

**Communications Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Richmond Marriott Short Pump
4240 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen, VA 23059
May 5, 2017
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
Gary Critzer, Chair	Tracey McLaurin	Ken Crumpler	Robert Trimmer
John Korman, APCO	Melissa Wood	Wanda Street	Bruce Edwards
Mike Keefe, VDEM		Amanda Davis	
Derrick Ruble, Tazewell County 911		Samuel Burnette	
Lewis Cassada, VITA			
Hershel Kreis, NENA			
Richard Rubino, Member-at-Large (Legal)			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order & Introductions:	The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:04 a.m.	
Approval of the minutes dated February 3, 2017:	A motion was made to approve the February 3, 2017 minutes. The motion was moved by John Korman and seconded by Hershel Kreis. Richard Rubino and Derrick Ruble abstained because they were not in attendance at the last meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.	The minutes were approved as submitted.
Committee Chair Report (Mr. Gary Critzer):	Gary had to step out and take a call due to weather-related incidents (flooding) in Waynesboro. He asked Ken to proceed with the meeting. Upon his return, Gary reviewed the discussions that were held at the last meeting such as the Large Scale Emergency Communications Response Plan and TERT teams. He also stated that the committee discussed the push for EMD expansion to as many PSAPs as possible.	
OEMS Communications Coordinators Report (Ken Crumpler):	APCO Pro-CHRT Committee – Ken Crumpler and Derrick Ruble Ken reported that on Wednesday he was in Virginia Beach attending the APCO/NENA Spring Conference and the APCO Pro-CHRT Committee met to discuss the ongoing process of Emergency Medical Dispatch across the Commonwealth. He is not an official member of the committee, but attends in an advisory role. They have had some very good success stories of peaking interest. To date the committee has reached out and visited PSAPs in Hopewell, Buckingham County, Cumberland County and Floyd County. All of these do not have EMD at this time. Ken then introduced a new OEMS employee, Samuel Burnette, Emergency Services Coordinator. Sam formerly worked at the Department of Fire Programs and the EOC. Sam gave a brief summary	

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	<p>of his background stating that he worked at DFP for 10 years and prior to that he worked at the EOC Fusion Center for about 5 years. He started as an EMS volunteer in 1991 and volunteer fire in 1993. Everyone else around the room introduced themselves and gave a brief background summary.</p> <p>Ken stated that during the APCO Pro-CHRT Committee meeting he was aware that many counties do not know about the available grant funding. More education is needed. There was more discussion about Amanda Davis attending the Fall Conference to give more information and do another presentation about the grants and how to apply, etc.</p> <p>They also reviewed the EMD presentation at the APCO Pro-CHRT and updated some of the information on it. There was also discussion about updating the OEMS website with current EMD information and updating the accreditation map. Ken spoke with Brian Crumpler from VITA yesterday about updating the map and Ken will give him updated information next week.</p> <p>Derrick read the minutes from the last meeting and stated that Region 4 is basically doing PSAP on wheels and moving forward with a regional TERT which include everyday incidents as well as law enforcement/fire fighter fatalities or family deaths where dispatchers will cover for other PSAPs when they have to attend a funeral, etc. Derrick stated that he would love if Amanda could come to an RPAC-I meeting. Ken asked if it would be better if Amanda presented at an RPAC-I meeting or at the Fall Conference. Derrick stated that the RPAC-I consists of the PSAP managers who are the decision makers.</p> <p>Ken gave kudos to Jeff Flournoy for taking his leave time to go around to the PSAPs in the Commonwealth!</p> <p>FirstNet – Mike Keefe-Thomas and Lewis Cassada Lewis reported that Carol Adams presented on behalf of Tom, who was not at the meeting. She said that AT&T is the vendor and she talked a lot about the spectrum auction. The State Police is getting kicked off the frequency. They have a temporary license to occupy the spectrum that is designated for FirstNet. She also hinted at the last major decision that the Governor is going to make which will be either opting in or opting out of FirstNet. Basically, if you opt out, you have 180 days to design your own plan. It seems like an impossible task and it is kind of set up that way, although she did not say it in those terms. She then talked about the hopes and dreams of what FirstNet can do.</p> <p>Richard Rubino asked about public safety having to give up the 475 T-band. Mike stated that there was nothing confirmed. Richard said that on his side of things, this might change as things move forward. They did not address the industrial and corporate users so the T-band is an essential component.</p>	<p>Ken will send updated information to Brian for the EMD map.</p>

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	<p>Lewis stated that Carol showed a couple of videos, but there was no discussion of present equipment or things like that. Mike stated that you will have 90 days to review the draft and then 90 days to respond to the actual plan on whether you will opt in or opt out. He stated that the states will have to provide the same level of service and there is no way that the states can build their own system.</p> <p>Richard Rubino asked will we see the same progression on the FirstNet system as we have seen on the commercial side having gone from 2G to 3G to 4G, etc. where the equipment is getting refreshed every couple of years. Mike stated that he hasn't heard that, but they are going to have to be a direct competitor to Verizon and Sprint. They will have to keep pace if they want to be close to being competitive.</p> <p>TERT/Large Scale Emergency Communications Response Plan Ken stated that he and Mike met a couple of times and exchanged some ideas. We don't have anything concrete yet. But we are working on it. Local buy in will be key to its success. When we have something more concrete to report, we will be sure to present it to the committee. Mike stated that he is excited about what has been discussed so far. The concept is to call into the EOC for dispatcher needs and there will be a cache of certified dispatchers who can fulfill the need.</p> <p>Ken's final note – Mr. Parker Winborn has passed away due to surgical complications. He medically retired about a year ago. Ken and Mike worked with him and Ken stated that he was a very amicable guy. He will be missed.</p> <p>Gary asked Derrick if he mentioned his service on the House Bill 1728 Workgroup Committee (Medevac). Derrick briefly described what the bill is about and what is occurring on the workgroup. The workgroup has been divided into three subgroups: billing, regulations, and dispatch. Derrick is working on the dispatch subgroup. Gary thanked Derrick for serving on the workgroup and he is sure that he will represent the industry well.</p>	
New Business:	<p>PSAP Accreditation applications: Prince George County 911 will not be presented for approval today. Their application is incomplete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powhatan County 911 <p>A motion was made to approve the Powhatan County 911 PSAP application as submitted. All committee members were in favor of the motion. None opposed.</p> <p>Ken will follow up and do a presentation at Powhatan and will inform the committee about that.</p> <p>Mecklenburg County will be presented to the committee at the next meeting. Ken is excited to make headway in more rural jurisdictions.</p>	

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	Bob Trimmer stated that EMD grant requests have been received from Page County, Warren County, Chesterfield County, James City, New River Valley, and Middlesex County. Everyone is happy to see these counties on board with EMD.	
Unfinished Business:	Mike stated that the Feds have recently put out a standard for encryption so if you were to procure a radio using federal funds, the radio would have to have AES encryption. This is just an FYI.	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:50 a.m.</p> <p>2017 Meeting Schedule: August 4, 2017 (Richmond Marriott Short Pump) November 9, 2017 (Norfolk Waterside Marriott)</p>	

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