

Training and Certification Committee Meeting Minutes

Old Dominion EMS Alliance
7818 East Parham Road, Suite 911 (Basement), Henrico, VA 23294
Wednesday July 8, 2026 – 10:30 am

Members Present

Brian McIntosh, Vice Chair
Kathy Eubank
Dr. Jason Ferguson (Virtual)
Chris Kroboth
Larry Oliver
Mike Watkins

Members Absent

Melissa Meador,
Chair
(Excused)
Heidi Hooker
(Excused)

Staff Present

Daniel Linkins
Ron Passmore
Wayne Perry

Dr. Maria Beermann-
Foat
(Virtual)

Staff Absent

Mohamed Abbamin
Michael Berg
Cam Crittenden

Guests

Brandon Arthur
Chris D'Annibelle
Donna Galganski-
Pabst
Brent Hiveman
Dave Keeler
Michael McDonald
Greg Neiman
Heather Nelson
Karen Owens
Tyler Retel
Ryan Scarbrough
Will Shackleford

Online Guests

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Welcome	The Vice Chair, Brian McIntosh, called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM.	N/A
II. Introductions	Vice Chairman McIntosh presented the guidelines for committee member virtual attendance as dictated by the Governor's Advisory Board and the Office of EMS. Vice Chairman McIntosh acknowledged that all requirements had been met for the virtual attendance of Dr. Jason Ferguson to this meeting. A motion was made by Christopher Kroboth and seconded by Dr. Charles Lane. The motion carried unanimously. Everyone around the room introduced themselves and a safety briefing was conducted by Ryan Scarborough (ODEMSA Staff).	Remote participation motion was approved by consensus for the requesting individual.

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
III. Approval of Agenda	The Committee reviewed the agenda for today's meeting. (Attached). A motion was made by Larry Oliver to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mike Watkins. All committee members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.			The agenda was approved as written.
IV. Approval of October 1, 2025, minutes:	The committee approved the minutes as submitted. (Attached). A motion was made by Dr. Charles Lane to approve the minutes dated April 1, 2026. The motion was seconded by Larry Oliver. All committee members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried.			The minutes were approved as submitted.
V. Reports of Committee Members / OEMS Staff	A. Chairman Report Deferred due to excused absence. B. Committee Member Reports 1. Medical Direction Committee – Discussed underperforming programs and quality assurance checks needed for education programs. 2. VAVRS – Kathy Eubank – The June Symposium went well. E-911 Dispatch, LE, and Fire-based courses were cancelled due to lack of participation. The next training conference will be held in October (10/1-4) with another event in December at the new Fredericksburg Conference Center. 3. Non-VCCS Accredited Programs – POSITION VACANT. 4. VCCS Accredited Programs – Dr. Jason Ferguson – Fast-Forward Funding was recently increased by the General Assembly. VCCS also received additional funding for CTE programs which included the Paramedic and EMT programs at several colleges. The representative for the VCCS EMS Peer Group has transitioned from Dr. Ferguson to Joseph Greer (CVCC). 5. Fire-Based Organization – Christopher Kroboth – Nothing to report.			N/A

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
V. Reports of Committee Members / OEMS Staff (Continued)	6. VAGEMSA – Larry Oliver – Report will be delayed until we discuss the Rules & Regulation Workgroup. 7. EMS Education Coordinators – Brian McIntosh – Nothing to Report. 8. Regional EMS Council Executive Directors – Excused Absence. No Report provided. 9. EMS for Children – Mike Watkins – EMSC hasn't met since prior to the April TCC meeting. The group is transitioning to virtual meetings. EMSC is interesting in reviewing the Kangoo-Fix device for neonatal transport. C. OEMS Reports 1. ACE Division – Daniel Linkins – deferred to Ron Passmore. 2. Administration Updates a. Director – Dr. Maria Beermann-Foat – Dr. Beermann-Foat attended this meeting virtually and provided gratitude to the committee. Dr. Beermann-Foat advised that the Office is continuing to evolve and adapt. Staffing has been reduced from 85 positions to the current 32 filled positions with little reduction in workload. 3. Deputy Directors – a. Wayne Perry – No report. b. Cam Crittenden – Absent. D. OEMS Divisional Updates –			N/A
V. Reports of Committee Members / OEMS Staff (Continued)				N/A

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	1. Regulations & Compliance – Ron Passmore – The Office of EMS is still working on staffing plans. We have gone through two interview processes for the ACE Division Director with offers made to the selected candidate; however, each candidate accepted another position with a different employer. We are continuing this process. Question – Brian McIntosh – Do we have any other open positions besides ACE? Response – No, not at this time.			
VI. Committee Discussion Items	A. Previous Business 1. EMS-EC Recertification Exam Workgroup – Brian McIntosh – Reported that the questions were sent to the Office of EMS for final approval; however, the test deployment will be delayed based on the discussion regarding the EMS Educator Institute. Daniel Linkins advised that he did not have them and requested they be sent to him again. 2. Supporting Underperforming Programs and the Role of the Office in Promoting Success – Dr. Charles Lane – nothing further from initial report out for MDC. 3. Training EMS Regulatory Change Workgroup – Larry Oliver – Larry reported that the workgroup has been diligently working on the TPAM as it relates to Chapter 32. A Microsoft Word version of Chapter 32 edits has been received by the workgroup to assist with their process. Larry also reports that he was invited to a Rules & Regulations Work Group meeting to present the Training EMS Regulatory Change Workgroup's edits. A majority of the Chapter 32 edits that affect TCC will be in TPAM. 4. TCC Workgroup on EC Credentialing – Christopher Kroboth – Chris reported out the outcome of the workgroup's most recent meeting. Topics included the			McIntosh to send work product to Daniel Linkins.

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	emphasis on the necessity of utilizing best practices and modern delivery models for curricula, altering the flow path for EC certification regarding order of institute, mentoring, and teaching hours, as well as creating digital sandboxes for EC candidates to actually practice what they are learning for education, mentoring, and reinforcement. Chris also discussed the tasking of the workgroup to look at other models for instructor education and credentialing to include Kansas and North Carolina processes and programs. Chris also discussed the opinion of the workgroup that a “Moodle” or comparable hangout area be created for ECs to confer with each other as the routine of calling OEMS is no longer an option, nor should it be the first option. The hangout area would allow seasoned ECs to assist with questions that truly do not need a decision or interpretation from OEMS. 5. EMS Training Program Administration Manual Updates – Ron Passmore – Nothing further to add beyond Larry Oliver’s report out from the Training EMS Regulatory Change Workgroup. 6. Recommended TCC Charter – Melissa Meador – deferred to Brian McIntosh. Brian reported that the draft charter had been provided to the committee previously. The draft charter was displayed on the video screens for all attendees. Discussion followed. a. Mike Watkins – questioned term limits within the charter not being specified. i. Brian McIntosh – the goal was to ensure that we remain consistent with the EMSGAB by following their established term limits rather than having different terms for different committees creating a potential confusion. b. Motion was made by Dr. Charles Lane and seconded by Mike Watkins to accept the draft charter as presented and to submit to the EMSGAB for approval and adoption. Motion passed unanimously.			Motion passed unanimously to forward charter to EMSGAB for approval and adoption.
VII. New Business	A. New Business:			

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	1. Committee Representative Position Change – Melissa Meader – deferred to Brian McIntosh a. Matthew Snyder, representing non-VCCS Accredited Programs, has resigned from his committee position due to a change in employment status. The position is vacant and will be filled using standard OEMS procedures.			OEMS to post non-VCCS committee position for selection.
VIII. Public Comment	A. Public Comment: None			N/A
IX. Dates for 2026 Meetings	A. Scheduled dates: 1. January 7, 2026 changed to January 14, 2026 2. April 1, 2026 3. July 1, 2026 changed to July 8, 2026 4. October 7, 2026			October 2026 meeting will be held at ODEMSA (Parham Rd).
X. Adjourn	A motion was made by Larry Oliver to adjourn the meeting with a second by Mike Watkins. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 AM.			Motion to adjourn was carried unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted by: Brian P. McIntosh
Vice Chair and Recording Secretary**

Virtual Attendance Link:	
https://tinyurl.com/TCC2607	

Public Comment Signup:	
https://tinyurl.com/TCC2607Comment	

B. Cameron Webb, MD, JD
State Health Commissioner

Maria Beermann-Foot, PhD, NRP Director

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Health

Office of Emergency Medical Services
109 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219

804-888-9100
1-800-523-6019 (Va. only)

Training & Certification Committee - Wednesday July 8, 2026 – 10:30 AM

Old Dominion EMS Alliance 7818 East

Parham Road Suite 911 (Basement) - Henrico, VA 23294

See this link for directions: <https://shorturl.at/krZ06>

Meeting Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of Remote Participation
- III. Introductions
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of [Minutes of April 1, 2026](#), meeting
- VI. Reports of Committee Members
 - A. Reports of Committee Members
 - 1. Chairman's Report
 - 2. Medical Direction Committee
 - 3. Committee Members
 - B. Office of EMS
 - 1. Division of Accreditation, Certification & Education (ACE)
 - 2. Administration Updates
 - 3. Status on open positions at the Office of EMS
- VII. Committee Discussion Items
 - A. Previous Business
 - 1. EMS Education Coordinator Recertification Examination Workgroup Report – Brian McIntosh
 - 2. Supporting Underperforming Programs and the Role of the Office in Promoting Success (report from MDC discussion) – Dr. Charles Lane
 - 3. Training EMS Regulatory Change Workgroup – Larry Oliver
 - 4. TCC Workgroup on EC Credentialing – Chris Kroboth
 - 5. EMS Training Program Administration Manual Updates – Ron Passmore
 - 6. Recommended TCC Charter – Melissa Meador
 - B. New Business
 - 1. Committee Representative Changes – Melissa Meador
- VIII. Public Comment
- IX. Any Other Items from the Committee
- X. Next Meeting
 - A. October 7, 2026
- XI. Adjourn

Attachment A to the July 8, 2026

April 1, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Training and Certification Committee Meeting Minutes

Old Dominion EMS Alliance
7818 East Parham Road, Suite 911 (Basement), Henrico, VA 23294
Wednesday April 1, 2026 – 10:30 am

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
Melissa Meador, Chair	Brian McIntosh	Daniel Linkins	Ali Akbar (note taker)	Anthony Balog
Kathy Eubank	(Excused)	Ron Passmore	Heather Nelson	Valerie Vagts
Dr. Jason Ferguson	Mike Watkins		Donna Galganski-	Deb Akers
Heidi Hooker	(Excused)		Pabst	Matt Lawler
Chris Kroboth			Joey Greer	
Larry Oliver		Staff Absent	Dr. Allen Yee	
Matthew Snyder		Mohamed Abbamin	Paige Greene	
Charles Lane M.D. (late)		Dr. Maria Beermann-	David Keeler	
		Foat	Chris Gandall	
		Michael Berg	Karen Owens	
		Cam Crittenden	Michael McDonald	
			Adam Gwynn	
			Chris Denhelka	
			Tyler Tell	
			Matt Owens	
			Jamie Salvia	
			Scott Cormier	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Welcome	The Chair, Melissa Meador called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. Chair Meador thanked Heidi Hooker and ODEMSA for hosting the meeting. Ryan Scarborough provided a brief facility safety briefing.	N/A
II. Introductions	Chairwoman Meador acknowledged that no committee members requested to participate remotely. Two members were excused: Brian McIntosh and Mike Watkins.	

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	Introductions were conducted around the room. Chair Meador noted that Ali Akbar (Greene County EMS / PVCC) was asked to attend to record and take minutes in the absence of Brian McIntosh.			Remote participation: No remote members. N/A.
III. Approval of Agenda	The Committee reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Matthew Snyder to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Christopher Kroboth. All committee members were in favor. The motion carried at 10:33.			The agenda was approved as written.
IV. Approval of January 14, 2026, minutes:	The committee reviewed the minutes from the January 14, 2026, meeting. No corrections were identified. A motion was made by Larry Oliver to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Christopher Kroboth. All committee members were in favor. The motion carried at 10:34.			The minutes were approved as submitted.
V. Reports of Committee Members / OEMS Staff	E. Chairman Report – Chairwoman Melissa Meador Chair Meador reported that Heidi Hooker (representing Regional EMS Council Executive Directors) will remain on the TCC committee. Debbie Akers will not be replacing her as discussed in January; Ms. Akers will concentrate on her role as Executive Director of the Western Virginia EMS Council.. Chair Meador reported that Chris Vernovai has resigned from OEMS, where he served as the TCC/OEMS liaison. Mr. Vernovai will be joining ODEMSA as Training Director effective April 6, 2026.. Chair Meador raised a concern brought to her attention regarding OEMS course enrollment policies — specifically, a rule that course applications not submitted within 30 days would be automatically rejected without notice. She requested transparency and advance notice if existing rules are to be more strictly enforced going forward. She also inquired about third party vendor courses and how CEs are assigned.			N/A

TCC Draft Charter – 08 July 2026

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	Daniel Linkins provided an update on the ACE Division. Key items included: - The division is actively recruiting to fill staff vacancies. A new ServiceNow-based support ticket system has been implemented (approximately three weeks in operation) to improve efficiency and ensure inquiries are routed to the appropriate staff member. - Direct contact information has been removed from the OEMS website to ensure inquiries reach the appropriate staff member. Previously, inquiries were routed to whoever answered first, regardless of subject matter expertise Target response time is two business days. - Providers are strongly encouraged to submit support requests via the online form rather than by voicemail. Voicemail submissions require manual transcription into tickets, adding delays. Approximately 400 tickets processed in the first three weeks. - OEMS is creating process documentation and training videos to eliminate single points of failure and ensure information consistency. - Chad Mason has been welcomed as Director of Emergency Operations. He activated an incident management team for ACE Division support within his first two days. - The Virginia Board of Health approved an extension of the temporary strategic plan implemented during the office transition. OEMS will conduct a statewide EMS assessment over the next 10–11 months following a MAP 2.0 / community health improvement framework, incorporating the NHTSA EMS Agenda for the Future 2050, with broad stakeholder engagement. H. OEMS Divisional Updates – - Regulations & Compliance – Ron Passmore – No formal report. Ron was available to address questions throughout the meeting. Confirmed that accreditation requirements under Chapter 31 remain in effect and will not change until formal regulatory language is amended and published.			N/A
VI. Committee Discussion Items	B. Previous Business Previous Business Items 1 & 2 – Responsible parties not in attendance. No reports provided. Skipped.			

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	b. EC Level 1 / Level 2 Regulatory Changes – Christopher Kroboth provided a synopsis of the proposed EC Level 1 / Level 2 credentialing framework for the record: • Current State: The EC process is approximately three days and produces a single full EC credential, allowing facilitation of all EMS education from initial programs through CE. The majority of ECs serve primarily as agency training officers/portal managers, not initial program instructors. • EC Level 1 (proposed): Approximately one-day course covering rules and regulations, the T-PAM, CE facilitation, portal and scanning processes. Intended for agency-based training officers. To be offered by regional councils. • EC Level 2 (proposed): Add-on to Level 1, covering initial program-specific content: enrollment requirements, ADA accommodations, competency-based tracking, and compliance management. To be offered at the state level. • Existing ECs: All current ECs would be grandfathered in as EC Level 2 unless they voluntarily request reclassification to Level 1. • Larry Oliver noted that consistency will be critical given the approximately 900+ ECs statewide and recommended development of a scripted lesson plan for Level 1 to ensure uniform delivery across all seven regions. A motion was made to approve the EC Level 1 / Level 2 framework as presented. The motion was duly seconded. All committee members were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. c. Training EMS Regulatory Change Workgroup – Larry Oliver – Reported that the workgroup is being reconstituted to develop T-PAM modifications related to Chapter 32 rules and regulations. Meetings will be conducted virtually. Modifications must be completed prior to the OEMS Rules & Regulations meeting in August 2026, with the November 2026 Advisory Board meeting as the follow-on milestone. • Workgroup members identified: Ali Akbar, Devin Kelten, Megan Middleton, David Keeler, Matthew Snyder, Chief Doak (York County). d. Recommended TCC Charter – Chair Meador clarified that a TCC charter is a recommendation, not a requirement. A draft was previously circulated; it did not incorporate objectives developed by the former chair. Chair Meador will revise the draft to include those objectives and redistribute with adequate lead time. The charter will be brought back for a vote at the July 2026 TCC meeting.			EC Level 1 / Level 2 framework: Motion made by Larry Oliver. Seconded by Matthew Snyder. Passed unanimously at 11:10 AM Motion made and duly seconded. Passed unanimously. Charter tabled until July 2026 meeting.

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	Daniel Linkins confirmed OEMS is working to consolidate all advisory board and subcommittee documentation into one shared location for continuity and standardization. e. TCC Workgroup – Review of ECI and EC Credentialing Process – This was the primary discussion item of the meeting. Chair Meador framed the discussion: - This is a direct request from Dr. Beerman-Foat (OEMS Director) to conduct a comprehensive, top-to-bottom review of the EC Institute (ECI) and the EC credentialing process. Nothing has been decided. The work group is being asked to examine, not dismantle, the existing process. One of the questions to be considered is whether an EC credentialing process is needed at all — asked in a spirit of continuous improvement, not criticism. - Chair Meador stated this request originated from challenges and departures in the ACE Division, prompting a broader internal review of all processes. Proposed Work Group Membership: - Brian McIntosh (TCC – Committee Member) - Christopher Kroboth (TCC – Committee Member; asked to serve as Work Group Lead) - Ali Akbar – Greene County EMS / PVCC - Devin Kelten – Assistant Program Director, Germanna Community College - Joey Greer – Central Virginia Community College (volunteered) - Michael McDonald – Loudoun County Fire Rescue - Donna Galganski-Pabst – Region 7 (recommended by Matthew Snyder; reportedly has mentored the highest number of ECs statewide) - Megan Middleton – Region 6 (recommended by Christopher Kroboth) - Larry Oliver – Region 3 (Central Shenandoah) - Regions 1 and 5 – Representatives to be identified offline by Chair Meador. Discussion summary: - Matthew Snyder (Non-VCCS): Expressed concern about anxiety level among program directors, comparable in intensity to concerns seen around pharmacy/drug program changes. Fire chiefs and volunteer/combo agencies are worried about potential impacts. Concern appears to have originated in part from statements at the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association meeting.			Christopher Kroboth to email EC Level 1/Level 2 written proposal to Chair Meador and Daniel Linkins. (ASAP) Chair Meador to identify work group representatives for Regions 1 and 5. (ASAP post-meeting). Work group to convene once deliverables document is reviewed and returned T-PAM/Chapter 32 work group to reconvene virtually prior to August 2026

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	R. Jason Ferguson (VCCS): Strongly opposed to any model that eliminates EC requirements entirely. Cited Virginia's strong national standing on National Registry pass rates (above national average for EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic from 2022–2025). Endorsed improving reciprocity pathways for qualified out-of-state educators. Cautioned against benchmarking states solely for convenience; suggested selecting states based on comparable outcomes data. - Dr. Allen Yee (Interim State Medical Director): Identified unacceptable variation in education quality across the Commonwealth as a foundational driver for this review. Medical directors have historically lacked capacity for adequate QA/QI oversight, and the trend toward corporate medical direction (one medical director overseeing dozens of agencies) is worsening this. The independent examiner model for terminal competencies was a preferred solution eliminated due to budget cuts. Noted that medical directors increasingly report doing more damage control after program completion than in the past.. - Larry Oliver (VAGEMSA): Recommended the work group examine data from a prior 9-month statewide QA/QI initiative for EMS education programs. That effort found 85–90% of ECs were performing appropriately; deficiencies clustered around missing student grievance processes and student removal procedures. The initiative was disbanded due to budget cuts but data/reports may exist on OEMS servers. Larry Oliver offered to help locate and provide access to those records.. - Daniel Linkins (OEMS): Clarified the ask is not to eliminate accountability, but to critically examine whether each requirement is still relevant, adds measurable value, and is executed as efficiently as possible. Encouraged benchmarking other states to identify pathways for reducing barriers to qualified out-of-state educators. - Kathy Eubank (VAVRS): Suggested virtual or pre-recorded EC updates as an interim measure to address the information gap and reduce rumors in the field. Offered to assist OEMS in moving EC Institute scheduling forward. Supported benchmarking but emphasized Virginia's process must reflect its unique geography and EMS structure. - Charles Lane, M.D. (Medical Direction Committee – arrived late): Affirmed medical direction concerns regarding education quality variation. Stated that accreditation alone does not guarantee a quality product if programs only “do the paper chase.” The first safeguard should be the program Medical Director, but physician capacity constraints make that difficult statewide.			OEMS to work toward scheduling EC Institute(s) in 2026; explore use of SME contractors and former staff. (Target: June 2026)

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	- Matthew Snyder (follow-up): Raised the dual medical director model question – should larger agencies have separate medical directors for operations vs. education? Charles Lane, M.D. acknowledged the workforce challenge and noted the growing trend of corporate medical direction as a complicating factor EC Institute Scheduling – Follow-up Discussion: - Matthew Snyder noted a specific case of an individual eligible for EC Institute since November 2025 who has been unable to attend due to scheduling gaps, creating coverage risk at their agency. - Kathy Eubank recommended exploring use of subject matter experts (former OEMS staff and experienced ECs) to facilitate EC Institute sessions using the flipped-classroom model from the last Institute, with minimal OEMS staff involvement required. - Larry Oliver echoed this, noting that former OEMS staff who ran previous Institutes are still in the EMS system and may be willing to assist on an interim basis. - Kathy Eubank offered to assist with making the EC Institute scheduling happen and encouraged OEMS to reach out if she could help move things forward - Daniel Linkins confirmed OEMS is actively exploring all options, including the use of contract instructors and former staff, to schedule one or two EC Institutes in 2026. June remains a target but is not confirmed. Chair Meador noted that a draft deliverables/task list and six-month timeline was submitted to Dr. Beermann-Foat, Deputy Director Crittenden, and Daniel Linkins for review. She acknowledged the six-month timeline may not be feasible and is not committed to that timeframe. Chair Meador emphasized that the EC Level 1/Level 2 vote was kept separate from the broader ECI/credentialing review intentionally, to avoid delaying a sound operational improvement			
VII. New Business	B. New Business: ACE Division Open Positions Update – Daniel Linkins – No current plans to eliminate any open positions. Wayne Barry has returned as a contractor to			

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	assist with course processing. Additional contract positions are being identified. Both the Division Director and Program positions will be posted for permanent recruitment. Future division staffing structure is under evaluation. A committee member raised a concern about the lack of proactive communication to agencies and educators when Chris Vernovai departed and when the online ticket system was implemented. Daniel Linkins acknowledged this and confirmed a communication is being drafted pending state government approval.			Charter tabled until July meeting
VIII. Public Comment	B. Public Comment: 1. Dr. Allen Yee – Speaking in his individual capacity as an EMS physician. Commended the committee on the depth of debate. Raised a concern about mixed messaging: the EC Level 1/Level 2 framework was discussed and voted on in the same meeting, while a separate broader work group review was also initiated. Chair Meador acknowledged this and explained her reasoning for keeping the two tracks separate. 2. David Keeler – Tidewater EMS Council (Region 7) – Invited all attendees to the Tidewater EMS Expo, May 12–17, 2026, in downtown Norfolk. 3. Adam Gwynn – Norfolk Fire – Raised concern about mixed messages circulating in Region 7 regarding the state’s position on accredited programs, with some agencies considering pursuing accreditation preemptively. Daniel Linkins responded that no decisions have been made regarding accreditation. Ron Passmore confirmed that accreditation requirements remain in effect under Chapter 31 and will not change until formal regulatory language is amended. Adam Gwynn also suggested OEMS consider surveying all ECs statewide to solicit feedback on what is working and what is not. 4. Audience member (Region 7 area, fire/EMS-based agency) – Raised a practical concern about how the EC Level 1/Level 2 framework will apply to accredited vs. non-accredited programs, noting that non-accredited programs require the EC to be physically present conducting instruction. Requested clarity on succession planning requirements as staff transitions occur. Chair Meador and			N/A

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present	Guests	Online Guests
	Daniel Linkins acknowledged the concern and confirmed these questions fall within the work group's scope.			
IX. Dates for 2026 Meetings	B. Scheduled dates: 5. July 8, 2026 – ODEMSA, 10:30 AM 6. October 7, 2026 – ODEMSA, 10:30 AM Next State EMS Advisory Board Meeting: May 1, 2026, 10:00 AM – Public Safety Training Center, Broadneck Road.			July and October 2026 meetings will be held at ODEMSA (Parham Rd).
X. Adjourn	A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:17 PM..			Motion to adjourn was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Ali Akbar
Guest Note Taker

Attachment B to the July 8, 2026

Training and Certification Committee

Draft Charter

Office of Emergency Medical Services

EMS Advisory Board – Training and Certification Committee Charter

I. Authority

- A. The Training and Certification Committee (TCC) is established under the authority of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), and the Virginia EMS Advisory Board, in accordance with §32.1-111.4 of the Code of Virginia.
- B. The Committee operates in an advisory capacity to the EMS Advisory Board and OEMS and provides recommendations regarding Emergency Medical Services (EMS) education, training standards, certification, and workforce development within the Commonwealth of Virginia.

II. Purpose

- A. The purpose of the Training and Certification Committee is to ensure the development, maintenance, and continuous improvement of high-quality, evidence-based EMS education, training, certification, and recertification standards that support patient safety, provider competency, workforce sustainability, and overall system performance across the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- B. In collaboration with the Medical Direction Committee, OEMS, Regional EMS Councils, educational institutions, and other stakeholders, the Committee shall promote quality educational, operational, and affiliated initiatives related to the advancement and professionalization of EMS throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- C. The Committee shall review and recommend policies, procedures, regulations, standards, and guidelines affecting the training and certification of EMS providers, including educational curricula, continuing education requirements, testing methodologies, accreditation considerations, and quality improvement initiatives.

III. Mission

- A. The mission of the Training and Certification Committee is to promote excellence, consistency, and professional growth in EMS education and certification through collaboration, standardization, evidence-based practices, and continuous quality

improvement aligned with state and national standards.

IV. Scope of Responsibilities

A. The Committee shall advise the EMS Advisory Board and OEMS on matters including, but not limited to:

1. Strategic Objectives

- a. Ensure access to quality EMS training and continuing education through the use of data analysis, evidence-based guidelines, and standardized educational practices.
- b. Promote evidence-based EMS education programs and support advancements in specialty education, technology integration, accreditation readiness, and clinical training access.
- c. Encourage alignment of EMS education standards with allied health professions to support continued professionalization of EMS.
- d. Promote high-quality pediatric, geriatric, behavioral health, and crisis intervention education resources for EMS providers.
- e. Identify and support funding opportunities and initiatives that enhance EMS education, certification access, workforce development, and special projects prioritized by OEMS and the EMS Advisory Board.
- f. Monitor and evaluate educational outcomes, certification success rates, administrative compliance, and barriers affecting EMS students and training programs.
- g. Promote provider health, safety, wellness, and resilience initiatives through EMS education and stakeholder engagement activities.
- h. Encourage the adoption of evidence-based educational and clinical practices that improve patient care and EMS system performance across Virginia.

2. Education and Training Standards

- a. Review and recommend initial and continuing education requirements for EMS providers at all certification levels.
- b. Evaluate curriculum alignment with national standards, evidence-based practices, and evolving clinical guidance.
- c. Support innovative and alternative education delivery models where appropriate.
- d. Promote the use of evidence-based guidelines and compliant educational

and data systems.

- e. Support initiatives that improve integration between EMS educational outcomes, patient care data, and system performance measures.

3. Certification and Recertification

- a. Review certification and recertification processes to ensure fairness, validity, consistency, and accessibility.
- b. Recommend updates to testing, skills verification, and competency assessment methodologies.
- c. Address issues related to certification maintenance, reinstatement, remediation, and continuing competency.
- d. Review certification performance data and recommend strategies to improve student success and provider readiness.

4. Program Approval and Compliance

- a. Advise on standards and policies related to EMS education program approval, monitoring, and compliance.
- b. Review trends and challenges affecting EMS training programs, instructors, and educational coordinators.
- c. Recommend improvements to administrative processes, technology platforms, and instructor compliance measures.

5. Workforce Development

- a. Identify barriers to entry, retention, and advancement within the EMS workforce related to training and certification.
- b. Recommend strategies supporting career pathways, specialty certifications, leadership development, and workforce sustainability.
- c. Support advanced EMS educational opportunities including critical care, community paramedicine/mobile integrated healthcare, tactical EMS, and flight paramedicine.
- d. Encourage collaboration with healthcare systems, colleges, universities, and allied health professions to strengthen EMS professional development.

6. Regulatory and Policy Review

- a. Review proposed legislation, regulations, and policy changes impacting EMS education, certification, and workforce development.
- b. Provide subject-matter expertise and recommendations to OEMS and the EMS Advisory Board upon request.
- c. Recommend updates to policies and procedures that align with state and national EMS standards.

7. Quality Improvement and System Enhancement

- a. Monitor outcomes related to training effectiveness, certification performance, provider readiness, and educational quality.
- b. Recommend continuous quality improvement initiatives tied to education, credentialing systems, and EMS system performance.
- c. Promote initiatives supporting provider wellness, safety, behavioral health awareness, and resiliency.
- d. Encourage data-driven and evidence-based approaches to EMS education and patient care improvement.

V. Membership

A. Composition

- 1. Membership shall be appointed in accordance with EMS Advisory Board procedures of ten (10) members and should reflect broad representation of the EMS system, including but not limited to:
 - a. EMS Education Coordinator representative
 - b. EMS for Children representative
 - c. Certified EMS providers (EMT, AEMT, Paramedic)
 - d. EMS Agency Leadership (career and volunteer)
 - e. EMS Medical Direction representation
 - f. Regional EMS Council representative
 - g. Higher education or allied health representative
 - h. VAGEMSA representative
 - i. Fire-Based Organization representative
 - j. OEMS staff (liaison)

B. Terms

- a. Members shall serve terms as established by the EMS Advisory Board and may be reappointed in accordance with Board policy.

C. Attendance

- a. Members are expected to attend and actively participate in scheduled meetings and workgroup activities.
- b. Members who are unable to attend meetings regularly may be subject to review and replacement in accordance with EMS Advisory Board procedures.

VI. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Chair

1. Presides over meetings and maintains order.
2. Develop agendas in coordination with OEMS staff.
3. Ensure committee work aligns with established goals, objective, and priorities.
4. Serves as liaison to the EMS Advisory Board.
5. Appoints workgroups and workgroup leads, as necessary.

B. Vice Chair

1. Assists the Chair and assumes duties in their absence.
2. Serves as the Recording Secretary; prepares and maintains meeting minutes.
3. Coordinates distribution of records following Chair approval.

C. Members

1. Attend and actively participate in meetings.
2. Review materials and provide subject matter expertise.
3. Serve on workgroups as assigned.
4. Support collaborative and professional committee operations.

D. OEMS Staff

1. Provide administrative, technical, and regulatory support.
2. Ensure alignment with state laws, regulations, and policies.
3. Maintain official records in accordance with VDH requirements.
4. Provide data, reports, and subject matter expertise as appropriate.

VII. Committee Procedures

A. Meetings

1. The committee shall meet at least quarterly.
2. Additional meetings may be convened at the discretion of the Chair or OEMS.
3. Meetings may be conducted in person or virtually in accordance with applicable open meeting laws.

B. Quorum

1. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of appointed voting members.
2. Virtual attendance does not count towards the quorum.

3. No official business or votes shall be conducted without a quorum.

C. Voting

1. Actions shall be determined by a majority vote of members present.
2. Proxy voting shall not be permitted. Only members physically present at a meeting may cast a vote.
3. The Chair may vote in accordance with EMS Advisory Board procedures.

D. Parliamentary Authority

1. Committee members shall generally be conducted on accordance with the current addition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, unless otherwise provided by law policy, or this Chater.

E. Workgroups

1. The Committee may establish workgroups, as necessary.
2. Workgroups shall report findings and recommendations to the full Committee.
3. Workgroups shall not independently act on behalf of the Committee unless specifically authorized.

D. Records and Documentation

1. Meeting notices, agendas, and minutes shall be maintained in accordance with VDH policies and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
2. Records shall be retained in accordance with the Commonwealth's records retention schedules.

VIII. Reporting and Deliverables

A. The Committee shall:

1. Provide regular updates and recommendations to the EMS Advisory Board.
2. Submit written reports, findings, and proposed actions as requested.
3. Maintain documentation supporting committee activities and decisions.
4. Support OEMS strategic initiatives related to EMS education, training, certification, and workforce development.

IX. Authority and Limitations

A. The Committee:

1. Serves in an advisory capacity only.
2. Shall not exercise regulatory authority or independently issue certifications or credentials.
3. Shall not act independently of OEMS or the EMS Advisory Board.

B. Final authority for EMS regulations, certification requirements, and program administration rests with OEMS and the State Board of Health.

X. Charter Review and Amendments

A. This Charter shall be reviewed at least every two (2) years or as directed by OEMS or the EMS Advisory Board.

B. Amendments may be proposed by any Committee member.

C. Revisions require a majority vote of the Committee and approval by the EMS Advisory Board.

XI. Effective Date

- A. This Charter shall become effective upon approval by the EMS Advisory Board Executive Committee and shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Melissa G. Meador, Chair
Training and Certification Committee

Dr. Paula Ferrada, Chair
State EMS Advisory
Board