

**State Air Medical Committee Meeting  
 Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services  
 Embassy Suites Hotel  
 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294  
 August 1, 2024  
 9:00 a.m.**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>	<b>OEMS/Committee Support Staff:</b>	<b>Guests &amp; Other Attendees:</b>
<b>Victoria Smith</b> , VENA, Chair	<b>Mack Tolbert</b> , Wake Forest Baptist AirCare (Excused)	Tim Perkins	Cody Jackson, Highlands Emergency Air Rescue & Transport
<b>Gabe Elias</b> , Emergency Communications, VDEM	<b>Denise Baylous</b> , Nightingale	Devin Chinault	Sid Bingley, Carilion Life-Guard
<b>Al Thompson</b> , Non-trauma Center Rep, Bon Secours	<b>Robert Conner</b> , Centra One	Reannon Adams, Meeting Scribe	Michelle Ludeman, NVEMS Council
<b>Dwain Rowe</b> , Highlands Emergency Air Rescue & Transport			Ryan Hite, Carilion Lifeguard
<b>Jermaine Clayborne</b> , UVA Health/Pegasus			Gary Samuels, Bon Secours
<b>Susan Rivers</b> , Carilion Clinic Lifeguard			Travis Mason, AirLife Virginia
<b>Carlie Smith</b> , AirLife Virginia			Chris Shaffer, PHI Air Medical
<b>Dempsey Whitt</b> , VCU LifeEvac			Lance Hamilton, Fairfax Co Police
<b>Rebecca Branch Griffin</b> , Member-At-Large, Consumer, Vice-Chair			Gregory Jones, Med Flight
<b>Tim Ryan</b> , U.S. Park Police			Jeff Weber, VSP Med Flight
<b>Rick Cohen</b> , PHI Air Medical			Gene Dalton, WVEMS
<b>Brian Solada</b> , Air Care Eagle			Jay Lovelady, HCA
			Greg Neiman, VCUHealth
			Dr. James Giebfried, EP&R Committee

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>Call to order:</b>	Victoria Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A moment of silence was held to honor those who were lost since the last meeting.	
<b>Introductions:</b>	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
<b>Review &amp; Approval of the May 2, 2024 minutes:</b>		<b>The minutes were approved as submitted.</b>
<b>Chair Report – Victoria Smith:</b>	No report.	
<b>OEMS Report:</b>	<p>Tim- We are looking for someone to take minutes for each meeting. Reannon Adams Manager, Carilion Life-Guard volunteered. All approved.</p> <p>Tim- The Director position has been advertised. Email sent to everyone to share with their organizations.</p> <p>Bike ride was a Success. Thanks to all who participated.</p>	
<b>Drone-Related Items:</b>	<p>Susan Rivers stated that they are on Phase 2 of drone testing. They had preplanned flight paths, with no complications, and no concerns from outside agencies.</p> <p>Further Drone conversation were had regarding drone operations education from the FAA and drone safety. The group discussed drone’s being included in disaster drills, recreational drone usage verses emergency operations usage, and how to implement the UAS Safety test for all drone operators.</p>	
<b>Quarterly Safety Project – Carlie Smith:</b>	Carlie- Will re send the video to Tim for distribution. Nothing else to report.	
<b>Air Medical Communications/Interoperability Workgroup – Gabe Elias:</b>	<p>First Net was discussed and how they are trialing in air push to talk.</p> <p>Forestry services were unable to program interoperability programs. They did send a letter to the USDA and were able to receive interoperability that can be used in emergencies and training communications.</p>	
<b>Virginia Helicopter EMS Program Update – Tim Perkins:</b>	<p><b>a. Statistics Report</b>  Changed from quarterly report to meeting/meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-May/June</li> <li>-275 helicopter entries with 2/3 of interfacility reported and 281 turndowns for weather</li> <li>-No laser strikes reported by July 1</li> </ul>	
<b>Program Announcements and Updates:</b>	<p><b>-Group determined going forward the minutes will be emailed to discuss at each meeting</b></p> <p><b>Dempsey Whitt</b> – No report, everything is going well at LifeEvac.</p> <p><b>Dwain Rowe</b> – Nothing to report.</p>	

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	<p><b>Susan Rivers-</b> Susan announced that Ethan had transitioned out his role as operations manager into a nursing role for Carilion.</p> <p><b>Rick Cohen</b> – Reported that 29 drones were being used by First Responders, and it was going well. He did discuss how Fairfax does require an officer present anytime a drone is being used to prevent illegal drone activity.</p> <p><b>Travis Mason</b> -Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>Mack Tolbert</b> – Nothing new to report.</p> <p><b>Vince Mancano</b> – No report.</p> <p><b>Tim Ryan</b> – No report.</p> <p><b>Lance Hamilton</b> – No new report.</p> <p><b>Brian Solada</b> – No report.</p> <p><b>Robbie Conner</b> – Not present</p> <p><b>Denise Baylous</b> -N/A</p> <p><b>Jermaine Clayborne</b> – Reported that UVA helipads had been painted.</p> <p><b>Carlie Smith-</b> wants to follow with drone safety and suggested a fundraiser for education. There were no updates on the aircraft operations starting in Danville.</p>	<p><b>Tim will send Susan a copy of the safety video created by Carlie.</b></p>
<b>Unfinished Business:</b>	None.	
<b>New Business:</b>	<p>Tim asked the group to advise their teams going forward to please be detailed in all email communications sent to VDEM. Tim addressed the importance of sending out alerts, and he is in favor of all organizations sharing information, especially if the information cannot be shared through OEMS MED.</p> <p>Tim advised that he would share email addresses with the group.</p> <p>Carilion is currently trialing drone delivery and it is being managed by Drone Up.</p> <p>ECHO conference is a go!</p> <p>Dempsey advised that there was a change to the OSHA fire brigade standards, however there were no changes in HEMS regulations.</p>	

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	OSHA is proposing a change in corporate response. Code 1910-156. It was advised there would be a public comments forum in February. As of now, they are unsure how the proposed change will affect the air industry. It was advised that it could have a significant impact. Dempsey advised that he would discuss this topic further with Robbie Dawson and Craig Jones.	
<b>Public Comment:</b>	None.	
<b>Adjournment:</b>	The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:56 a.m.	<b>2024 Meeting Dates:</b> August 1 November 14

Transcribed by Reannon Adams, Executive Secretary, Sr.

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