on the increase costs of ambulances.</li> <li>• E-gift has had a number of updates and functionality controls put in to make it easier to use.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Critzer also reported that FARC took a look at their policies in regards to funding nontraditional items for FARC; e.g., supporting conferences or other initiatives related to the EMS system in Virginia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Trimmer said they did discuss this yesterday. They looked at items funded in the past and</li> </ul>	

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	<p>how many times they may have been funded, as well as the committee make up at the time they were funded. They felt that all the items they funded were good funding choices. They will get back to Gary Brown with their response.</p> <p>Dr. Trump said he appreciates the work of FARC. He reported that both the Commissioner and he look at the grant requests and the details of what is being requested and what is being funded. He acknowledges that the committee has the flexibility of determining what should and should not be funded. However, he appreciates that they are looking at their procedures to assure that we are operating within what the Code of Virginia allowances.</p>	
<b>Administrative Coordinator</b>	David Hoback had no report as Administrative Coordinator and referred to the Committee Chairs for their reports.	
<b>Rules and Regulations Committee</b>	<p>Jon Henschel, Rules and Regulations Committee Chair, reported that the committee did not have any action items. He asked Michael Berg to give the audience an update in regards to the issues surrounding the ambulance standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambulance Standards – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is working on their version 2 which will be out in 2016.</li> <li>○ The Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) is reviewing the public comments submitted for their document. They will be meeting on February 28 to finalize the document. The plan is for the document to be published and in effect by October 1, 2015.</li> <li>○ The General Services Administration (GSA) that administers the KKK 1822 F version of ambulance standards has not made a decision as to which standard, if any, that they will adopt. They may extend the K standards again. Change Notice 6 was submitted last year but did not come to fruition. Change Notice 7, which encompasses all of the change notices of the last several years, has been published. Change Notice 8 is available for public comment starting in April. The intent of this change order is to recognize the SAE standards for equipment mounts, seats and the cot retention systems. They are confident that Change Noitce 8 will go into effect on July 1, 2015. Ambulances manufactured after July 1 with the Star of Life emblem will have a cot retention system, which will make them more costly to purchase.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Mr. Berg also reported that the Transportation Committee has a work session scheduled to start looking at all the standards so they can make a recommendation regarding ambulance standards to the EMS Advisory Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regulatory Packets – Mr. Berg reported that two regulatory packets are still waiting for AG review. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Financial Assistance Review Financial Packet is still waiting for review. He spoke with the AG liaison earlier in the day and she is working on language to get approved</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<p>by her supervisor so this can be moved forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The EMS agency affiliation Regulatory Packet Fast Track has gone to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for approval before it goes to the Governor's Office.</li> </ul>	
<b>Legislative &amp; Planning Committee</b>	<p>Joan Foster, Committee Chair, gave her report. She said they have no action items and she referred to Mr. Scott Winston to give a report on the meeting held earlier in the day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They had a discussion regarding the bills currently before the General Assembly.</li> <li>• They discussed the State EMS Plan that was approved by the Board of Health last year. They have established a schedule to start reviewing the Plan the last quarter of this year so they will be ready for presentation to the Board in 2017.</li> </ul>	
<b>Infrastructure Coordinator</b>	<p>Matthew Tatum, Infrastructure Coordinator, reported that they have no collaborative items between the committees currently. He referred to the committee chairs for their reports.</p>	
<b>Transportation Committee</b>	<p>Mr. Tatum, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met and they discussed the various different ambulance standards. The committee will have a daylong work session at their July meeting to discuss revising the Virginia ambulance standards. Their next meeting is in April to review ambulance grant requests.</p>	
<b>Communications Committee</b>	<p>Gary Critzer, Committee Chair, gave his report. The committee met earlier in the day. They have no action items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They received an update on a report that was recently released regarding next generation 911 technology for Virginia. It is a detailed report, and OEMS can provide a link to the report if anyone would like to see it.</li> <li>• CPR Standards as it relates to the certification of Emergency Medical Dispatchers.</li> <li>• They will be meeting again in May.</li> </ul>	
<b>Emergency Management Committee</b>	<p>David Hoback, Committee Chair, reported that they have no action item.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Partnership with the Department of Fire Programs and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, they have secured the software, Mutual Aid Net, which is a web-based system that will allow for typing, managing and inventory of state, local resources for state and local deployment if needed. The cost was approximately \$18,000 and the money came from VDEM. Mr. Hoback reported that they will be putting together a focus group to start the implementation of this endeavor. It will include all disciplines of public safety.</li> <li>• They reviewed the EMS Domestic Preparation and Improvement Strategy distributed by the U.S. Government that includes approximately 10 recommendations for EMS. As it moves through the various committees, they will be discussing it at their next couple of meetings.</li> <li>• The Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) was rolled out at the EMS Symposium in November and they want to get it rolled out region wide. They want to approach the Regional EMS Councils for help in getting it rolled out through the region.</li> </ul>	
<b>Patient Care Coordinator</b>	<p>Dr. Marilyn McLeod, Patient Care Coordinator, reported that they have no joint ventures at the moment between the committees. She referred to the committee chairs for their reports.</p>	

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<b>Medical Direction Committee</b>	Medical Direction Committee Chair, Dr. McLeod, reported that the Medical Direction Committee met on January 8 and they have no action items.	
<b>Medevac Committee</b>	<p>Anita Perry, Medevac Committee Chair, reported that the committee met on Thursday and they have no action items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Transport of the STEMI Patient – Ms. Perry reported that they have started data collection for that project on January 1 and they hope to have a report for the Board in May.</li> <li>• WeatherSafe Data – They are continuing to gather and assess data. No follow-up letters were required this quarter because of helicopter shopping, which is good.</li> <li>• Landing Zone Data – The committee received a presentation regarding a program focused on landing zone data and safe operations around specific landing zones across the state. Tim Perkins will be working with the vendor and they hope to be able to develop a partnership with the vendor.</li> <li>• Their next meeting will be in May.</li> </ul>	
<b>Trauma System Oversight &amp; Management Committee</b>	<p>Dr. Michael Aboutanos, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met on December 4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee got an update on the Trauma System Designation Manual which will be presented to the Board of Health on March 19.</li> <li>• The committee discussed the three vacant positions on their committee. The EMS provider representative position was filled by Sid Bingly. Dr. Aboutanos will be accepting recommendations for the other two positions and hope to have them filled soon.</li> <li>• Their Trauma Nurse Coordinators are currently undertaking a couple of task force projects – one on development of educational material for trauma triage and the other is a study group for geriatric trauma and triage.</li> <li>• Dr. Aboutanos gave a presentation from their Trauma Care Performance Improvement Report.</li> </ul> <p>Following Dr. Aboutanos presentation, he answered questions from the Board.</p> <p>Dr. Trump thanked the Trauma Committee and everyone who worked on the report. He asked the committee to look at a new Position Statement that has been recently released by the American College of Surgeons factoring population needs into trauma designation and distribution of trauma systems. They ask the committee to look at that statement and provide some recommendations as to how that would fit into the trauma system in Virginia in the future.</p> <p>Mr. Critzer referred the Board to Appendix F of the Quarterly Report, the Trauma Care Performance Improvement Report, and he entertained a motion for the Board to receive this report. A motion was made and properly seconded to receive the report as presented.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b>  <b>The EMS Advisory Board moves to receive the Trauma Care Performance Improvement Report as presented.</b></p> <p><b>YEAS = 24; NAYS = 0;  ABSTENTIONS = 0</b></p> <p><b>The motion was carried unanimously.</b></p>
<b>EMS for Children Committee</b>	<p>Dr. Samuel Bartle, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met on January 8. The committee does not have any action items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee has been discussing taking the Hospital Preparedness for Pediatric Emergencies</li> </ul>	

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	<p>further to discuss how they can improve the various hospitals to care for kids in the emergency departments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee discussed medication errors that occur in pediatric patients and trying to analyze and better address the errors and improve on medication administration for kids.</li> <li>• The Pediatric track at EMS Symposium will be reinstated this year.</li> </ul>	
<b>Professional Development Coordinator</b>	<p>Ronald Passmore, Professional Development Coordinator, said they have no joint actions at the moment. He referred to the committee chairs for their individual reports.</p>	
<b>Training &amp; Certification Committee</b>	<p>Ronald Passmore, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met on January 7. They had no action items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They created a workgroup to look at the Intermediate Certification process in anticipation that the National Registry will stop offering an Intermediate Certification test. Larry Oliver has been asked to Chair that workgroup.</li> </ul> <p>Dave Hoback asked the Chair if the Training and Certification Committee had an opportunity to review the information that Warren Short presented in regards to the EMS Certification Proposal. Mr. Hoback commented that it seems as if it is a policy change, and it was emailed out to all EMS Educators as a policy change. He asked how that came about because the State EMS Advisory Board did not vote on that change. Mr. Hoback said he thought it would have to be reviewed by the Training and Certification Committee before it could go forward so they could review the proposal and make recommendations for changes.</p> <p>Mr. Short responded to Mr. Hoback's question. He explained that policy is established by the Office of EMS. He said that the Online Subcommittee has already met. This proposal, he explained, exceeds what their recommendations would have been. The addition of the traditional approach to class rooming was added. He said they did discuss some of that at that meeting. Mr. Short said the Office of EMS understood that these changes needed to be made as soon as possible. To continue going through the subcommittee would have delayed the process. Mr. Short said the Office of EMS has the ability to create policy, and in order to get this completed, it was decided that this was the best route to take.</p> <p>Chip Decker stated, if he understands correctly, it seems that they have just been told that the Advisory Board is not a policy board; and the Advisory Board has no input into policy changes. Mr. Decker said that he thinks this is the first time since he has served on the Board that the Office of EMS has changed policy without the support of the State EMS Advisory Board. He said that a lot of times when things that are controversial are coming forward it is good to have some cover. Mr. Decker acknowledged that what Mr. Short said is accurate, the Office of EMS sets the policy, and the State EMS Advisory Board advises.</p> <p>Gary Brown commented that Chip Decker is correct in his comments.</p>	
<b>EMS Workforce Development</b>	<p>Jose Salazar, Committee Chair, reported that the committee met earlier in the day. The committee did</p>	

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<b>Committee</b>	<p>not have any action items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EMS Officer Subcommittee – They will be conducting two pilot programs, one in Richmond beginning March 24 that will run for four consecutive Tuesday nights and the last day will be on Sunday. The other pilot program will be held in Loudoun County beginning on March 23, running on five Mondays and the last one will be on a Sunday. Following the completion of these two pilots, the committee will make any necessary changes and then it will be rolled out for EMS Officer 1.</li> <li>• Standards of Excellence – The group has had several meetings and the Standards are published on the OEMS website. They are looking into piloting with four or five EMS agencies to see if they can go through the process.</li> <li>• Recruitment and Retention Network – Their next meeting will take place during the Virginia Fire Chiefs Conference on February 20.</li> </ul>	
<b>Provider Health &amp; Safety Committee</b>	<p>Daniel Wildman, Committee Chair, reported that the committee has met several times since the last EMS Advisory Board meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee will be offering safety bulletins that will be going out through the OEMS media each month.</li> <li>• The EMS Workforce Development Committee asked them to look at the Health and Safety portion of the EMS Officer Program. They do have comments and feedback for that committee. They have also been asked to help identify and clarify the term “abandonment” as it applies to violence in the workplace for EMS providers.</li> </ul>	
<b>Regional EMS Council Executive Directors</b>	<p>Greg Woods reported that the organization has met two times since the last EMS Advisory Board meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They met on December 4, and at that meeting they agreed as a group to utilize their quarterly meetings in an effort to improve collaboration and best practices across regional EMS councils by engaging in educational activities for their board members, bringing some of them from their regions to some of the Regional EMS Council Executive Directors Group meetings at least a couple of times a year.</li> <li>• They discussed specific IT issues that the regions need in order to better serve their constituents and build off the successes that have been accomplished with the State IT structure. Scott Winston is working with them to identify some of those areas.</li> <li>• They had their election of officers. The Nominating Committee made a Bylaw recommendation to allow Greg Woods to serve one more term. He was reelected as Chairman. Mike Player was elected as Vice Chairman, Chad Blosser was reelected as Treasurer and Tracey McLaurin as Secretary.</li> <li>• The committee met on Thursday. They had no action items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The committee has gone on record in support of the REPLICA bills both in the Senate and the House.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Scott Winston will work with the Directors to identify IT areas to address.</b></p>
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	<p>Randy Breton, from the Virginia Ambulance Association said they have a concern regarding the criminal background checks. They are concerned that there issues are not being addressed. He asked an</p>	

<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person</b>
	<p>individual who applies at one of their EMS agencies is already certified at another Virginia agency, can they employ them, fingerprint them and have them work for them until they get the background results.</p> <p>Mr. Berg answered his question saying that there is nothing in the policy for the Office of EMS or in the Code language that prohibits an individual to be utilized while they are waiting for the return of their criminal history record. He has advised EMS agencies that this is their decision but they have to be ready if something comes back in a negative light how they will answer the question to the general public.</p> <p>Mr. Breton then asked if they would be cited if they did allow someone to work while they are waiting for the report. Mr. Berg said that regulations require that there has to be proof that the background check has been done and that is what they will use for their basis for any enforcement action.</p>	
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	None.	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	None.	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	The next meeting will be held on Friday, May 8, 2015, at the Courtyard by Marriott.	