

**State Medevac Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Richmond Marriott Short Pump
4240 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen, VA 23059
May 4, 2017
10:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests & Other Attendees:
Anita Perry , Chair	Jay Cullen , Virginia State Police	Tim Perkins	Shawn Rivard
Susan Smith , Carilion Clinic Lifeguard	Chris Shaffer , PHI Air Medical	Wanda Street	Greg Hamilton
Dwain Rowe , Wings Air Rescue	Jennifer Lescallett , Fairfax Co. Police	George Lindbeck	Bruce Edwards
Julia Marsden , Consumer Rep/GAB	John Bianco , VA Beach EMS	Michael Berg	Mack Tolbert
Denise Baylous , Sentara Nightingale	Donna Hurst , Augusta Health (Excused)	Scott Winston	Allan Belcher
Tim Ryan , U.S. Park Police		Gary Brown	June Leffke
Jay Lovelady , VCU LifeEvac			Peter Martin
Terry Austin , Air Methods			Kelly Keener
Kate Challis , Johnston-Willis Hospital			Tracy Orfield
			Chris Parker
			Gary Critzer
			Doug Middlebrooks

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by the Chair, Anita Perry.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the February 2, 2017 minutes:	A motion was made to review and approve the February meeting minutes. Anita stated that there was one addition and that was Wake Forest was present at the last meeting but may not have signed the roster. Also, under the Drone report Mrs. Marsden is listed as "Senator". It should be corrected as "Mrs." Marsden. The minutes were approved as amended. The motion was moved by Susan Smith and seconded by Terry Austin. The minutes were approved as amended.	The February 2, 2017 minutes were approved as amended.
Chair Report – Anita Perry:	Anita will incorporate her report throughout the meeting.	
OEMS Report – Scott Winston/Gary Brown:	<p>Scott stated that an OEMS update of current program activities can be found on the OEMS website. He also mentioned HB1728 and explained that a workgroup has been established. Scott also spoke of finishing up the Town Hall meetings about the Intermediate 99 program which the turnouts have been light and there have not been many public comments.</p> <p>As far as personnel are concerned, Scott said that Chuck Faison filled the Education Development Coordinator position which was previously held by Adam Harrell. Adam has moved to the Business Manager position. Recently, Sam Burnette has joined the Emergency Operations Division as second in command. OEMS also has two wage positions in the Trauma Division one has expertise in Data Analytics and the other in Tableau. We have another position that is starting next week, Tim Erskine from Ohio. He will fill the Trauma and Critical</p>	

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	<p>Care Coordinator position.</p> <p>Gary also added that we do have a position that has been vacant for a while and it has been redefined and reclassified as a Community Health and Technical Resources position. EMS Week is May 21-27 and EMS Week kits have been distributed to all licensed EMS agencies. There will be a lot of EMS events to attend that week as it is highly emphasized at most of the healthcare systems.</p> <p>Gary also mentioned that the 2017 EMS Memorial Service for Virginia Fallen Firefighters and EMS is Saturday, June 3 at the Richmond International Raceway.</p> <p>Michael Berg stated that last night he finished an audit of the background unit of all of the background checks performed since July 1, 2014 and of the 630 licensed agencies in the Commonwealth, 45 have not submitted any background checks. They are not exempt from submitting and the Office of EMS will be reaching out to those agencies to ensure that they are compliant. We have a 93% compliance rate. The Regulation and Compliance Division will be advertising soon to fill a wage position in the background unit. Michael also stated that there is one OMD workshop left for this fiscal year and will start up again in November.</p>	
<p>Project Synergy Work Group Update – Anita Perry:</p>	<p>Anita stated that emails have been sent out by Tim about Project Synergy. The most recent email contained the updated grid. This project began January 1 and this is tracking STEMIs as well as strokes. The new spreadsheets have drop down boxes. She has received the spreadsheets back from two agencies and encouraged the other agencies to submit theirs as soon as possible for the period of January 1 through April 30. She will send out the information as soon as she gets it, we don't have to wait until the August meeting. As we discuss the House Bill workgroup shortly, you will see just how important these projects are. During the workgroup meeting a few weeks ago, several topics were discussed that lead back to some of the prior project synergy work that was done. She was very thankful that the workgroup and the agencies had done that work, because it showed that we were proactive and that we were looking at trauma triage plans and it assured that we are doing what we should do as medevac agencies. We may not have realized the importance of what we were doing, but it showed that we paid attention to safety and appropriate utilization of the aircrafts and the importance of the project. If anyone has any questions about the spreadsheets, let Anita know.</p>	<p>Agencies should send their completed spreadsheets to Tim or Anita with the data from Jan. 1 through April 30, 2017.</p>
<p>Drone Workgroup:</p>	<p>Anita reported that the drone workgroup has not met since the last meeting.</p> <p>Susan reported that at the last meeting Senate Bill 873 had not yet passed, but has since passed. This is good news. She thanked Senator David Marsden and Julia for all of their support in getting that through. This Bill gives the LZ Commander control and authority over the scene. This is the first time, that Susan is aware of, that this group has been able to influence legislation.</p> <p>Susan also reported that Carilion will have another Open Forum for drone operators and LZ Commanders on August 26 at the Inn at Virginia Tech. It is a part of the overall Starpoints Conference, but this one break out session will be open to anyone. They will be publishing more information on this. An email will be sent to Tim to distribute to this committee. Denise Baylous stated that once the bill was passed they had some news reporters there and they were able to get the information out and received a few phone calls from drone operators. Susan stated that there was great coverage and she thanked Denise for making that happen. It</p>	

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	<p>quickly spread all around Facebook.</p> <p>At the end of February, Tim attended a UAS Summit that VDEM hosted and was held in Crozet, VA. There was a lot of discussion about drones being used for law enforcement, fire and search and rescue. There was no mention of EMS at all. Tim contacted the gentleman at VDEM who organized the conference and asked that he please make sure in the future that EMS is part of the discussion. He said he would like EMS to come up with a presentation. Tim stated that Susan and Anita can use the presentation, or a variation of it, that was presented at symposium. Tim stated that he learned a lot, but not much that could be applied to this group.</p>	
<p>Virginia Helicopter EMS Program Update – Tim Perkins:</p>	<p>a. Statistics Report The Medevac Helicopter EMS application (formerly known as WeatherSafe) continues to grow in the amount of data submitted. In terms of weather turndowns, there were 580 entries into the Helicopter EMS system in the first quarter of the 2017 calendar year. 68% of those entries (386 entries) were for interfacility transports, which is consistent with information from previous quarters. The total number of turndowns (580) is an increase from 498 entries in the first quarter of 2016. This effort is an example of the commitment from air medical services operating in VA to make safety of medevac personnel and equipment a priority.</p> <p>b. LZControl Tim continues to reach out to John and Mark to try to schedule a meeting.</p>	
<p>Program Announcements:</p>	<p>Terry Austin, VCU LifeEvac/Air Methods – From LifeEvac, effective last Monday they put the EC145 into full-time operation. It was debuted at Richmond International Raceway last weekend. It is quite an aircraft and he is very happy with it. CAMTS inspection is coming up June 15 and 16. This is quite an ordeal and very encompassing on all points. It has been a major learning experience.</p> <p>Tim Ryan, US. Park Police – No report.</p> <p>Kate Challis, Johnston Willis – No report.</p> <p>Jay Cullen, Virginia State Police – No report.</p> <p>Anita Perry, Wellmont One/MedFlight II – No report.</p> <p>Tim announced that Virginia Beach EMS is no longer providing air medical services. They did not have enough missions.</p> <p>Julia Marsden, Consumer Rep. – No report.</p> <p>Denise Baylous, Sentara Nightingale –There is still ongoing construction at Norfolk General with multiple cranes. Usually one is always up, but there are others moving around. Please contact them on 12305 as you come in. They also just conducted a joint exercise with the military about air to air ops and things like that.</p> <p>Dwain Rowe, Wings Air Rescue – No report.</p>	

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	<p>Susan Smith, Carilion Clinic LifeGuard – Susan already mentioned that their Compass - Starpoints Conference is August 26. The online brochure will be available within the next couple of weeks. She will send it to Tim for distribution. The 3rd Annual 5K Rotor Run will be July 8. All of the proceeds go toward scholarships for nursing or paramedic students at Jefferson College Health Sciences. For more information, click here: https://rotorrun.org/.</p> <p>Tracy Orfield, AMC/Healthnet – No report.</p> <p>Kelly Keener, PHI Air Medical – PHI has updated everything in VPHIB to best of their knowledge. If there is anything significant that needs to be addressed, please notify Chris Shaffer.</p> <p>Mack Tolbert, Wake Forest Baptist Air Care – They sent a team to the Salt Lake City Gems Games in February and they won a competition in 2016 and won the championship in 2017.</p> <p>Doug Middlebrooks, Fairfax County Police – No report.</p> <p>Shawn Rivard, VSP, MedFlights I & II – Jay Cullen is on assignment and could not be here today. Shawn reported that his old position has finally been filled by Mr. Jeff Bush and he will be here at the next meeting. They have advertised for another pilot position for MedFlight I.</p>	
Unfinished Business:	<p>Tim mentioned that Kelly’s report reminded him about the discussions that he had with Cam about gathering medevac data in VPHIB for general use and for use with the HB1728 workgroup. It was discovered that some of the demographic information was not up to date such as base locations. The agencies were asked to look at their information to ensure that it was correct. Most of the agencies have been pretty responsive.</p> <p>Tim also reported that there are two new additions to the committee. Kate Challis, of Johnston Willis is the new Trauma Representative and Donna Hurst, of Augusta Health, is the Non-designated Trauma Center representative who could not be here today due to an expansion and renovation of their ED that starts today.</p>	
New Business:	<p>House Bill 1728 Workgroup Update Before Julia gives the update, Tim wanted to explain how the members of the workgroup were selected. The language of the Bill was pretty specific about having representatives of law enforcement, EMS providers, health insurance providers, and other interested stakeholders. A meeting was held to include Tim, Gary, Scott and Dr. Levine and Dr. Melton (who are Gary’s bosses) and we were directed to contact specific members for the workgroup such as State Corporation Commission, Bureau of Insurance, DMAS, Virginia Office of Licensure and Certification, Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA) which actually have two representatives: Paul Davenport and Paul Sharpe. Senator David Marsden requested that we have one representative to represent all of the medevac operators in Virginia. The Association of Air Medical Services recommended Rob Hamilton of Med Trans to be that representative. Tim read the list of names on the workgroup membership. This information can be found here: http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2017/04/HB1728WorkGroupRepresentatives.pdf</p>	Tim will send out the next meeting time and location as

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	<p>The workgroup had its' first meeting on April 24, 2017. The next meeting is June 8, 2017.</p> <p>a.) Julia Marsden stated that we had a great start for this workgroup. However, it will be a very lengthy and detailed process. It is a very complex issue as you all know. We have asked that the workgroup be divided into subgroups that will meet in the morning of June 8 to discuss their topics which include billing, regulations and dispatch. Then the groups will come back together to share what they have discussed. That is all that we have so far, there will probably be more to report at the next meeting. She appreciates all of the input. Anita read the HB language which states 1) to review the rules, regulations and protocols governing the air transportation services, 2) to review the rules, regulations and protocols governing dispatch of air transportation services and 3) to review the rules, regulations and protocols governing the billing aspect of air transportation services. A written report has to be put together by October.</p> <p>Anita asked if there were any questions/suggestions/comments. Jay Lovelady stated that he would appreciate a more timely meeting notification for the HB1728 Workgroup. Anita apologized and stated that she was out of town the beginning of that week and was back on Thursday and was playing catch up. She took full responsibility for that.</p> <p>Susan asked if the documents for the workgroup can be added on the Town Hall site. Tim stated that all of the documents association with this workgroup are on the Office of EMS Website and can be located here: http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/other-ems-programs-and-links/medevac-system/house-bill-1728-workgroup/. Tim will be adding more documents to this list.</p> <p>Anita encouraged everyone to be familiar with all of the documents and ensure that their agency is adhering to the air medical guidelines.</p> <p>George Lindbeck feels that everyone should look at the DOT NHTSA document from April 2015- Guidelines for the Use and Availability of Air Medical Services. He feels that this document clarifies a lot of information. Some of the activities that we have done have produced very good work such as project synergy and utilization review and WeatherSafe activities. But they are not well-known outside of this group. He feels we need to increase the visibility so that people will better understand air medical services. We also need to look at documents that were completed in the past and possibly update them and figure out new ways to disseminate them. We need to make sure that the big picture doesn't get lost.</p> <p>Susan agreed with George that we must not lose sight of the big picture. She also encouraged everyone to attend the workgroup meeting when possible.</p> <p>Anita wants everyone to feel as if they are represented well and if there are any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact her to voice your opinions.</p>	<p>soon as possible.</p>

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	<p>Gary reemphasized that everything we do is public and will be vetted. Meetings are announced on the Virginia Town Hall and on the OEMS website. We have to report our findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2017. However, we have to submit our report to the Health Commissioner by October 15, 2017.</p> <p>Terry Austin asked, “What are the goals that the workgroup is trying to reach?” Julia responded that they are reviewing all of the processes and procedures. They will make recommendations for best practices to better serve, inform and educate the community about air medical services. We need everyone’s input on this as it is a big project. She thanked everyone in advance.</p> <p>Michael Berg mentioned that he is currently on a workgroup about HB1726 that deals with the transporting of mental health patients and there was a meeting on that this week to look for alternate means of transporting the patients other than law enforcement. He is also on another workgroup dealing with in-hospital Do Not Resuscitate Education. These may not directly affect air transportation but affects ground transportation. This is a busy season even though the General Assembly isn’t in session.</p>	
Public Comment:	<p>Tim stated that it is time for his annual informational items about the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride. It is his 10th year participating in it. Tim also asked for donations to help assist with funding the Memorial Bike Ride. If interested in making donations, please send him an email. The National EMS Memorial Service will be at the Hyatt in Crystal City, MD.</p> <p>Susan said she and Dwain went out with Tim for a bike ride on the Capital Trail yesterday and she invited other members of the committee to join them on the next ride the evening of August 2.</p> <p>Bruce Edwards stated that he is rotating off of the Advisory Board and the Board of Health after serving for 8 years and this is his last meeting. He is proud to have worked with everyone and stated that this committee has accomplished some great work.</p>	
Adjournment:	<p>The August meeting will be held at Richmond Marriott Short Pump, 4240 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:43 a.m.</p>	<p>2017 Meeting Dates: August 3 November 8 –Norfolk Waterside Marriott</p>