



Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
	OEMS is facing. Frank said he's heard so much about FARC and wanted to drop in and see the committee in action.	
II. Quorum Verification	A quorum requires that you have at least four members present. All six members are present, and Kevin thanked them for that.	No further action is required
III. Approval of Minutes	The February 1, 2024, meeting minutes were approved as submitted.	No further action is required
IV. OEMS Report i. Executive Leadership  ii. OEMS Division Directors (present)  iii. Grants Division Report  I. Quarterly Report  II. Highland County Volunteer RS	<p>Cam Crittenden introduced herself as the Deputy Director of Administration and Finance. This encompasses our business operations and EMS Systems Planning. She said she didn't have anything to report, but if you have questions, you can ask. You can also email or text her anytime.</p> <p>Mike has been creating spreadsheets to show where we are currently with the grants and how much we have encumbered in grants. Covid was not kind to anybody and as a result, supply chain issues have caused us to extend the grants up to three years. The regulations only allow for one year, but VDH senior leadership understood administratively, we haven't been putting extensions to three years. We're not sure how long we can keep extending these grants, but we can't keep kicking the can down the road. Mike created a spreadsheet based on the grant cycles and they are color coded. Mike will keep updating this spreadsheet as the grants are pulled down and paid. We started out with \$8 million in encumbered grants and are down to less than \$4 million in encumbered grants. We are slowly but surely making progress. The grants unit has had trouble reaching a couple of the agencies that were awarded EMD grants. Amber Woods, with Special Operations, is reaching out to these agencies to help us finalize their grants. We are keeping track of the number of invoices being processed and the number of modifications and extensions requested.</p> <p>Mike asked Cam if the quarterly report had been posted on the web yet? The answer is no. Mike said when they do post the quarterly report on our website, you'll notice that our section has been greatly reduced. This is partly because we didn't have any grants to share since the spring cycle was cancelled.</p> <p>Highland County has removed the authority of Highland County Volunteer Rescue Squad to respond to 911 calls. The volunteer squad was awarded an ambulance, a stretcher, and a power load system in the June 2021 grant cycle. They have received the reimbursement check but the check hasn't been cashed yet since the volunteer squad has retained legal counsel. Mike had conversed with the captain and the president of the squad last month. It was decided they would reconvene on May 19<sup>th</sup> to see if they were going to send the check back to the Office of EMS or what they were going to do with the ambulance, stretcher, and power load system. Part of the condition of being awarded an ambulance is that it must be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With the litigation ongoing, hopefully, we'll know more in 30 days (May 19<sup>th</sup>).</p>	No further action is required  No further action is required  No further action is required  No further action is required



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	<p>At this point, she feels that EMD should not be on the special priority list. Rachel asked if we would consider putting the drug box or the pharmacy challenges as a special priority for the upcoming potential funding program? If we decide to make that a priority, we probably need to talk about setting parameters as far as what we will and will not offer for funding.</p> <p>Robert said if we do that and we go through the normal time period, agencies are going to have to put things in place before the November 27<sup>th</sup> date. So, we would have to consider if we would be willing to fund things that they had to put in place if they provide the invoices.</p> <p>Mike said the regulations say you can't do that.</p> <p>Robert said it's almost like a moot point to put it out there as a special priority and they're going to have to be in compliance prior to an award if they're going to do it.</p> <p>Joe agreed with that. He said we must be very cautious moving forward with this. We don't want to enable an agency to use FARC as their excuse for not complying with the regulations. They could say we're waiting on FARC to do their stuff before we do our stuff.</p> <p>Robert said there's always a possibility that the manufacturers aren't going to be able to meet the deadline and the FDA may have to push the date out again.</p> <p>Mike said the consensus is that the FDA's probably not going to push that out any further because they've allotted 11 years already for everybody to come into compliance.</p> <p>Tracy asked would there be any consideration for an emergency request or emergency funding.</p> <p>Mike said if somebody were to submit an emergency grant right now, we don't have the money to fund it.</p> <p>Kevin asked FARC if they were in favor of removing EMD as a priority and did they want to add the drug box and pharmacy challenges as a priority.</p> <p>Mark said he was in favor of removing EMD from the priority list. He did have concerns as well as the other committee members about making the DEA and FDA issues a funding priority. He wasn't in favor of making it a priority since the money won't be available until after the awards date and they must be compliant before the award date.</p>	

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<p>I. EMS Advisory Board Direction</p> <p>ii. Other</p>	<p>Joe said we need to clear up the first part of this discussion before voting on the second part of this discussion and made a motion that we remove EMD from the special priority list. JC seconded the motion. It was carried unanimously.</p> <p>Joe asked if it would be appropriate to delay this discussion until our August meeting. The Board of Pharmacy is meeting today and this would give us time to see where this discussion stands and if we want to make it a priority after we get all the facts.</p> <p>The consensus of the committee was that we would delay any discussion on this potential priority until we get further information from the Board of Pharmacy and receive Mike Player's report tomorrow at the Advisory Board.</p> <p>There wasn't any other unfinished business.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>
<p>VI. New Business</p>	<p>Kevin said he wanted to recognize Joe Trigg who is going off the committee. He presented Joe with a certificate from the Commonwealth of Virginia recognizing him for serving six years on FARC. Joe represented the Western Virginia EMS Council. Kevin thanked him for a lot of good input and his participation on our committee and his comments on grading the RSAF grants. He thanked him for his service.</p> <p>Joe said he thoroughly enjoyed serving on this committee, and this has been a good experience in his life. He wished the members of FARC the best of luck moving forward and said he's only a phone call away if we ever need anything.</p> <p>JC said we have an additional person leaving this committee. He told Kevin he wanted to present him with a certificate from the Commonwealth of Virginia recognizing him for his service and dedication.</p> <p>Kevin said it wasn't necessary but thanked him.</p> <p>JC said he wasn't done yet. He said the committee comes together, we talk a lot, we argue a lot, we resolve a lot. Six years of doing this together is part of your life. He then said he wanted to further express his appreciation and recognize Joe Trigg for his dedicated service to the Financial Assistance Review Committee and presented Joe with a plaque on behalf of the members of FARC. Joe thanked him and said he appreciated it.</p> <p>JC then acknowledged Kevin for his leadership of FARC. He thanked him for his service and dedication and presented him with a plaque on behalf of the members of FARC. Kevin said thank you and he appreciated it.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p>

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<p>i. Nominations for FARC</p> <p>I. TEMS</p> <p>II. NOVA</p> <p>ii. Fall 2024 RSAF Grant Cycle</p> <p>I. Priorities</p> <p>II. OIM Changes</p> <p>iii. Recommendations Transportation Committee - ALS v/s BLS</p>	<p>Kevin said he wanted to thank the staff, Linwood, and Michael, for being phenomenal to work with and their customer service. He gets compliments from across the state about both. He said he appreciated both from the bottom of his heart. Linwood and Michael thanked him.</p> <p>Kevin said we need a motion to bring on the two new members of FARC. Once approved by FARC, then it will go before the Advisory Board for final approval. The new members are:</p> <p>Greg DeYoung representing the Tidewater EMS Council area.</p> <p>Byron Andrews representing the Northern Virginia EMS Council area.</p> <p>JC made the motion we bring the new members on board. Mark seconded it. They were unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mike told the committee that we will have a fall RSAF grant cycle. Because of our recent crisis, we have been able to take this opportunity to put together a formal process to identify how much money is available for each grant cycle, the timeframe to make that decision, and the process to take the steps to determine how much money is available. The Fall RSAF grant cycle will open on August 1<sup>st</sup> and close on September 16<sup>th</sup> (the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday and therefore it's the next business day). The technical graders will begin grading on September 19<sup>th</sup> with their grading ending on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. FARC will begin grading on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and their grading ending on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Fall RSAF awards meeting will be on December 5<sup>th</sup>. This meeting is closed. The award date will be January 1, 2025.</p> <p>This has been previously covered.</p> <p>We voted to change the hardship funding level from the current 80/20 funding level to the new 70/30 funding level. We also voted to require the inventory listing of the requested items. Mike met with our IT folks. Their staff has been greatly reduced and the office has met and are working on prioritizing what needs to be addressed first. The biggest challenge right now is working with the ACE Division and upgrading the continuing education credits to align with the National Registry changes. That's going to take a significant amount of time and effort on their part. With that said, they do not believe they're going to be able to make those changes for this cycle.</p> <p>JC and Robert are also members of the Transportation Committee. Mike also participates with this committee. Mike said there was discussion by the Transportation Committee on how an agency reports on ALS v/s BLS calls. They really don't break it down and just guesstimate like 70% BLS v/s 30% ALS. The Transportation Committee recommended that an agency put just the number of responses and not the transports. We can figure out transports. The</p>	<p>Waiting approval by the Advisory Board</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>

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<p>iv. Nominations for the following:</p> <p>I. Chair</p> <p>II. Vice-Chair</p> <p>v. Public Comment</p>	<p>issue is the number of responses by the agency. The committee felt we would be better served if we were to change the application to reflect the number of responses within a given timeframe instead of ALS versus BLS. By reporting the total amount of responses, it shows the utilization of the vehicles. Mike said to make a change to the application would require our IT folks and we would have to add it to the list of things we already have for them. Joe’s concern is when an agency asks for ALS equipment, we wouldn’t have any idea how many ALS calls are being responded to. It would be difficult to make an informed decision at that point. Joe said that several years ago the Trauma and Critical Care/EPI unit was providing us with that data, and it was very helpful. And then, for whatever reason, we stopped getting those reports. Cam said we have done analysis out of the State repository on BLS versus ALS calls. She said they would be happy to supply us with that data again. Just let them know what we want. There was a lot of discussion on whether we want to change the application to reflect the number of responses instead of the current BLS/ALS transport. The consensus of the committee was to not change the application and keep the application as it is.</p> <p>Once a year, FARC nominates a chair and vice chair to lead our committee. Kevin said we’re going to take nominations for the position of chair and vice chair. He opened it up to the committee to nominate a chair.</p> <p>Joe said he would like to nominate JC Bolling for chair of FARC. Mark seconded the motion. It was unanimous that JC will be the next chair of FARC.</p> <p>Kevin said he was now going to open the floor for nominations for the position of vice chair. JC nominated Robert Trimmer to be the vice chair of FARC. Joe seconded the motion. It was unanimous that Robert will be the vice chair of FARC.</p> <p>Melissa said that before the financial woes, OEMS developed a plan to have seven ambulances that would be available for localities to borrow. Do you think that is going to come back? Mike said “No, ma’am. It will not”.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>
<p>VII. Proposed Meeting Dates</p>	<p>(All meetings are at 10:00 am unless otherwise indicated): August 1, 2024; November 14, 2024; December 5, 2024 (Grading Closed) Location: Embassy Suites, 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, Virginia 23294</p>	<p>No further action is required</p>
<p>VIII. Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p>