

**Workforce Development Committee Meeting
 Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
 Embassy Suites Hotel
 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294
 February 1, 2024
 10:30 a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Others:
Cody Jackson , Commercial Ambulance Association, Vice-Chair	Vacant , Chair	Chris Vernovai	Dusty Lynn
David Tesh , VA Recruitment & Retention Network	Vacant , VAGEMSA	Tim Perkins	David Rowe, M.D.
Derek Fuller , VA Recruitment & Retention Network			Ali Akbar
Paul Hoyle , At-Large			Ryan Hite
John Bianco , At-Large			Matt Lawler
Byron Andrews , VA State Firefighters			
Gene Dalton , WVEMS			
Christina Smith , VACO			
R. Bruce Stratton , VAVRS			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Call to order/Welcome:	Cody Jackson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.	
II. Review and Approval of May's Minutes:	A motion was made to review and approve the November meeting minutes by Gene Dalton, seconded by David Tesh.	
III. Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
IV. Chair's Report- Cody Jackson:	The August meeting was scheduled to be Valerie's last meeting as chair unless her board seat is not replaced by this meeting in February. Her seat on the board was filled, but no chair has been appointed to the committee at this time.	
V. OEMS Report:	Tim Perkins: Nothing new to report other than items already listed in the agenda.	

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VI. EMS Officer – Chris Vernovai	EMSO1 classes are currently being scheduled for 2024 across Virginia. The next classes will be held at the Central Virginia EMS Expo and the Shenandoah Valley EMS Expo both in March. With the additional offerings being planned for 2024, there are 7 offerings planned through June 2024.	
VIII. Standards of Excellence (SOE): Tim Perkins	<p>There are currently 3 agencies in line for site visits. (Winchester, Botetourt and Virginia Beach) We plan to be gathering a team of reviewers and scheduling visits before the end of the fiscal year.</p> <p>No new applications have been submitted. With the ramping up of SOE we have been working with agencies who have agency of excellence designation to help them go through the process again. The process is voluntary, and we receive inquiries every other week from agencies interested in the process. The OEMS receives inquires regularly about the process and the program.</p>	
IX. Virginia Recruitment and Retention Network – Derek Fuller/Dave Tesh:	Derek Fuller: There is a meeting planned to be held in conjunction with the Virginia Fire Chiefs Conference. There are multiple courses involving recruitment and retention being offered at the conference.	
X. Unfinished Business:	<p>A. Keeping the Best (KTB) Tool Kit- Dave Tesh/John Bianco Dave- We are working on formalizing the program. There is a need to put together a workgroup with John Bianco and himself to review the outline of the KTB program and provide input and assist in getting the program into a completed format. The format would be video presentation and assignments on Moodle LMS prior to class.</p> <p>John Bianco is coordinating an offering at the TEMS Expo May 14-20, 2024. Additionally, the need to begin onboarding KTB Facilitators to begin offering the course throughout Virginia. Please attend one of the class sessions if you are interested in being a facilitator to help deliver the program. The TEMS Expo session would be the next opportunity to begin the onboarding process.</p> <p>Dave discussed a program called Articulate that may be useful in creating the online portions of the program. Dave will obtain more information about the program and report back to the committee.</p> <p>B. Symposium and Education, Tim Perkins: Tim discussed the 2024 EMS Symposium will not be hosted nor in 2025. OEMS will continue to support any local or regional education conferences, seminars, etc. as available. This includes course</p>	

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	<p>announcements, email outreach. If a course is requested to be provided such as EMSO1 or KTB, the hosting group must provide the travel expenses or costs for the program(s) directly.</p> <p>C. High School EMS Programs Update: A committee member asked if there was any development on the joint efforts for the Training Certification Committee and WDC on the high school EMS Programs. There has not been any progression at this time, but staff will follow up with ACE Division for an update.</p>	
<p>IX. New Business:</p>	<p>John Bianco: Initiated a discussion about the current state of the OEMS and the various items that have been canceled or reduced and the effects upon the system, particularly with the scholarship program. Tim Perkins noted that the OEMS is working through the current situation and various programs had to be altered to continue operations. Further modifications need to be made to items such as the scholarship program for continued and future operations.</p>	
<p>XII. Public Comment:</p>	<p>Matt Lawlor offered a comment that the TCC/WDC workgroup for high School Programs, Chad Blosser is still working to get the Department of Education to</p> <p>Derrek Fuller asked what the current goals or objectives are for the year for WDC. Discussion with committee members, Tim Perkins stated we plan to further the EMS Officer program further this year. CHaTR is preparing to partner with Health Equity for a federal grant for rural workforce development. In terms of SOE, currently there hasn't been any areas that need modifications, the biggest hurdle is obtaining volunteers to submit for SOE and reviewers. Incentives for agencies to become and SOE agency were discussed in the past. CHaTR also is involved in the Fire Service Board/VDFP Fire EMS Studies. SOE and EMSO allow for additional tools for agencies in conjunction with the studies. Further discussion was had about the recruitment and retention aspects and the IAFC training opportunities.</p> <p>Comments made about on the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride will be starting May 5 in Roanoke and ending in South Carolina. The bike ride has not been through Roanoke since around 2009.</p> <p>Dusty Lynn initiated a conversation about any input for establishing a school introduction to health career options into the school systems including private schools. Before the option for establishing an EMR or EMT class in the schools, basic introductory options i.e. CPR, First Aid, etc. for the 14-16 year old students. Discussions included having opportunities to bring in air medical, ground transport, nursing, etc. to the schools as an FYI/introduction program. Dusty included that if this was an established program it could be something to take to the school systems as an opportunity.</p> <p>Future meeting dates/location are listed on the agenda.</p>	

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XIII. Adjournment:	Meeting was concluded @ 11:00am.	