

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

IN RE: RETREAT, DAY TWO  
HEARD BEFORE: RYAN S. STARK, ESQ.  
RETREAT FACILITATOR

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

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1 (The EMS Advisory Board Retreat discussions  
2 commenced at 9:00 a.m.)  
3

4 MR. STARK: Good morning. We're  
5 going to go around the room, just a quick  
6 roll call so we can get on the record here.  
7 And then we'll -- we're going to get down to  
8 work right away. Let's start with you.  
9

10 DR. YEE: Allen Yee, VACEP.  
11

12 DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle, American  
13 Academy of Pediatrics.  
14

15 MS. CHANDLER: Dreama Chandler,  
16 VAVRS.  
17

18 MR. DILLARD: Kevin Dillard,  
19 Virginia Ambulance Association.  
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21 MR. BOLLING: John Bolling,  
22 Southwest Virginia EMS Council.  
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24 MR. TANNER: Gary Tanner, VACO.  
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1 DR. O'SHEA: Jake O'Shea, VHHA.

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3 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Tom

4 Schwalenberg, Tidewater EMS.

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6 MS. MARSDEN: Julia Marsden,

7 consumer.

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9 MS. ADAMS: Beth Adams, Northern

10 Virginia EMS Council.

11  
12 MR. HENSCHTEL: Jon Henschel, Lord

13 Fairfax.

14  
15 MR. PARKER: Chris Parker, Virginia

16 ENA, Virginia ANA, Chair.

17  
18 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Jason

19 Ferguson, BREMS.

20  
21 MS. QUICK: Valerie Quick, TJEMS.

22  
23 MR. LAWLER: Matt Lawler, Central

24 Shenandoah EMS Council.

1 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Eddie  
2 Ferguson, Virginia State Fire Fighters  
3 Association.

4  
5 MR. SAMUELS: Gary Samuels, VPF. F.

6  
7 MS. DANIELS: Valeta Daniels,  
8 Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue  
9 Squads.

10  
11 MR. STARK: All right. Last night,  
12 was looking through some of the minutes.  
13 And you know, the -- particularly looking  
14 for where -- what initiated this retreat,  
15 you know, what we wanted to talk about.

16 I looked back and I saw  
17 minutes from the Executive Committee for  
18 May. Some of the main issues are  
19 composition of the Board -- current  
20 composition of the Board, 28 members.

21 And whether or not that is  
22 unwieldy. Number two, the committees,  
23 whether or not there's duplication. And  
24 number three, there were issues with the  
25 bylaws. And we can discuss bylaw stuff in

1 general if we need to. And Chris and I  
2 talked a little bit this morning about --  
3 talked about high level issues with the  
4 bylaws.

5 So we can tackle that, but  
6 we're not going to sit through and, you  
7 know, go through bylaw revisions this  
8 morning. But let's just get down to work  
9 right away.

10 And to be quite frank, you  
11 know, we're going to get into some issues  
12 that probably, you know, are going to be a  
13 little bit contentious when we talk about  
14 composition of the Board.

15 You know, who's on, who's not.  
16 You know, and what purpose they serve. But  
17 that's the job of this Advisory Board is to  
18 get into those issues. So I urge you to be  
19 as candid as possible.

20 Think what you want to get out  
21 of this. This is your day. Actually, I ran  
22 into Valerie this morning and we talked  
23 about this in particular. And I just said,  
24 hey, do you have any ideas on any of these  
25 issues? And she said, yeah, I might have



1 some ideas. And I said, perfect, Valerie.  
2 I am going to put you on the spot. Valerie,  
3 I'm going to open the floor to you. And  
4 let's kick off.

5  
6 MS. QUICK: Yeah, I mean, I -- I  
7 think that when -- when we started  
8 discussing as a whole -- I mean, I think  
9 that the bylaws definitely need to be looked  
10 at.

11 But the bylaws can certainly  
12 be done committee-based. I think that the  
13 two big issues that we're there to take  
14 over, certainly, the -- the committees and  
15 maybe restructuring them so that we could  
16 not be duplicating work.

17 And looking at the composition  
18 of the Board. And really trying to decide  
19 whether that Board -- I think our Board is  
20 pretty large.

21 And sometimes a large board  
22 doesn't yield to having meaningful  
23 conversations and work that's the resulted  
24 that. I think that that's where our  
25 committee structure is -- is really going to

1 be very powerful. So I think looking into  
2 those two things needs to be addressed here.

3  
4 MR. STARK: Any thoughts, Valerie?

5  
6 MS. QUICK: Enough.

7  
8 MR. STARK: Let's -- let's go with  
9 it.

10  
11 MS. QUICK: You know, the -- the  
12 thing -- if I was just to look first at the  
13 -- the committee structures, I -- I  
14 definitely think that there's a little bit  
15 of duplication.

16 If we were going to be honest  
17 about how we see ourselves in the future --  
18 if we were to go back to sort of that  
19 paradigm of public safety, public health and  
20 patient care, what would be best to  
21 accomplish those goals?

22 What would be like in our  
23 future for that? I think that for the  
24 trauma group, the way that that was  
25 structured in -- in some ways is quite

1 brilliant because it does incorporate quite  
2 a few aspects of -- of patient care for our  
3 system. However, it's limited at this point  
4 to trauma. And I think that it's important  
5 for us to look at some of those other areas.

6 If I'm going to look at acute  
7 care, I should look at acute care as it  
8 relates to trauma, stroke, STEMI,  
9 pediatrics, you know, sort of the whole  
10 gamut fits in there, as well as post --  
11 post-rehab and -- and certainly, the  
12 pre-hospital aspects of it.

13 So I think that those things  
14 need to be incorporated into that kind of  
15 schedule, rather than having two completely  
16 separate committee structures that -- that  
17 are there.

18 And then if you look at, you  
19 know, some of the other things like the --  
20 we have sort of already mentioned this, the  
21 -- the Health and Safety and the Workforce.

22 I can think of all of that as  
23 being Workforce Support and Services. And  
24 in some ways, training, too. I mean, that  
25 all kind of encompasses the -- the larger

1 committee structure. I'm wondering if --  
2 and having been to all three of those  
3 meetings, we say a lot of the same things in  
4 each of those meetings.

5 We talk about like Workforce  
6 and what kind of training we need to go for  
7 our workforce. What -- if you know, if  
8 initiating new initiatives like the EMS  
9 officer -- which is training days.

10 Which, of course, would  
11 incorporate our -- our training group. So I  
12 think that we're not necessarily bringing  
13 things together as we probably should.

14 So those three committees, in  
15 some ways, are doing separate work and not  
16 coming together in a fruitful manner. I  
17 think they need to -- to look at sort of  
18 merging.

19  
20 MR. STARK: What were those three  
21 things again?

22  
23 MS. QUICK: Well, it's really  
24 everything under -- what's the heading?  
25

1 MR. STARK: Professional  
2 Development.

3  
4 MS. QUICK: Professional  
5 Development.

6  
7 MR. STARK: Okay.

8  
9 MS. QUICK: And Professional  
10 Development is making sure that we train our  
11 providers, that we keep them safe. That we  
12 provide different avenues for them to grow  
13 and to become successful within -- as a  
14 patient care provider, but also as an  
15 administrator, as a trainer.

16  
17 MR. STARK: Thoughts? Chris.

18  
19 MR. PARKER: I kind of -- I think  
20 Valerie kind of hit on some of the  
21 discussion with those committees, but we  
22 also need to look at, is this the time that  
23 we throw that out and re-group and look at  
24 committee versus subcommittees. Because we  
25 clearly don't have actual subcommittees.

1 Our bylaws allow for that, but we don't have  
2 actual subcommittees. And then there are  
3 work groups that some committees have, like  
4 the TCC has work groups where they work on a  
5 project.

6 That's got a sunset aspect  
7 once that project is finished. So when you  
8 look at this, maybe now is the time that we  
9 kind of look at all of these and say, hey,  
10 is this something with -- I'll give you an  
11 example, under Transportation.

12 Do you make that the -- the  
13 big committee? And then you put something  
14 like air and ground under it as a  
15 subcommittee.

16 That way, you're having  
17 different things funneled up to where they  
18 should be versus sporadically out.

19  
20 MR. STARK: Other thoughts?

21 Dr. Yee?

22  
23 DR. YEE: Me. This is Doberman who  
24 gets that.

1 MR. STARK: Yes, sir.

2  
3 MR. LAWLER: So a lot of -- Matt  
4 Lawler. A lot of the duplication that's  
5 been discussed falls under the major  
6 headings, Administrative, Infrastructure,  
7 Patient Care, Professional Development and  
8 then Trauma System.

9 But you could go system, so  
10 unless you have -- take those major headings  
11 and make those the committees lump  
12 everything under that -- under that work and  
13 make that the work of that committee.

14 And then if you hit a point  
15 where there's a -- a hot button issue going  
16 on and you need to have a smaller or a  
17 subcommittee or focus group work on that,  
18 you can throw an ad hoc committee together  
19 to do the work and report back to the -- the  
20 big committee.

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: I agree with that.

23  
24 MR. STARK: So you're referring  
25 specifically to the bylaws here, where we

1 list, you know, under administrative, rules  
2 and regs, Legislative and Planning,  
3 Infrastructure, Transportation,  
4 Communication, Emergency Management. Other  
5 thoughts on that? Yeah.

6  
7 DR. YEE: There's some overlap  
8 between what we have in the trauma  
9 coordinator and then the patient care.  
10 Right now, it's relatively clean, you know,  
11 because trauma's dealing with really  
12 everything from the emergency department  
13 door and -- to rehab.

14 Right? They really deal --  
15 with exception of that Pre-Hospital Care  
16 Committee. Now that we throw in -- patient  
17 care would -- does that include the -- the  
18 acute care stuff now?

19  
20 MR. LAWLER: Matt Lawler. I think  
21 if you pull that out, then you just throw  
22 that, you know, under the patient care,  
23 along with Medical Direction, Medevac and  
24 all that. And maybe the trauma system just  
25 becomes a[n] EMS systems committee and



1 addresses all of the other components of the  
2 EMS system. It doesn't need -- before, you  
3 know, each of the subcomponents -- rehab,  
4 prevention, all that -- doesn't need the  
5 full attention of a committee.

6 But collectively, you know,  
7 they can work together. Now that would --  
8 that would be a super, super diverse group  
9 of people that you try to pull together to  
10 do that work. That might be a challenge.

11  
12 MS. ADAMS: Beth Adams, Northern  
13 Virginia. I'd move Medevac into  
14 Transportation.

15  
16 MS. QUICK: I would -- I would, but  
17 I -- I think that -- Medevac, although it is  
18 a transportation modality, really what we're  
19 getting at, in essence, there is also  
20 critical care.

21 Which I think we're going to  
22 be broadening out and defining a little bit  
23 better throughout our state. So critical  
24 care not limited to the fact that they could  
25 be at a helicopter. But critical care --

1 it's badly needed as a ground transportation  
2 modality. And probably needs to be looked  
3 at a little bit more.

4 So I -- I would -- you could  
5 put transportation -- and Transportation  
6 incorporate all aspects of transportation,  
7 including the Medevac.

8 But critical care itself needs  
9 to, I think, be brought in sort of  
10 separately. So more under the Acute Care  
11 Committee.

12  
13 MS. ADAMS: But wouldn't patient --  
14 critical care be part of the patient's care  
15 clump?

16  
17 MS. QUICK: Yeah.

18  
19 MS. ADAMS: Yeah.

20  
21 DR. YEE: That's what we've done.  
22 We've incorporate -- right now, it's working  
23 -- Medical Control's working on it.

24  
25 MS. ADAMS: Uh-huh.

1 DR. YEE: I think we're getting  
2 close to finishing up that work.

3  
4 MS. ADAMS: Then that's the logical  
5 place for it.

6  
7 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Eddie  
8 Ferguson, Virginia State Fire Fighters  
9 Association. Certainly Medical Control,  
10 Medical Direction needs to -- needs to be a  
11 trauma committee.

12 I'm a person that believes  
13 that's a huge part of what we do. And I  
14 hope we use that on -- if we value that in  
15 any way, fine. We won't advise them. I  
16 don't know where it could go, but --

17  
18 BOARD MEMBER: [inaudible].

19  
20 DR. O'SHEA: So that -- Jake  
21 O'Shea. For those who are -- I mean, when  
22 we talked about the concept of rolling  
23 trauma into an acute -- trauma into a  
24 patient care committee overall and bringing  
25 in stroke and STEMI. You know, the way the

1 trauma team looks at trauma care is fairly  
2 prescribed. And it's really more about  
3 looking at -- does, you know, do we have the  
4 criteria in place to provide trauma care?

5 Is that the same concept  
6 people are thinking for stroke and STEMI?  
7 And then, how does that overlap with other  
8 certifying bodies that exist?

9 You know, Joint Commission,  
10 DMV, some of the other groups that -- that  
11 independently certify for -- for stroke or  
12 STEMI care.

13  
14 MS. QUICK: Well -- Valerie Quick.  
15 I'd certainly like to bring out -- I -- I  
16 used to be the EMS liaison for UVa. And  
17 there is a substantial component now in all  
18 of those accrediting bodies that requires a  
19 certain amount of EMS interaction.

20 So if you were to look at the  
21 stroke -- stroke designations, they have to  
22 do a certain amount of interaction with  
23 protocols, education, feedback and  
24 integration. So I think that that needs  
25 them and us to work together on this type of

1 committee so that -- so that we can improve  
2 overall stroke care. And then meet some of  
3 those -- those checked boxes for them. I  
4 think it's not as robust as the trauma  
5 system.

6 And I think that have -- if  
7 Dr. Aboutanos was here, I'm sure that he  
8 would certainly advocate that that -- that  
9 that detail and that structure probably  
10 still needs to exist in some sort of  
11 fashion.

12 But I think that those other  
13 entities like our -- our stroke and our  
14 rehab and infection control -- there is all  
15 sorts of other areas that we need to also  
16 make sure that we're paying attention to and  
17 we're meeting their needs.

18 Because their needs, every  
19 year, seems to increase as far as their  
20 interaction with EMS goes. So I think we  
21 need to acknowledge that and bring them into  
22 the loop. And it may be that we can't get  
23 rid of the trauma committee altogether  
24 because I -- I think that that is -- and  
25 well, perspective is right. But certainly

1 having them represented on a general acute  
2 committee that would actually encompass all  
3 of those entities, I think, would be  
4 fruitful.

5  
6 MR. STARK: Other thoughts?

7  
8 MR. HENSCHER: Jon Henschel, Lord  
9 Fairfax. I can speak on my little piece of  
10 the pie, which is as administrative  
11 coordinator. I'm going to -- I also chair  
12 the Rules and Regs, and sit in on the L&P.

13 And I can tell you, those  
14 meetings virtually mirror each other with  
15 information. I tend to feel like the Rules  
16 and Regs are -- are guidelines because  
17 that's what we either -- you know, we adhere  
18 to that.

19 And that's what provides us  
20 with what we can do and what we can't do in  
21 the grand scheme of EMS. And L&P should be  
22 a -- a subset of that committee for that --  
23 that function, whether anything is on the  
24 horizon, anything that is being put through  
25 legislation is then shared if it's going

1 impact what we're doing from a regulatory  
2 standpoint with OEMS. But I can tell you,  
3 those -- those meetings virtually mirror  
4 each other. So that, to me, is duplicating.

5  
6 MR. STARK: Okay.

7  
8 MS. QUICK: I actually think of  
9 that as an overall -- sort of an  
10 administrative committee that actually does  
11 work in legislative, but also financial.

12 So as a subset of that, too,  
13 you know, work group being the Financial  
14 Committee because that all incorporates the  
15 administrative part of what we do.

16  
17 BOARD MEMBER: Sure. And I'm fine  
18 with the suggestion Matt made from the  
19 administrative. If that were to be an  
20 administrative committee and then have those  
21 all underneath of it.

22  
23 MR. STARK: Okay. Where else do we  
24 see areas of duplication? And how do we  
25 remedy -- how do we remedy the lack of

1 communication? I think that that was  
2 expressed yesterday. How do we remedy the  
3 fact that we're not sharing information  
4 among, you know, the different committees?

5 You know, proper information  
6 isn't being disseminated to the extent that  
7 there is a bit of overlap and bleed-over  
8 into other committees. How do we remedy  
9 that? Yes.

10  
11 MS. MARSDEN: Julia Marsden,  
12 consumer. My question would be, how do we  
13 currently do it so that we can then find out  
14 how we should be doing it?

15  
16 MR. STARK: That's a good question.

17  
18 MR. DILLARD: Kevin Dillard,  
19 Virginia Ambulance Association. I think we  
20 need to do a better job educating the  
21 committee chairs on what information we want  
22 them to report and not report. Because most  
23 of us do a little bit differently. Some  
24 people, as we talked yesterday at the Board  
25 meeting, some will say no action items and



1 they don't report on anything else. And as  
2 you pointed out, there's a lot of work being  
3 done. So how much information does the  
4 Board want to hear?

5 Because I would -- I would  
6 argue that most of the committees are -- are  
7 doing a lot of work behind the scenes. And  
8 we're happy to present that at the Board  
9 meetings if the people want to hear that.

10 So we just need to have a  
11 little bit of a guideline on what should the  
12 committee chairs be reporting, other than  
13 action items. I think that would help a  
14 lot.

15  
16 DR. YEE: So Allen Yee, VACEP. For  
17 -- for Medical Control, what we've done in  
18 the past is we've embedded a member of the  
19 other committees with us.

20 So we had EMS-C, we had  
21 the trauma committees inside Medical  
22 Control. And they were reporting out. It  
23 didn't work so well, quite honestly, because  
24 they never showed up. Some of these -- some  
25 of these folks never showed up. So we're --

1 we're -- this -- our last meeting, we  
2 actually went back to our original thing  
3 was, you know, regional medical director and  
4 medical director at large.

5 So then it becomes the chair's  
6 responsibility to make sure we touch base  
7 with the other chairs.

8  
9 MR. STARK: Yes.

10  
11 DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle, Academy of  
12 Pediatrics. I came in -- I started with  
13 this, one of the ideas I had was sort of  
14 like Allen saying, put a pediatric  
15 representative on the various boards to, you  
16 know, help make sure pediatrics is seen and  
17 represented.

18 Now a lot of this stuff that's  
19 being done, it's good to have the pediatric  
20 side. From what I've learned, it's good to  
21 have a pediatric side of it.

22 But I think there's -- if  
23 we're going to go back and look at who's  
24 selecting who for what committees and  
25 various committee have a pediatric

1 representative on. That might be something  
2 that could be looked at for some downsizing.  
3 Does everyone have to be on every board and  
4 then every committee?

5  
6 BOARD MEMBER: I don't know if  
7 there's -- I mean, that's a good question.  
8 It's nice to be represented. And there's a  
9 point of, you know, it's not really going to  
10 help.

11 So I mean, is there -- a way  
12 of combining some of these committees or  
13 should -- or just hear it when they meet  
14 maybe to pass on information. That might be  
15 part of the problem with communications  
16 between the committees.

17  
18 MS. ADAMS: Beth --

19  
20 MR. STARK: Yes.

21  
22 MS. ADAMS: Beth Adams, Northern  
23 Virginia. It came to light yesterday  
24 afternoon that, in fact, those minutes that  
25 we were all looking for on the Office of EMS

1 committee web site had, in fact, been posted  
2 to the official town -- Virginia Townhall  
3 forum. Because that's what the General  
4 Assembly had directed Commonwealth agencies  
5 to do.

6 So either, to my mind -- first  
7 of all, I didn't know there was a Virginia  
8 Townhall thing. I thought that was just  
9 something you did at my office when people  
10 were trying to avoid making decisions.

11 We'll have a townhall and get  
12 everybody's opinion. And then we'll do what  
13 we all think is best. Which is lovely, but  
14 I think that if we're going to make sure  
15 that our constituents are aware of what's  
16 going on.

17 Because there may very well be  
18 people in Northern Virginia who are hugely  
19 interested in some topic that hasn't risen  
20 to my radar yet.

21 And I don't know that I should  
22 be reporting back on that. But if they know  
23 where to look, they can follow up on it. So  
24 if we could have some kind of parallel  
25 posting so that it goes up, meets the

1 expectations of, you know, the legislature  
2 and then, also puts it in place where EMS  
3 folks would be inclined to look, that would  
4 be, A, helpful.

5 B, I think with regard to  
6 reporting back, it would be helpful to say  
7 we have no action items, but the following  
8 informational items have been posted to the  
9 web site.

10 So that -- because to say no  
11 action, it's like geez. Nothing's going on,  
12 when that, in fact, nothing's ready for  
13 prime time is a whole different matter.

14 And I think we need to make  
15 sure that people get credit for the work  
16 they're doing in a way that reflects what --  
17 how that fits together into the grand scheme  
18 of things.

19  
20 MR. STARK: Yeah. I think we  
21 talked about, you know, what's the easiest  
22 mechanism. Yes, Dr. Yee.

23  
24 DR. YEE: So, Allen Yee. I get --  
25 I want to give kudos to staff. So EMS --

1           also EMS staff, you know, at least in  
2           Medical Control. They update us on the  
3           activities on the permanent committees. You  
4           know, because there is -- there are staff  
5           members in the audience.

6                         And they'll give the updates.  
7           So they've done a great job. They --  
8           another thing that we can do as chairs is,  
9           quite honestly, do a better job of posting a  
10          better report on the -- the quarterly  
11          report.

12  
13                         BOARD MEMBER: Staff puts the  
14          quarterly report.

15  
16                         DR. YEE: Yeah. I don't ever -- I  
17          don't review it before it goes -- you know.

18  
19                         MR. STARK: Yes.

20  
21                         MS. CHANDLER: Dreama Chandler,  
22          VAVRS. One thing we might need to do is  
23          have the committee chairs look at the  
24          composition of the committees. Because if  
25          you look at the list, each one says you have

1 to have a person from this organization,  
2 this organization, this organization. Have  
3 them look at it and see are these people the  
4 ones that are -- that we need on this  
5 committee.

6 As Dr. Bartle said, trying to  
7 have pediatrics on every committee, some --  
8 absolutely, some doesn't necessarily make  
9 sense. But it's -- it's a requirement of  
10 that committee composition.

11 These are the people you have  
12 to have. So maybe look at the -- have the  
13 committee chairs, whatever, look at the  
14 composition of their committees. Are these  
15 people really useful or helpful, or is there  
16 someone else that --

17  
18 MR. PARKER: And I'll add to that.

19  
20 MS. CHANDLER: -- they could do  
21 that.

22  
23 MR. PARKER: With -- with some of  
24 the committees, if there's been folks that  
25 haven't been meeting, maybe it's time to not

1 just they get replaced, but maybe their  
2 organization gets replaced.

3  
4 MS. CHANDLER: Yeah.

5  
6 MR. PARKER: Because we've had  
7 some, in the past, where we'll go for  
8 several meetings and they don't -- they're  
9 not being represented. Maybe it's time to  
10 seek out something else.

11  
12 BOARD MEMBER: And there's people  
13 that's on committees just simply because the  
14 organization said we have to have someone on  
15 this committee, so hey, you're it. They're  
16 not really engaged.

17  
18 MR. PARKER: Right.

19  
20 BOARD MEMBER: They're not there  
21 because they want to be.

22  
23 MR. STARK: Yes.

24  
25 DR. YEE: Is it possible for us to



1 have a chair's meeting, then? A meeting of  
2 the chairs that's before or mid-cycle of the  
3 GAB? So we can do a better job of  
4 coordinating our activities?

5  
6 MR. PARKER: You're talking about  
7 the -- the coordinators?

8  
9 DR. YEE: No, the actual chairs of  
10 the committees.

11  
12 BOARD MEMBER: A committee chair  
13 meeting.

14  
15 BOARD MEMBER: It's a good idea. I  
16 mean, keep it very brief and just, you know,  
17 this is what we're doing. This is what we  
18 need from every -- like the chair or --  
19 this is the idea that we need help with.

20  
21 MR. PARKER: Yeah, that's a good  
22 idea.

23  
24 MR. STARK: What about at  
25 Symposium? Seems like that's a central

1 meeting spot. Oh, you guys have a lot of  
2 other stuff, but --

3  
4 DR. YEE: That's the closest. My  
5 -- my suggestion for the meeting of the  
6 chairs only works -- will work if the chairs  
7 are not GAB members, right? Because if they  
8 were all GAB members, then we -- we're done.

9  
10 MR. PARKER: That's kind of --  
11 that's kind of what I'm sitting here  
12 thinking. And in the bylaws it states that  
13 each committee has to be chaired by a --

14  
15 DR. YEE: Exactly.

16  
17 MR. PARKER: -- Board member. So  
18 we're meeting -- so we're meeting for the  
19 GAB, then we're meeting before the GAB. So  
20 that's four more meetings a year.

21 If your Executive Committee's  
22 meeting in tandem with the GAB, then that's  
23 four more meetings that the coordinators  
24 have to be at. So you'll get a lot of  
25 redundancy and we're trying to slim down on

1 the redundancy.

2  
3 DR. BARTLE: But I think -- Sam  
4 Bartle. It might not be -- not -- so much  
5 more formal, but to say -- sort of like  
6 we're doing now. It's informal. Okay, we  
7 want -- this committee's doing 'x'.

8 And make it not as starchy.  
9 We want to have everyone's input. We  
10 working on this project, but we think -- how  
11 can you help? What can -- do we need to  
12 help you? Can't really do that at a formal  
13 GAB meeting. Does that make sense?

14  
15 MR. STARK: I think Dr. O'Shea was  
16 up.

17  
18 DR. O'SHEA: Jake O'Shea. And I  
19 might channel Dr. Yee's devil's advocate  
20 here. What would happen if we had not  
21 committees at all? You stream -- you  
22 streamline the GAB. And the GAB did the  
23 work, the Board did the work. And -- and  
24 again, this is the devil's advocate. But  
25 what -- just if we think of it a little

1           differently, what would happen then?

2  
3                   BOARD MEMBER:   Nothing.

4  
5                   MS. ADAMS:   Beth Adams, to second  
6           that.  So the GAB would do the work by -- by  
7           developing a work group or a task force to  
8           deal with specific projects.  Is that the  
9           direction you're thinking?

10  
11                   DR. O'SHEA:  I think so.  I mean,  
12           one of the things I sometimes wonder when  
13           you look at an organization as -- as large  
14           as this where there's the comprehensive  
15           structure that has been created.

16                   It's -- are we just filling in  
17           the structure because the structure exists  
18           or does this structure serve -- still serve  
19           the purpose for which it was originally  
20           created?

21                   What would happen if we just  
22           said, let's get rid of all the committees  
23           and then develop them as the work becomes  
24           identified.  And again, I realize this is a  
25           very extreme position.  But I think it's

1           worth asking, at least going through the  
2           thought experiment of it.

3  
4           DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle. EMS-C is  
5           a separate group already. It's a federal-  
6           funded program in the State. So we're sort  
7           of the adopted stepchild here in some ways.  
8           So we can't -- we'll -- the way you want.

9                        We have the stuff that --  
10           ideas and everything that you'd like to  
11           share with us. But you know, at least we're  
12           up. With my group, actually, you can't do  
13           that.

14  
15           MR. STARK: Eddie.

16  
17           MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Eddie  
18           Ferguson. That's a good question. And I  
19           think you brought up something in my mind  
20           that I hadn't thought of.

21                        So I appreciate you asking. I  
22           think if the committees were not present, I  
23           think the Office of EMS lose a lot of  
24           interaction, possibly advice and maybe -- I  
25           don't want to say direction, but in come

1 cases, medical direction is direction. So I  
2 don't know what they think, but I believe  
3 that they rely on those committees to  
4 provide some insight into certain -- time to  
5 explore that we share at the GAB meetings.

6 And what's to keep us from  
7 dedicated time at the GAB meeting to have  
8 this discussion on that lower level? That  
9 meeting is so polished that it -- it doesn't  
10 get anything accomplished.

11 The Board's not, obviously,  
12 serving that purpose, either. So let's  
13 dedicate time and make it known that we're  
14 going to have a frank discussion. Let's  
15 share information.

16 And we -- Chris, you do a  
17 great job chairing the meeting and people  
18 report out. And I think it's so polished  
19 that sometimes it's like things are already  
20 decided when it's there. But that's --

21  
22 MR. PARKER: A lot of time it feels  
23 like -- yeah, you're right. A lot of times  
24 it feels like how quick can we get it done.  
25

1 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Yeah, right.  
2 We need to slow down at one of these  
3 meetings and, like you said. Let's see  
4 where it goes.

5  
6 MR. STARK: Jason.

7  
8 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Jason  
9 Ferguson. So I -- I mean, I agree 100% with  
10 you. And I think that that's a -- that's a  
11 kind of a different take on -- on what we're  
12 talking about.

13 But I can tell you from TCC,  
14 we've done a lot of work and we've had  
15 multiple work groups. And just selecting  
16 the -- the individuals to be on those work  
17 groups, that -- that becomes a daunting task  
18 for the Office I know.

19 And then -- and then trying  
20 to, you know, fairly distribute -- get a  
21 diverse group of folks that can have a  
22 voice. And then there's always going to be,  
23 well, this area was left out or this  
24 individual was left out, that kind of  
25 mindset. So I think we open ourselves up to

1 that. But again, like you were saying, I  
2 think -- you know, just kind of  
3 consolidating some of what we have,  
4 restructure it a little bit maybe to what  
5 may meet our needs in the future.

6 And then using our time when  
7 we need, as an advisory board, to kind of  
8 really, you know, dig in and -- and just do  
9 the things.

10  
11 BOARD MEMBER: Medevac has tackled  
12 some huge projects and made great strides.  
13 And they should sit at the table as well.

14  
15 MR. HARRELL: Yeah. Let me -- let  
16 me pose something from -- from your  
17 discussions yesterday. What if we were to  
18 increase the technology offerings around  
19 some of what you're asking for?

20 You're say -- for example, it  
21 was a note yesterday that there's some  
22 discrepancy between what's being posted on  
23 Townhall versus documents and minutes and --  
24 and rosters and so forth, versus what's on  
25 the web site. We can help with that with



1 some internal adjustments and procedure. So  
2 instead of us trying to keep two full  
3 repositories besides that which GAB going  
4 up.

5 The General Assembly  
6 requirements, as well as trying to post it  
7 again in another place, we can link to the  
8 mandated requirements so that you have a  
9 normal table of contents.

10 That's one area where we can  
11 adjust this. Another would be the idea that  
12 you brought up of being able to give  
13 intermediate reports without having to have  
14 a meeting or bring people together.

15 What if we provide the chairs  
16 of committees a blog structure that each of  
17 you could update as you have a meeting. And  
18 it becomes a system -- where it's open to  
19 the public, it's open to all the Board  
20 members.

21 But now you have intermediate  
22 meetings in between Advisory Board meetings  
23 to be able to provide updates to other  
24 committees. You could -- you know, there  
25 are a bunch of things we could do

1           technologically to where you can tag it. If  
2           you feel it's an interest of one of the  
3           other standing committees, you could tag  
4           that committee in that blog and say, hey,  
5           somebody needs to look at this.

6                           And you know, it may be of  
7           interest to this group or that group. Those  
8           are just things to think about. But I mean,  
9           those are areas where we could, you know,  
10          provide you additional means to get  
11          information out there to each other.

12  
13                           MR. STARK: Beth.

14  
15                           MS. ADAMS: Question about process.  
16          Am I right in thinking that anti -- any  
17          subcommittee or work group of this body is  
18          required to meet the public meeting's  
19          requirements of the Commonwealth?

20  
21                           MR. HARRELL: Yes.

22  
23                           MS. ADAMS: So whatever we come up  
24          with -- so do blogs meet that --  
25

1 BOARD MEMBER: He just said he was  
2 going to close it so only --

3  
4 MR. HARRELL: Well, I mean, we  
5 could -- we could make it public. It's not  
6 that -- you're not conducting a meeting.

7  
8 MS. ADAMS: Right.

9  
10 MR. HARRELL: You're providing an  
11 update. You're providing -- it's a live  
12 view of committees.

13  
14 MS. ADAMS: Right, but there would  
15 -- but there would still be the obligatory  
16 openness to the meeting that preceded the  
17 blog, which seems --

18  
19 MR. HARRELL: Correct.

20  
21 MS. ADAMS: -- redundant, yet  
22 again. It's just cooler.

23  
24 MR. HARRELL: Just trying to find a  
25 way to -- you're talking about

1 communication. Advising us to --

2  
3 MS. ADAMS: Right.

4  
5 MR. HARRELL: -- communicate.

6  
7 MS. ADAMS: Right.

8  
9 MR. HARRELL: And effectively  
10 communicate. This is just providing you an  
11 another option should it be something you  
12 all choose to view.

13  
14 MR. STARK: Yes.

15  
16 BOARD MEMBER: So a couple of  
17 things. Number one, I -- I don't go to web  
18 sites just to -- to go to web sites. I'm --  
19 I'm not a cool computer person.

20 I have email all the time that  
21 would -- they want to make. But I feel like  
22 -- and I'm not trying to wage war with the  
23 Office of EMS. But if it's something huge  
24 going on or something that doesn't -- others  
25 providing time in the day, or there's

1 something y'all could push out. Like hey,  
2 you know, look at this update and link it so  
3 I can just hit my button and it goes there.

4 I think that people would be  
5 more informed and it doesn't add any -- I  
6 mean, I'll be the first to say, I don't go  
7 to your web site, you know, unless there's a  
8 reason for me to do that. So number one.

9 Number two, why don't we start  
10 with the subcommittees about doing kind of a  
11 roll call. Because like Chris was saying,  
12 there's people that are on that list that  
13 don't show up to any of the meetings or  
14 maybe one meeting out of four.

15 And then cut those positions  
16 and that would start the downsizing of the  
17 committee without hurting anybody's feelings  
18 or anybody's -- you know, those to start  
19 with.

20  
21 MR. STARK: Yeah, Jason.

22  
23 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Jason  
24 Ferguson. So question for the group,  
25 really. I know from the work groups that

1 we've had at TCC recently, on of the big  
2 issues with communication has been  
3 everyone's unfamiliarity with FOIA. So  
4 it's, I'm afraid to email Valerie because am  
5 I violating anything.

6 But if -- you know, or if I  
7 send out a -- hey, just want to let you guys  
8 know this is where we're at with this. And  
9 then if someone hits reply all then that  
10 becomes an issue versus a one on one  
11 conversation. That confusion, I think,  
12 interfered with some of the communication as  
13 well.

14  
15 MR. STARK: So just concern over  
16 any -- anybody being able to FOIA that  
17 email?

18  
19 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Not that they  
20 can FOIA, but that you're going to violate  
21 --

22  
23 MR. STARK: Okay.

24  
25 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: -- the rules.

1 MR. PARKER: And I think sometimes  
2 that inhibits a lot of work from folks  
3 because, like last night -- I mean, it's two  
4 or three of us congregating to have a  
5 conversation about something, is that truly  
6 a meeting of -- you know, that crap.  
7 Because it's hard to get work done and it  
8 impedes process.

9  
10 MR. STARK: Right. Yeah, I need to  
11 look specifically at Virginia's right to  
12 know law and see what the requirements are.  
13 But it seems like we're taxing some of those  
14 requirements, you know. But I can certainly  
15 take a look at that as part of the -- of  
16 this project. Yes.

17  
18 MR. TANNER: I'd just like -- you  
19 know, being a former Board member and  
20 everything and local board of supervisors,  
21 three or more is a meeting, and it's illegal  
22 if you do that. So little group discussions  
23 and stuff technically, you're breaking the  
24 law.

25

1 MR. STARK: That's why we were all  
2 in two's last night in the lobby.

3  
4 MR. TANNER: But I just wanted to  
5 point that out.

6  
7 MR. STARK: Okay. Yeah, I got to  
8 look, you know, specifically at the contract  
9 of that law and see what the requirements  
10 are. Yes.

11  
12 BOARD MEMBER: Really because no  
13 one is -- like on our professional  
14 activities, people come talk to us about  
15 this. I get more than one of my colleagues  
16 come and ask me something about EMS and am I  
17 breaking the law with this.

18  
19 MR. STARK: Okay.

20  
21 BOARD MEMBER: Just keep it one on  
22 one, don't get Groupon.

23  
24 MR. STARK: Yeah, there's some  
25 distinction over that. We need to take a



1 look at what it -- what the law actually  
2 says. Those things, you know, you got to  
3 push them down the lane. Yes.

4  
5 BOARD MEMBER: So as far as  
6 communication, I totally agree. I mean, I  
7 am all for short meetings. I am not a long  
8 meeting person at all. But we are -- we did  
9 obligate ourselves to 5:00 o'clock, not that  
10 we want to go there.

11 But the other thing is I would  
12 -- I would like for a minute or two overview  
13 of what each committee is doing. Because  
14 of, oh hey, they're working on this. Oh,  
15 we're kind of working on that, too, the  
16 redundancy part.

17 But also, this -- we're  
18 knocking at -- we have our committee  
19 meetings right before the Governor's  
20 Advisory Board so we wouldn't have time to  
21 write it up, per se, and submit it to the  
22 book. And then by the time the next three  
23 months rolls around, this is old information  
24 because all -- we have met again. So I  
25 don't know if each person can, you know,

1 give a 30-second to two-minute synopsis of,  
2 hey, working on the PD boards or, you know,  
3 Transportation.

4  
5 MR. STARK: You want to know today?

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: No.

8  
9 MR. STARK: Okay. I was just --  
10 just in -- in the --

11  
12 BOARD MEMBER: No. Shortest  
13 meeting. No. No, at the actual Advisory  
14 Board. And that way, it doesn't look like  
15 to the public, oh, they're doing nothing.  
16 They're doing nothing.

17  
18 MR. STARK: Yeah.

19  
20 BOARD MEMBER: They're doing  
21 nothing. Plus like I said, you know, hey,  
22 they're working on this. I have information  
23 that could help them.

24  
25 MR. STARK: Yeah. No, I think

1 that's a good idea. Instead of no business  
2 -- you know, no report on the business, I --  
3 I agree. 30-second update about what's  
4 going on because that's the easiest way. I  
5 mean, we're all -- we're all in one place at  
6 that point.

7 We don't have to sift through  
8 meetings, we don't have to worry about  
9 whether things are updated. I think that's  
10 an impact on meetings.

11  
12 MR. PARKER: Didn't we used to do  
13 that? And wasn't that the issue -- because  
14 I remember when I first came on the Board,  
15 Ron Passmore's dissertation that he gave of  
16 each Rules and Regs meeting, it was, you  
17 know, a minute to two minutes.

18 And this is what we talked  
19 about. This is -- and then we had no action  
20 items. So we kind of did that. We used to  
21 do things like that, some committees but not  
22 all the committees. And I really thought we  
23 need to get back to that so that you're  
24 getting what you need.

25

1 MR. STARK: And so far, that's  
2 driven by the chair, too, you know, based on  
3 what information they want to receive.  
4 Sounds like you're receptive to receiving  
5 information. Valerie.

6  
7 MS. QUICK: Yeah. I don't think  
8 that rehashing some information does  
9 anything but provide extra communication, so  
10 that's never a bad thing.

11 But I do think that if we go  
12 back to limiting the amount of committees  
13 that are out there, then you're -- you are,  
14 in essence, having doubt on some of that  
15 extra stuff.

16 Because you're not having to  
17 repeat yourself. So really, I guess the --  
18 the take home point, the thing that we need  
19 to get back to is can we limit those  
20 committees, can we consolidate them?

21 And then after we consolidate  
22 them, if we need a special work group to  
23 work on whatever project, we can do that.  
24 But at that point, then we can look at the  
25 committee structure to see who needs to be

1 on that committee and how do we best  
2 represent that committee. I -- I don't  
3 think that we need to look at the committees  
4 right now and their structure and reorganize  
5 it if we're going to combine everything  
6 anyway. Or combine more things.

7  
8 MR. STARK: Jon.

9  
10 MR. HENSCHER: Jon Henschel. One  
11 of the things that I see during the actual  
12 Advisory Board meeting, we talk about  
13 redundancy and the information that's  
14 shared.

15 When OEMS staff shares some of  
16 the information, that essentially is some of  
17 the information we've discussed in our  
18 committee in particular, Rules and Regs.

19 And I don't see any point in  
20 duplicating that information 20 minutes  
21 later. And they -- they do a good job of  
22 covering a lot of this stuff that I would  
23 otherwise cover. Likewise, that annual  
24 report -- or I'm sorry, the quarterly  
25 reports put out. And some of the more

1 generic information, if you will, is  
2 embedded within that report. So if people  
3 aren't willing to get online and to look at  
4 that if they have curiosity, should we --  
5 you know, I can see the -- the bigger ticket  
6 items, certainly we want to share that  
7 information.

8 But if it's more or less the  
9 generic, this is kind of stuff we're doing  
10 every time, why should they not go on to go  
11 look at that. So I have a little bit of a  
12 mix on that.

13  
14 MR. STARK: Okay.

15  
16 MR. PARKER: I will say having the  
17 last few meetings where we've started on  
18 Wednesday through Friday, by the time we get  
19 to Friday, how many times have we heard  
20 about this or that?

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: We -- we have.

23  
24 MR. PARKER: Six or seven times.  
25

1           BOARD MEMBER: But even -- even in  
2           that meeting where you've got the public  
3           sitting back there, I mean, OEMS is giving  
4           their report. And a lot of those  
5           information items are covered. And I'm sure  
6           that involves a variety of our committees.

7                     But I know certainly it does  
8           mine. So I just can't see giving the same  
9           information out 20 minutes later. If it's  
10          already been -- if it's already been  
11          discussed, it's been discussed.

12                    I'll hit on a few things that  
13          may be highlights of what we're doing.  
14          Other than that, I'll let them know other  
15          information can be found in the quarterly  
16          report.

17  
18           MR. PARKER: Unless it's stuff that  
19          needs to be -- you know, the minutes for the  
20          actual GAB.

21  
22           MR. STARK: Yeah. It's a matter of  
23          discretion sometimes. Yeah. Dr. O'Shea.

24  
25           DR. O'SHEA: So -- so if we had

1 fewer committees and more members of the  
2 Advisory Board on each of those committees,  
3 would that then add to the discussion that  
4 can occur in the actual Governor's Advisory  
5 Board meeting?

6 That -- I think one -- one of  
7 the things as a new member that I haven't  
8 fully understood is what is my eligibility  
9 to be on one committee or multiple  
10 committees?

11 Am I eligible to be a  
12 participant in any committee that I wish to  
13 or only the one to which I've been  
14 appointed, you know.

15 And -- and I think there is  
16 some benefit to the other members of the  
17 group. As we've said, communicating and  
18 participating in more than one committee so  
19 that they can get that shared information  
20 and bring it together at -- at the full  
21 Board meeting.

22 I also think it's unreasonable  
23 for anybody to attend all of them because  
24 there's many.  
25



1 MR. STARK: Yeah. Is there any  
2 restriction on that?

3  
4 MR. PARKER: So in -- in the past,  
5 it's always been that you could attend any  
6 meetings that you wanted to. I don't have  
7 anything listed except for what's supposed  
8 to be chaired by someone from the Advisory  
9 Board. That's the only thing that's listed  
10 in the bylaws.

11  
12 MR. SAMUELS: Gary Samuels. Yeah,  
13 and there can be more than one Advisory  
14 Board member on a committee based on their  
15 -- what they -- what they're bringing to the  
16 committee.

17 So for example, with the  
18 Legis[lation] and Planning, there are  
19 numerous people on -- for Rules and Regs  
20 that probably, too.

21 Because we're kind of looking  
22 at training and certification issues, we're  
23 looking at a lot of different things that  
24 may come up over the year. So yeah,  
25 historically, there hasn't been anything

1 that limited the number of Advisory Board  
2 members. It's just been the -- there was a  
3 developed matrix of who was on each  
4 committee. And those -- those were reviewed  
5 every year.

6 Sometimes people are on one  
7 year and the next person that takes their  
8 place on that -- for that position on the  
9 Board decides if that's not their interest,  
10 and they want to be on something else.

11 So that -- that can change  
12 just based on recommendations to the  
13 Executive Committee, and then a vote.

14  
15 DR. O'SHEA: And just to clarify, I  
16 -- I guess I was differentiating between  
17 being a member of the committee versus a  
18 member of the public attending the  
19 committee, which we certainly all have the  
20 right to do. But there is a distinction  
21 between those two.

22  
23 MR. STARK: Yeah, Dr. Yee.

24  
25 DR. YEE: So -- it's Allen Yee,

1 VACEP. So why -- why do we have Board  
2 members as chairs? Why don't we just -- so  
3 -- so I have experience on a few national  
4 committees and organizations. It's usually  
5 Board liaisons.

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: Right.

8  
9 DR. YEE: So we would create a  
10 Board liaison to a committee. The committee  
11 could elect their own chair. It could be  
12 the same person for all we know.

13 I mean, I -- an example is  
14 like I'm not really a Medevac guy. I'm with  
15 -- on a previous tour on the GAB, I got  
16 named the Medevac chair. I'm like -- I  
17 don't swim. I don't like heights.

18  
19 BOARD MEMBER: We'll look to that  
20 direction if you've served on this before.

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: Why do we have it  
23 that way?

24  
25 BOARD MEMBER: I think that was --

1 historically, I mean, we're -- we're  
2 probably going back to 2000 when we did the  
3 last revision on the Board.

4  
5 BOARD MEMBER: 2001.

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: 2001 time frame. It  
8 goes back to then, which our historian's not  
9 here. So --

10  
11 MR. STARK: So complex the other --

12  
13 BOARD MEMBER: -- to help us.  
14 Yeah, historically, it -- I think it  
15 maintained some consistency for reporting up  
16 to the Board, being that it's a Board member  
17 who's going to be at the Board meeting.

18 They're going to report out on  
19 -- on the committees. I mean, that's what  
20 it appeared to me because -- I mean, I can  
21 go back to Rules and Regs in -- in the late  
22 2000's and, you know, 2008-2009. And that  
23 was kind of how Jennie posed it to me when I  
24 took her spot for Rules and Regs, was you're  
25 the person that's going to report this out

1 to the Board at the Board meeting.

2  
3 MR. STARK: Which makes sense. But  
4 as your question more directly as why do I  
5 have to serve as the chair versus --

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.

8  
9 MR. STARK: -- just a member of  
10 that committee.

11  
12 BOARD MEMBER: Or as a liaison.

13  
14 DR. YEE: Yeah, just as a liaison.  
15 I mean, we go to the committees. We're  
16 going to report out to the Board. It's no  
17 big deal.

18  
19 BOARD MEMBER: That's right.

20  
21 DR. YEE: Yeah.

22  
23 MR. STARK: The -- the bylaws  
24 regarding committee service just state that  
25 the Board -- each Board member is expected

1 to serve on at least one committee of the  
2 Advisory Board.

3  
4 BOARD MEMBER: So it's under --

5  
6 MR. STARK: Okay.

7  
8 MS. ADAMS: What's the difference  
9 between expected and required?

10  
11 MR. STARK: Yeah. That is --  
12 that's a word, too, that should not have --  
13 yeah.

14  
15 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah.

16  
17 MR. STARK: Yeah, that word should  
18 not -- if you are requiring them --

19  
20 MR. PARKER: Check the bylaws.

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: But under the  
23 committee structure as chairs don't have to  
24 be Board members.

1                   BOARD MEMBER: I mean, I -- it's  
2                   there.

3  
4                   MR. PARKER: It's there. You just  
5                   have to look.

6  
7                   MR. STARK: Okay.

8  
9                   MS. ADAMS: Beth -- Beth Adams,  
10                  Northern Virginia. If -- if we're going to  
11                  look at that, which I'm not finding, but it  
12                  does say that -- that we're going to elect  
13                  officers and chairs of standing committees  
14                  will occur at the regular meeting. You're  
15                  being appointed to committees. What's the  
16                  election part of it?

17  
18                  MR. PARKER: So it's under  
19                  committee management, under Section C, ad  
20                  hoc committees. So, Section E, getting  
21                  management.

22                  The chair of each committee  
23                  will be elected from the membership of the  
24                  Advisory Board unless otherwise specified by  
25                  Code, which happens usually in November when

1 we elect the up -- the committee chairs.  
2 And it says the -- the members of the  
3 committees and subcommittees may be  
4 appointed from among the members -- the  
5 Board members or from other qualified  
6 citizens of the Commonwealth. So you've got  
7 a discrepancy within the first two sentences  
8 of that.

9  
10 MS. ADAMS: Okay.

11  
12 MR. PARKER: Yeah. So I want to  
13 ask the group a question. For those that  
14 currently chair committees, I mean, you have  
15 had a change-over in your committee or have  
16 been on committees.

17 When you've had a change-over  
18 in the leadership of a committee, how --  
19 what happens to the work that was done on  
20 the previous -- does it continue? Is there  
21 a lull? Do we sometimes feel like we have  
22 to start over?

23  
24 DR. YEE: So Allen from VACEP. For  
25 Medical Control, I only -- it rolls on.



1 MR. SAMUELS: Gary Samuels. When  
2 -- and I can -- I can go back to the history  
3 when Jennie was working on the Rules and  
4 Regs. And she was kind of -- they're  
5 working through that process.

6 When she came off the Board, I  
7 had been involved with the Rules and Regs  
8 and we kept it going. We didn't -- it  
9 didn't -- the process didn't stop. We kept  
10 moving forward, but we had too many faces in  
11 the room for that.

12 So somebody that was there  
13 could continue the work. And I think it's  
14 that transition piece that -- and I -- I see  
15 where you're going. That transition piece  
16 is very important.

17 Because if you had not  
18 obtained what we're working on, if I had no  
19 knowledge of it as a totally new person to  
20 the game, it might take me a couple of  
21 meetings to figure out which way we're  
22 going.

23  
24 MR. STARK: Jason.  
25

1 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Jason  
2 Ferguson. The -- if you look on the web  
3 site, it's at TCC, what we decided to was,  
4 too, was just for the -- the membership was  
5 to stagger.

6 So out of the nine members, we  
7 have two or three -- maybe three positions  
8 this year. We've been following with the  
9 others.

10 That way as membership  
11 changes, as chairs change, we still have the  
12 bulk of the group that's there that's been  
13 doing the work. And to continue that work  
14 to kind of eliminate some of that.

15 So we've already defined those  
16 dates now so everyone knows this is when  
17 we'll come up.

18  
19 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: So with  
20 regards to Transportation, I mean, the  
21 work's just not there other than the grants.  
22 It could be some work, but I don't know if  
23 -- what it is or -- we really haven't  
24 decided. Maybe we should look for, I don't  
25 know. Our report just pretty much says --

1           it's not my call to say this about  
2           transportation. But we could effectively  
3           help with the FARC group by working with  
4           some other form, as a work group or --

5  
6                         BOARD MEMBER: Just disband as a  
7           full committee, but have them as a work  
8           group when FARC is reviewing the -- since  
9           you all have been working and reviewing the  
10          --

11  
12                        MR. D. E. FERGUSON: I think  
13          everybody -- as small as that group appears  
14          to be, I think everybody is in groups and  
15          committee doing that work, no matter whether  
16          it's a committee or not.

17  
18                        MS. DANIELS: All right. One  
19          committee down. Let's move on.

20  
21                        MR. STARK: I would like the input  
22          from the Office on that.

23  
24                        MR. WINSTON: I mean, I think --  
25          and Kevin can speak more to FARC. I think

1 Transportation does provide a well-rounded  
2 surface, as Eddie said, to the grant review  
3 process. And looking at it like a  
4 subcommittee for FARC or something like that  
5 -- if it works, they'll need to continue --

6  
7 MR. DILLARD: It is -- it is  
8 integral to the RSAF process.

9  
10 BOARD MEMBER: But not necessarily  
11 a full committee --

12  
13 MR. DILLARD: Right.

14  
15 BOARD MEMBER: -- with a chair and  
16 -- and all that.

17  
18 MR. WINSTON: I just, you know, you  
19 hear that word disbanded, you don't let --  
20 it's evolved.

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: Folded in.

23  
24 MS. DANIELS: Well maybe I just --  
25 maybe I used the wrong word.

1 BOARD MEMBER: There you go.

2 Folded in.

3  
4 MS. DANIELS: Combined in with the  
5 FARC.

6  
7 MS. ADAMS: In consultation with.

8  
9 MS. DANIELS: Because you all still  
10 make that work.

11  
12 MR. DILLARD: Yeah, so -- Kevin  
13 Dillard. We would not want to see the --  
14 the work disband. So whether it's a full  
15 committee or a subcommittee of us. But we  
16 have more work that's in the way.

17 So we would, you know, not  
18 want to limit it just to ambulances, but any  
19 mode of transportation. Because we're  
20 seeing all kinds of requests come to us.

21 And we deem your group as the  
22 -- the experts. So we definitely can give  
23 y'all more work to do.

24  
25 BOARD MEMBER: Today we got by with

1           it.

2  
3                   BOARD MEMBER:   And that might be  
4           the problem with a lot of the committees.  
5           Like I said, you're sitting there saying we  
6           don't have any work.   He says there's more  
7           for you.

8                           What do you want us to do?  
9           What -- what do you expect from us as -- as  
10          far as, like I said, the reports at the  
11          Advisory Board.   What do you want to hear?

12                           We don't know what to report  
13          on if we don't know what you want to hear.  
14          Just -- like I said, better communication  
15          will help.

16  
17                   MR. PARKER:   So Gary, I do have a  
18          question.   Is it in our purview to put a  
19          subcommittee under FARC because that's --  
20          FARC is not a committee of the Advisory  
21          Board?

22  
23                   MR. BROWN:   Yes.   I -- you can do  
24          it, even though FARC is codified.   I still  
25          think that -- that there is connection to

1 the Board in terms of the Board -- Advisory  
2 Board is to appoint the members of FARC.  
3 And so therefore, you add that oversight.

4 And as such, I think, that  
5 also would translate into how can you make  
6 FARC even more efficient or provide the  
7 assets and resources that FARC needs to make  
8 that process even better.

9 But we -- we really -- even  
10 though FARC is established in Code, the Code  
11 says that we will have regulations that  
12 govern FARC. So that's up to us, even with  
13 those -- that -- that governing language is.  
14 And so I think we have a lot left over.

15  
16 MR. STARK: Other thoughts. Yes,  
17 Dr. Yee.

18  
19 DR. YEE: Allen Yee, VACEP. Can we  
20 just get rid of the Pre-Hospital Care  
21 Committee? I mean, it's kind of redundant  
22 when we're already the EMS Advisory Board.  
23 I mean, this is -- I mean, it's all  
24 throughout the entire structure of -- of  
25 everything we do.

1 MR. STARK: Other thoughts on that?

2

3 MS. ADAMS: I second.

4

5 MR. STARK: Second. Motion passed.

6

7 BOARD MEMBER: Totally. That  
8 motion was moved from the floor.

9

10 MR. STARK: Yeah, right.

11

12 MR. PARKER: But truly, that is one  
13 of the -- that is actually one of the ones  
14 that I brought to -- one of the things we're  
15 looking at. Like I said, we're looking at  
16 their goals.

17 Four of the five are covered,  
18 either under Medical Direction, EMS-C, Rules  
19 and Reg, Legislative and Planning, Workforce  
20 Development. So a lot of their work is  
21 already done.

22 The only thing that I couldn't  
23 map out was establishing minimum statewide  
24 guideline standards for each step of the  
25 State Trauma Triage criteria for both adult



1 and pediatric populations.

2  
3 DR. YEE: Well, I think we --

4  
5 MR. PARKER: However, we could  
6 assign that to --

7  
8 BOARD MEMBER: Trauma is a  
9 pre-hospital sort of issue.

10  
11 MR. PARKER: That's -- that's what  
12 we're talking about.

13  
14 BOARD MEMBER: Oh, okay.

15  
16 DR. YEE: But that should go --  
17 that should fall under Medical Control. And  
18 has fallen under Medical Control in -- in  
19 conjunction with the -- with whatever the  
20 trauma's guiding group.

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: Pack.

23  
24 DR. YEE: Pack. Yeah.

25

1 MR. PARKER: We'll tackle that --  
2 we'll tackle that in a minute.

3  
4 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Eddie  
5 Ferguson. So the pre-hospital trauma --  
6 that's the Pre-Hospital Trauma Committee  
7 that you're referring to, right?

8  
9 MR. PARKER: Yes.

10  
11 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: So while it  
12 might be covered in other groups, I think  
13 the committee structure is a well thought  
14 out process that represents all aspects of  
15 EMS.

16 So maybe put like it over here  
17 on the side and maybe they'll be -- the  
18 utilization maybe can assume another role.  
19 But --

20  
21 MR. STARK: Jason.

22  
23 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Yeah. I was  
24 thinking the same thing. If we had like a  
25 -- we talked about like -- I mean, you

1 brought up the other day about more of the  
2 boots on the ground representation and that  
3 kind of thing.

4 Maybe at that level where you  
5 have pre-hospital, ground transport, maybe  
6 air -- that's where maybe all of that can  
7 kind of come together under patient care to  
8 represent all the horses.

9 You know, bring all that under  
10 one and then have representation. So you do  
11 get that feedback from the ground level up.

12  
13 MR. PARKER: So the Pre-Hospital  
14 Committee has two ground EMS providers, a  
15 helicopter EMS provider, a critical care  
16 transport representative, an MBC  
17 representative, trauma program manager  
18 adult, trauma program manager pediatric,  
19 fire chief, 911 communication officer, a law  
20 enforcement representative, an EMS educator,  
21 a regional EMS council director, and trauma  
22 survivor/citizen representative, and a  
23 non-trauma designated hospital. So it truly  
24 has an encompassing of what we model that,  
25 honestly, might be a model for the entire

1 Board.

2  
3 BOARD MEMBER: That allows them to  
4 do -- I think the -- the trauma -- the work  
5 that's done by the State Trauma Plan and  
6 that whole process, it's probably more up to  
7 date than our Board is.

8 So anything we can take from  
9 that process or the model that we can use to  
10 apply to other areas, whether's it stroke,  
11 STEMI or whatever, I think it would be a  
12 good idea just to look at that.

13  
14 DR. YEE: Are -- are we suggesting  
15 that we make this kind of like the  
16 stakeholder committee or, you know, boots on  
17 the ground kind of committee? I mean, we  
18 got to find a nice name for it. But --

19  
20 MS. QUICK: What's the purpose of  
21 what it does.

22  
23 MR. STARK: Yeah.

24  
25 MR. PARKER: I mean, if you're

1 going to create a committee, you've got to  
2 have goals. I mean, we're trying to move  
3 towards having deliverables from the  
4 committees versus just having a committee to  
5 have a committee. So...

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: So what's going to  
8 move to that?

9  
10 DR. YEE: Because all of these  
11 entities, they're invested in our other  
12 committees. They're really -- they are  
13 represented, right?

14 And one, we'd have to change  
15 it to -- if we take over the trauma focus,  
16 then we'd have to add -- STEMI, stroke,  
17 whatever, you know, acute care  
18 representative.

19 I just -- I just see the work  
20 that is being done just everywhere else on  
21 the GAB board.

22  
23 MR. STARK: I'm sorry. Beth.

24  
25 MS. ADAMS: Beth Adams, Northern

1 Virginia. I -- I really think that this  
2 body has an obligation to think about the  
3 system as a whole and consult our subject  
4 matter experts on trauma or stroke or STEMI  
5 or children or grandpa's or whatever to do  
6 the work of the Board.

7 To insure that we are  
8 providing a comprehensive, integrative,  
9 thoughtful, data-driven, etcetera, etcetera  
10 service to the citizens and visitors of the  
11 Commonwealth.

12 And to continue to have a silo  
13 for trauma that's separate and unique and --  
14 and I think EMS for Children historically  
15 both on -- on my brief time with this Board,  
16 my work in -- in the Commonwealth and -- and  
17 my time on the board in Minnesota was that  
18 EMS-C was ready to be there, at the side to  
19 consult when it was appropriate and support  
20 the rest of the things that went on.

21 That they never expected to  
22 have their own separate world, their own  
23 separate thing. So let's integrate things  
24 and perhaps take this model of pre-hospital  
25 care and expand it to everything. And we --

1 we do have representatives at this table  
2 from everything except perhaps a law  
3 enforcement officer. Unless somebody is  
4 that and I didn't know. But let's not  
5 duplicate effort.

6 I mean, so far every committee  
7 name I -- every committee I pulled up, Allen  
8 Yee is a representative to in some capacity.  
9 How do you have time to do anything else?

10  
11 MR. PARKER: I think he's just a  
12 representative from MDC and might not be a  
13 chair of.

14  
15 MS. ADAMS: Well, so far I've seen  
16 his name on three.

17  
18 MR. PARKER: Oh. Good enough.

19  
20 DR. YEE: That's the three. That's  
21 all.

22  
23 MS. ADAMS: Okay.

24  
25 BOARD MEMBER: So the only thing I

1 can -- that I'd like to contribute is that I  
2 was on the EMS-C committee for one or two  
3 years. And it was interesting. We took a  
4 lot of surveys, we got some -- even were  
5 able to get free -- what's the word?

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: [unintelligible].

8  
9 BOARD MEMBER: Thank you. Things  
10 like that of what agencies needed and we did  
11 a lot of work there. And it's not just a  
12 rubber stamp committee. It's the ongoing  
13 how do we improve our process and how do we  
14 protect the children.

15 And in disasters, how do we  
16 help in disasters. So I -- there was a lot  
17 of work done on that committee. And I --  
18 I'm sure Dr. Bartle can probably echo the  
19 same. So --

20  
21 MS. ADAMS: Beth Adams. I was not  
22 trying to demean the work --

23  
24 BOARD MEMBER: No.



1 MS. ADAMS: -- of EMS-C. I did  
2 EMS-C in Minnesota. What I was trying to  
3 say is that they have a committed focus and  
4 they are -- they -- they have -- every place  
5 I've worked with EMS-C, they have integrated  
6 well and not tried -- tried to create a  
7 whole separate structure to support the work  
8 of insuring that we care for our children,  
9 sick, injured and otherwise.

10 And preventing them from being  
11 sick, injured and otherwise in a way that --  
12 that demonstrates the whole pediatric thing,  
13 which is play well with others.

14 Create an environment of care  
15 and -- and do it that way without -- okay,  
16 we need the trauma silo. Now here's the  
17 cardiovascular silo. Here's the  
18 neurovascular silo.

19  
20 BOARD MEMBER: Right.

21  
22 MR. PARKER: And Gary, correct me  
23 if I'm wrong. That is actually federally --  
24 yeah.

1 DR. YEE: Yeah.

2  
3 MR. PARKER: Gary Brown.

4  
5 MR. BROWN: I want to say when it  
6 comes to the EMS for Children Committee and  
7 program, there are, of course, their  
8 benchmarks that have to be met. One of them  
9 is, does you state have a standing EMS for  
10 Children Committee.

11 And also the HRSA grants for  
12 EMS-C, that's the only federal dollars that  
13 the Virginia Office of EMS gets that is  
14 separate from the State Four for Life Fund.

15 And there are benchmarks that  
16 that -- that on a national and federal level  
17 that must be met that can only be done  
18 through that kind of structure. In -- in  
19 the -- not only this state, but every state  
20 has to have it.

21  
22 DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle. Thank  
23 you. It really is and it's a lot of things  
24 that we bring to the table is what this  
25 committee needs. And we're happy to share

1           our expertise with anybody else in this  
2           group. We actually have a structure where  
3           we get -- we are surveyed. And it's  
4           information that's helping with  
5           pre-hospital, hospital and post-hospital  
6           level of care.

7                         Working with Dr. Aboutanos and  
8           integrating how -- make sure that EMS side  
9           is covered with it, which was required on  
10          their part that they have a pediatric  
11          portion of it.

12                        This is -- kind of held my  
13          tongue for a while. We -- we feel like  
14          we're an important part of this system. And  
15          we provide stuff that, in the lack of our  
16          presence, is often overlooked.

17                        In previous times before we  
18          joined this group and in other places where  
19          the EMS pediatric representation is not  
20          provided, it is overlooked. So I think  
21          it's, you know, how we use -- how we utilize  
22          that.

23                        It's one thing, but I think  
24          that we do bring something to the table.  
25          And we're put on -- we're codified into it

1 -- this for a purpose.

2  
3 MR. PARKER: And I honestly feel  
4 like this -- and I spoke with you after the  
5 last meeting. It was good to actually have  
6 your meeting in conjunction with the  
7 Advisory Board where previous it had been on  
8 a separate cycle.

9 So that way, members of the  
10 Advisory Board could attend and I was  
11 actually -- very beneficial to attend that  
12 because I learned a lot.

13  
14 DR. BARTLE: And I think that it  
15 would be good for other members to see it  
16 and see that it's something that we can --  
17 we can contribute and want to.

18  
19 MR. PARKER: To your discussion  
20 last night, talked about a pediatric  
21 educator or someone on different committees  
22 to kind of have a -- a different view --  
23 mindset as well.

24  
25 BOARD MEMBER: So I guess as we're

1 talking about the importance of this work  
2 and we're all agreeing on -- more of that  
3 can be coming before the main Advisory  
4 Board. I mean, I think that --

5  
6 MR. PARKER: Yeah.

7  
8 BOARD MEMBER: -- that's the crux  
9 of what we're discussing. We need to hear  
10 more about the important stuff that's going  
11 on.

12  
13 DR. BARTLE: Well, that's what --  
14 if you look at the -- the minutes from the  
15 previous meeting, you know, it was very few  
16 -- if any -- action items. We present what  
17 we've done, and information and more  
18 information items.

19 If you -- I'm very confident  
20 that we're following the structure that we  
21 needed. I would like to say that that could  
22 be something that we'd like to share with  
23 everyone -- other groups.

24  
25 BOARD MEMBER: Just -- I guess the

1 global question that I want to understand  
2 is, the -- the perspective I get is people  
3 feel like the import -- there's a lot of  
4 important work done in committees. And  
5 maybe more important done in the committee  
6 structure than occurs at the Board level  
7 itself.

8 And that is the way people  
9 would like it. That's the way people think  
10 we should have it going forward. Is that a  
11 fair assessment? I'm not saying it's good  
12 or bad, I'm just --

13  
14 MR. PARKER: Yeah.

15  
16 BOARD MEMBER: -- asking a  
17 question.

18  
19 MR. STARK: What do you guys think?

20  
21 DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle. I think  
22 technically, we need to develop these -- our  
23 purpose is to advise the Board of Health  
24 what's going on. In the technical sense,  
25 you need to report what each of our groups

1 are doing. Even though there's not action  
2 to be taken for some big deal with the -- we  
3 needed space for the list of things that  
4 we've been doing in our committees as --  
5 whatever it may be so it goes on record as  
6 going to the Board. Otherwise, you're  
7 telling the Board you ain't doing crap.

8  
9 MR. STARK: Yeah. Some of the big  
10 concepts we're taking out of this,  
11 obviously, consolidation, restructuring of  
12 the committees. Looking to, you know -- I  
13 mean, couching some committees under others.

14 And potentially, you know,  
15 elimination of a committee that's  
16 unnecessary. And then just kind of sharing  
17 information, especially at the Advisory  
18 Board committee meetings, you know, just an  
19 update.

20 Don't presume that, you know,  
21 everybody knows about because it's been  
22 mentioned somewhere else. You know, just a  
23 quick update on business, again, with a  
24 little bit of discretion. Going to Jon's  
25 point before, I don't want to repeat

1 something that's already on the record.  
2 That's fine, we can use a little discretion.  
3 But I think we're all sort in agreement  
4 there.

5 I'm going to go through,  
6 obviously, the record from this meeting and  
7 distill some of the concepts here to put  
8 forth kind of a structure and, you know,  
9 some recommendations of what's -- what's  
10 been suggested here. Other -- yeah.  
11 Absolutely, keep going.

12  
13 MR. PARKER: So the next one I  
14 wanted to -- to bring up is Emergency  
15 Preparedness and Response in conjunction  
16 with Emergency Management. And I want to  
17 read the notes or missions of the two.

18 So Emergency Management --  
19 Emergency Management Committee shall focus  
20 on providing recommendations and guidance to  
21 enhance and assist EMS agencies in the  
22 development and incorporation of strategies  
23 for the four phases of emergency management,  
24 as well as utilizing those phases to best  
25 prepare and respond as an EMS agency. The



1 committee will also assist the Virginia  
2 Office of EMS in the development and  
3 revision of emergency management training  
4 programs that focus on a pre-hospital area  
5 of EMS and emergency management.

6 And then, the Emergency  
7 Preparedness and Response Committee, here  
8 are the three goals. Insure trauma system  
9 is engaged in the state disaster planning  
10 process, collaborate with OEP and insure the  
11 provision of disaster preparedness,  
12 education to trauma centers, regional  
13 councils, local emergency medical service  
14 providers. And then collaborate with OEP to  
15 assist -- to assess and maximize the use of  
16 ASPR funding to enhance the medical service  
17 capacities of the state trauma system --  
18 centers. Don't they seem to be doing the  
19 same thing?

20  
21 MR. STARK: Yes, sir. Sorry.

22  
23 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Tom  
24 Schwalenberg, Tidewater EMS Council. So the  
25 short answer to your question is yes.

1           However, I attend both of those meeting,  
2           though I chair the one, attend the other.  
3           The -- the -- what I'll call the hospital  
4           meeting, for lack of a better term, it's --  
5           it's solely centered around VHHA and VHHA  
6           funding, and what the coalitions are doing.

7                         That is totally what that  
8           committee is focused on. They are not  
9           focused on what's happening pre-hospital and  
10          what's happening prior to getting to the  
11          hospital.

12                        That has not been their focus  
13          for any meeting that I have attended. So  
14          there is duplication and I'm -- I'm all for  
15          -- if we're trying to streamline things, I'm  
16          all for that.

17                        But we really have to look at  
18          what is the focus. Because again, not --  
19          not -- you know, not bad mouthing what  
20          they're going.

21                        But their focus is once the  
22          disaster reaches their door, what do we do,  
23          how do we increase our surge capability for  
24          the community. It's -- it's -- even though  
25          it sounds very similar, they're -- they're

1 going in two different directions right now.

2 So --

3  
4 MR. PARKER: So is that not better  
5 served as a subcommittee under Emergency  
6 Management, focusing on the hospital aspect?  
7 Because I'm looking at their goals and there  
8 are some of their goals that are very -- I  
9 mean, like goal number two says collaborate  
10 with OEP, insure -- and insure the provision  
11 of disaster preparedness education to trauma  
12 centers, regional councils, local EMS  
13 providers. So there should be a  
14 pre-hospital focus to that.

15  
16 MR. SCHWALENBERG: But -- and I'm  
17 agreeing with you. I think -- I think there  
18 is some -- some collaboration and some --  
19 and some combining that could happen.  
20 Again, going to those meetings, there's --

21  
22 MR. PARKER: Because I like the  
23 structure of the committees.

24  
25 MR. SCHWALENBERG: There's a lot of

1           duplication when --

2  
3                   MR. PARKER:   Yeah.

4  
5                   MR. SCHWALENBERG:  -- when you go  
6           to both of those meetings.

7  
8                   DR. YEE:   So I think this is an  
9           opportunity, right?  Because let's -- let's  
10          get real.  Those ASPR funds, and then they  
11          go to hospitals.  And the hospitals created  
12          their own little silos.

13                   And then there's EMS and we've  
14          always relatively been consolidated by our  
15          regions.  And like, this is what our regions  
16          do.  We work together.  And the two don't  
17          talk very well.

18                   This is an opportunity to  
19          force them into a committee structure where  
20          now we see the whole spectrum.  You know, I  
21          think EMS -- one of the big -- great things  
22          about us is we're all together, right?  You  
23          know, even the -- the biggest thing that's  
24          going to really take you -- take -- stress  
25          the community is not a trauma disaster.

1 They're really finite, right? If you were  
2 talking about wide scale, you know, weather  
3 events, right? You -- you're talking about  
4 what happened in the Bahamas.

5 I mean, that's what -- and  
6 that's an opportunity where the hospitals  
7 can partner with us and say, how can we work  
8 together? At the end of the day, we're all  
9 in it together.

10  
11 MR. PARKER: Right.

12  
13 DR. YEE: So this is -- this would  
14 be a great opportunity to force them  
15 together. And then we -- we'll still have  
16 our traditional lines of, you know, EMS does  
17 everything.

18 Hospitals do their -- because  
19 if they're -- they're -- they call  
20 themselves the -- the little coalitions.

21  
22 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Health care  
23 coalitions.

24  
25 DR. YEE: The coalitions are going

1 to work anyway. They can still report out.  
2 This is an opportunity for -- for us to see  
3 their side and their side to see our side.  
4 And work together and build these bridges.

5 So across different spectrums  
6 of -- of stressors. I mean, I'm very  
7 convinced that, you know, that our state  
8 will easily handle large scale trauma,  
9 right? I mean, we did that on 9/11.

10 We've done it for all these  
11 bus accidents. But where we have trouble is  
12 floodings in Franklin, hospital evacuations,  
13 right? That -- these are opportunities.

14 And -- and HAZMAT and probably  
15 -- probably HAZMAT situations would stress  
16 us. But these are opportunities for us to  
17 build these bridges.

18  
19 DR. BARTLE: And from a -- Sam  
20 Bartle. To add to what Allen's saying, a  
21 lot of the attitudes of one side or the  
22 other being, you know, respectable about  
23 really putting either one. Each side says,  
24 oh well, you know, we can take care of what  
25 we need to do. This is what we want -- we

1 expect you to be able to do. And it's --  
2 looking the time for, you know, and make  
3 them talk to each other.

4 Because this -- and if you're  
5 going to want this from me, this is what we  
6 need from you. And this -- there's signs,  
7 phrases and terms that, oh, we expect this  
8 to happen.

9 And this goes on from them.  
10 And there's no one to say, yes, that will or  
11 no, it's not. But this is the reality of  
12 it. So if we put them together, they'll  
13 probably turn out a better product.

14  
15 BOARD MEMBER: I agree. And one of  
16 the notes I -- I mean, just as a sidebar,  
17 one of the notes I had made here is on the  
18 Emergency Management Committee, there's no  
19 pediatric representation at all.

20 So -- and one of my side notes  
21 was how do we get pediatrics involved in  
22 emergency management side? Because it's --  
23 it's not. So I -- I think it's something  
24 that can be, you know, that can be brought  
25 together and we can collaborate better.

1 MR. PARKER: Because there is one  
2 on the Emergency Preparedness and Response.

3  
4 BOARD MEMBER: Yes, there is.

5  
6 MR. PARKER: So again -- I mean, in  
7 looking at it, there's a lot of folks that  
8 are on both committees that I think would  
9 benefit better from, as Dr. Yee said, that  
10 forced partnership. Dr. O'Shea.

11  
12 MR. STARK: Dr. O'Shea.

13  
14 DR. O'SHEA: So I'll just voice my  
15 agreement that it makes complete sense for  
16 these two committees to, if not be combined,  
17 to at the very least collaborate heavily. I  
18 mean, this is a tremendous opportunity for  
19 the EMS Advisory Board to, you know, serve  
20 the Commonwealth well.

21 We've already had multiple  
22 mass shootings in the state. We've had  
23 other disasters. Figuring out how we can  
24 best serve the public in this kind of need  
25 as -- as a state is a true opportunity, I



1 think. And this committee is one of the  
2 best suited to help advise on that. So I --  
3 I think working together can serve in  
4 everybody's interest.

5  
6 MR. STARK: Beth.

7  
8 MS. ADAMS: I'm -- I support that.  
9 And I think we should call it Emergency  
10 Prepare -- Management and Preparedness  
11 Committee and create the best of both  
12 worlds. One thing that seems to be missing,  
13 though, is infectious disease.

14  
15 MS. QUICK: Yeah. I -- I think  
16 that if you were looking at large scale  
17 events -- whether you're looking at a  
18 weather event, an infectious disease  
19 process, a trauma event -- many of those  
20 structures are going to be very similar.

21 So providing all of that and  
22 putting that underneath. And those could be  
23 potentially work groups where you --

24  
25 MS. ADAMS: Right.

1 MS. QUICK: -- have a work group  
2 that looks at infectious disease management.  
3 Or a work group that looks specifically at  
4 weather event management.

5 So I think -- I think that --  
6 like taking that out of just the trauma  
7 realm, putting it together and actually -- I  
8 sort of jotted down some -- some notes, too.

9 Sort of a -- a[n] emergency  
10 preparedness and response that would  
11 incorporate like public safety and  
12 communications in there, too.

13 Because that obviously very  
14 much correlates with how we're going to be  
15 responding to one another. The other thing  
16 that I think should potentially come out of  
17 just being subset of trauma would be the  
18 Injury and Violence Prevention.

19 That really should be  
20 broadened out to be -- I really like of like  
21 a public health and prevention committee  
22 where you have prevention of not just  
23 injuries, but prevention of heart attack,  
24 stroke, just whatever -- whatever we can  
25 potentially impact. And mobile integrated

1 health goes nicely underneath that category.  
2 So it's a broadened group of this is our --  
3 our public health arena. And how are we  
4 responding to public health where we're  
5 going preventative care.

6 We're doing mobile integrated  
7 health. So that -- that being separated  
8 out. Does that make sense?

9  
10 DR. YEE: Isn't there a Virginia  
11 initiative, Healthy Virginia or something  
12 like that? Didn't the governor put out  
13 something?

14  
15 BOARD MEMBER: Population health.

16  
17 DR. YEE: Yeah, but there's a whole  
18 acronym that they have.

19  
20 BOARD MEMBER: There is a Healthy  
21 Virginia.

22  
23 DR. YEE: Healthy Virginia,  
24 whatever. Maybe we could use that name as a  
25 committee.

1 BOARD MEMBER: Healthy Virginia is  
2 -- appears to be a movement organized by the  
3 Medical Society of Virginia Foundation.  
4

5 BOARD MEMBER: All right.  
6

7 DR. YEE: It -- it's something that  
8 the governor is in and -- and I think  
9 Dr. Oliver, in his position previously, put  
10 out an initiative. I remember the logo of  
11 having a tree, you know -- you know,  
12 Dorothy.  
13

14 MR. STARK: Yeah, I just pulled it  
15 up. It's hard to see. It's kind of out of  
16 focus on the screen there.  
17

18 BOARD MEMBER: That's not it.  
19

20 MR. STARK: That's not it. This is  
21 the Medical Society of Virginia.  
22

23 BOARD MEMBER: That is -- that is  
24 -- that is what comes up when you look for  
25 -- when you --

1 MR. PARKER: There's also the  
2 Health People 2020 and Healthy People 2030  
3 federal initiatives that we -- we pulled  
4 into some of those as well.

5  
6 BOARD MEMBER: Can we combine the  
7 injury prevention -- injury and violence  
8 prevention into trauma's educational part  
9 somewhere else?

10  
11 DR. YEE: I think that's what she  
12 said.

13  
14 BOARD MEMBER: Where is it? I'm  
15 trying to find it. Where else can we add it  
16 to?

17  
18 MR. PARKER: So Injury and Violence  
19 Prevention -- is that what you're asking  
20 for?

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah, combine --  
23 roll that into -- fold that into a previous  
24 education point.

1 MS. ADAMS: My sense was that --  
2 that Valerie was going to spin that out and  
3 --

4  
5 MR. PARKER: Public health and  
6 violence on committee?

7  
8 MS. ADAMS: -- was going to create  
9 a public health and prevention committee.  
10 It would --

11  
12 BOARD MEMBER: Encompass.

13  
14 MS. ADAMS: -- incorporate violence  
15 and obesity and etcetera, etcetera,  
16 etcetera.

17  
18 MR. STARK: Okay.

19  
20 BOARD MEMBER: I think provider  
21 health and safety could go with that to  
22 because we're also part of the public.

23  
24 MS. QUICK: We are but, you know,  
25 we're talking about that then -- I mean,

1 that's sort of another category combination  
2 is professional development and support,  
3 where it does incorporate Workforce  
4 services.

5 It incorporates training, it  
6 incorporates providing -- provider safety  
7 and health. It's what we can do to make our  
8 workforce better is train them and make sure  
9 that they have adequate mental and health  
10 resources.

11  
12 MR. PARKER: Any other comments on  
13 those?  
14

15 DR. O'SHEA: Would that also be a  
16 -- Jake O'Shea. Would that also be a  
17 committee that could look at the workforce  
18 numbers in -- in the state and, you know,  
19 help identify potential gaps that we may see  
20 in five, 10, 15, 20 years?  
21

22 MR. PARKER: I think that's what  
23 Workforce Development, you know, goal was.  
24

25 MS. QUICK: Yes.

1 MR. PARKER: Dealing with officer  
2 classes and things like that.

3  
4 MS. QUICK: Which is a training, so  
5 it falls underneath.

6  
7 DR. O'SHEA: And I guess I'm  
8 thinking, you know, are enough college  
9 students enrolling in paramedic course work?  
10 Do we have enough people, you know, growing  
11 up who are saying, I -- I want to be a  
12 provider.

13  
14 MS. QUICK: No.

15  
16 DR. O'SHEA: And what can we do to  
17 improve that?

18  
19 MS. QUICK: In fact, we have that,  
20 actually, in Workforce Committee. So I'm  
21 the brand new chair of that, so I can't tell  
22 you a whole lot.

23 But what I can tell you is  
24 that a few of the things that we talked  
25 about very much dealt with the fact that we



1 have a deficiency in the amount of people  
2 coming through the pipeline. And how do we  
3 deal with that, well, that's a training  
4 issue.

5 So it's not really within the  
6 purview of that, but it certainly goes  
7 together. Same thing with, you know, how do  
8 we keep our people retained?

9 If we retain them and that  
10 they're healthy and then they're not having  
11 back injuries, it goes to the provider's  
12 routine health. So it seems like those  
13 three committees very often kind of  
14 piggyback on each other.

15 And the -- I would say that  
16 the -- the bulk of the work is probably the  
17 Training Committee with sort of these  
18 offshoots and smaller potential work groups  
19 being the other -- the other two committees.

20 But it really is broader, it's  
21 -- it's Workforce Management. How do we --  
22 how do we maintain and supply our workforce.

23  
24 MS. DANIELS: It's Valeta. So --  
25 and just to give you an idea. The pay that

1 comes from a two-year college, getting your  
2 two-year degree for paramedicine versus I  
3 can go two years of nursing school and walk  
4 out making a lot more money.

5 And I have opportunities out  
6 the yin-yang. That's another issue. But  
7 yeah, pay is -- pay is another one.

8  
9 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah. It's an issue  
10 for the committee, yeah.

11  
12 MR. STARK: Chris, I think you had  
13 --

14  
15 MR. PARKER: Oh, no.

16  
17 BOARD MEMBER: Well no, I was just  
18 -- I just -- I agree with Valerie in that I  
19 think putting provider health and safety,  
20 making it its own group, but putting it  
21 under Workforce Development just makes a lot  
22 of sense. But I don't think we want to lose  
23 focus on that when we're looking at our  
24 responsibility, our advocacy -- if you will  
25 -- for our people. I -- I think that's a

1 great place to put it.

2  
3 MR. PARKER: So the last committee  
4 topic that I had was looking at the trauma  
5 committee structure. So you have TAG and  
6 then you have System Improvement --  
7 currently, System Improvement, Injury and  
8 Violence Prevention, Pre-Hospital Care,  
9 Acute and Post-Care which are our bylaws,  
10 committees that are reporting to committees,  
11 as Dr. Yee brought up before. So questions,  
12 comments, discussion related to how those  
13 committees are listed now.

14  
15 DR. YEE: So Mike's not -- doctor  
16 -- this is Allen Yee. So Mike Aboutanos is  
17 not here. So I think that TAG has to -- I  
18 think that's the name, TAG?

19  
20 MR. PARKER: Mm-hmm.

21  
22 DR. YEE: -- has to stay.

23  
24 MR. PARKER: Right.

25

1 DR. YEE: Right? Because all -- I  
2 think the State is required to have the --  
3 the trauma triage and all that stuff.

4  
5 MR. PARKER: Mm-hmm.

6  
7 DR. YEE: So they're like -- I  
8 don't -- I don't see them -- I see the  
9 importance of them. Out of that, they can  
10 have -- they could spin off a subcommittee  
11 of trauma system improvement, right? Like  
12 we had before, then create the acute care as  
13 an all acute care. Take them out of trauma,  
14 completely out.

15 And we can do all the acute  
16 care, including -- we just include trauma,  
17 STEMI, stroke, geriatric, pediatrics. I  
18 mean, dental -- I don't care. You know, all  
19 that. Oh, fibromyalgia, you go to throw  
20 that in there.

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: Oh geez, here we go.

23  
24 DR. YEE: Yeah. And what was the  
25 other one? What was the one --

1 MR. PARKER: We have -- then we had  
2 -- we were talking about acute care. Then  
3 you have post-acute care, which -- have they  
4 actually met? I forgot if they --

5  
6 BOARD MEMBER: They have, yes.

7  
8 DR. YEE: And then that'd be a  
9 great one, post-acute care which includes  
10 our nursing homes, rehab facilities, other  
11 SNF's.

12  
13 MR. SCHWALENBERG: But just -- Tom  
14 Schwalenberg. Just a point of  
15 clarification, doesn't a lot of that fall  
16 under the health care coalitions, though?

17 When you look at their  
18 vulnerable populations and they're looking  
19 at SNF's and nursing homes and dialysis and  
20 that kind of stuff.

21  
22 DR. YEE: Sort of.

23  
24 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Does that need  
25 to be its own -- I guess I'm wondering does

1 that need to be its own, or does that fall  
2 under Emergency Management and Preparedness?  
3 Because the goal is to make sure that those  
4 facilities are prepared and able to be  
5 resilient.

6  
7 DR. YEE: I think under current  
8 structure, it's how do we get trauma  
9 patients into -- what happens to them after  
10 their -- their acute phase in the hospital.

11  
12 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Right. But I'm  
13 wondering do we broaden that out -- as you  
14 suggested with acute care, we broaden that  
15 outside of acute care to look at the post-  
16 acute. The post-acute --

17  
18 DR. YEE: I'm thinking about acute  
19 and post-acute care.

20  
21 MR. SCHWALENBERG: From -- more  
22 globally than just trauma.

23  
24 DR. YEE: Yeah.

1 BOARD MEMBER: I mean, can trauma  
2 be --

3  
4 DR. YEE: Consolidate the  
5 committees.

6  
7 BOARD MEMBER: Can trauma be a  
8 subset?

9  
10 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Mm-hmm.

11  
12 MS. ADAMS: What if we call it  
13 environments of care? Acute, post-acute.

14  
15 DR. O'SHEA: So -- Jake O'Shea. So  
16 I guess I would say for post-acute care, the  
17 quality component of post-acute care --  
18 trauma has this very specific focus on that.

19 And I think that is a  
20 population where it makes a lot of sense to  
21 focus on it within the scope of EMS Advisory  
22 Board, given the charge around trauma triage  
23 specifically. I think expanding beyond that  
24 for post-acute care conditions and quality  
25 gets a little bit of, to me, scope -- from

1           what we're -- where we are currently. And  
2           -- and it's not necessarily within what I  
3           have seen this as the charge of this Board.  
4           I -- I think it's important from the trauma  
5           perspective.

6                         But -- but as I understand it,  
7           that committee that as envisioned by  
8           Dr. Aboutanos has been focused not just are  
9           they prepared in disaster, but what is the  
10          quality of the post-acute care provided to  
11          patients who are discharged from an acute  
12          care trauma admission.

13  
14                         MR. STARK: Dr. Yee.

15  
16                         DR. YEE: So I'm going to play  
17          devil's advocate. I think that we -- we  
18          lack communications with our post-acute  
19          care, the -- the SNF's of the world, the  
20          rehab from the EMS side. This gives us  
21          that opportunity.

22                         And I'm doing a lot of work  
23          with them now, so I can take that elderly  
24          fall before she gets that hip fracture,  
25          right? So she'll never get that hip



1 fracture and, you know, die 12 -- 12 months  
2 later, you know, from the third fall with a  
3 femur fracture.

4  
5 DR. O'SHEA: And -- and would that  
6 not fall under injury and violence  
7 prevention?

8  
9 DR. YEE: A little -- a little bit,  
10 but now -- that's a good point.

11  
12 MR. PARKER: Because not fall under  
13 mobile integrated health care, you're doing  
14 work -- I mean, honestly, there's a lot of,  
15 I think, potential --

16  
17 DR. O'SHEA: And also, I think -- I  
18 think that's a separate topic. I think it  
19 makes absolute sense for EMS to be well  
20 integrated with post-acute facilities.

21 I guess I -- from what I  
22 understand has been the scope of the prior  
23 post-acute care meetings, I think you're  
24 looking at a shift -- a little bit of -- of  
25 what that is.

1 DR. YEE: We -- we're shifting all  
2 of them. So -- but the -- you bring a great  
3 point. Why don't we just embed post-acute  
4 care into some of the committees? That  
5 would work just as well.

6  
7 DR. O'SHEA: Yeah. I agree.

8  
9 MS. ADAMS: Beth Adams.

10  
11 MR. STARK: Yeah.

12  
13 MS. ADAMS: Northern Virginia. I  
14 think it would be really helpful -- just as  
15 not specific about committee alignment,  
16 restructuring, etcetera.

17 But I think it would be really  
18 helpful if we could modify the Advisory  
19 Board committee web site to not only  
20 identify when they're going to meet and who  
21 serves on those committees, but to -- but to  
22 give a little thumbnail sketch of what this  
23 committee exists to do.

24  
25 MR. PARKER: Like their goals and

1 objectives.

2  
3 MS. ADAMS: Even if it's a  
4 one-liner. Because it -- I mean, I just  
5 think that as I'm scanning between them, I'm  
6 seeing who's -- who's on those committees.

7 And I -- and which bodies are  
8 represented, but it doesn't say what they're  
9 -- that they're there to do. All right, I  
10 just think that would be, you know, in terms  
11 of educating our community, the public,  
12 etcetera.

13 If they have an interest,  
14 let's figure out where we need to send them  
15 to get that information.

16  
17 BOARD MEMBER: Is it just me or is  
18 it cold?

19  
20 MR. STARK: It's been a long two  
21 days, but --

22  
23 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah, that's out of  
24 my --

1 MS. ADAMS: You're probably not  
2 helped by the bright lights immediately  
3 above us.

4  
5 MR. PARKER: Yeah.

6  
7 MS. ADAMS: And I don't know if we  
8 can turn off just those lights.

9  
10 MR. STARK: All right.

11  
12 MS. QUICK: Can I just say  
13 something?

14  
15 MR. STARK: Yeah, go ahead,  
16 Valerie.

17  
18 MS. QUICK: I'm going to -- I'm  
19 going to play the devil's advocate actually  
20 now. Well, and to -- to back up, there -- a  
21 lot of work has been done by the trauma  
22 group that I hate to undo completely and  
23 reorganize. And I think that there is a  
24 very prescribed trauma system that requires  
25 some of that to exist. It's -- and if you

1 look at the structures of those committees,  
2 they're -- they're just entirely trauma  
3 representatives from different -- from  
4 different angles.

5 What we're sort of missing is  
6 those pieces in -- in other areas. And so,  
7 I would -- I would say that you probably  
8 have an uphill completely disbanding all of  
9 what the trauma committees are.

10 You could still have sort of  
11 the TAG, a couple of the committees  
12 underneath and leave trauma sort of alone  
13 before they -- their heads explode.

14 But I think that it's  
15 important for us to have a systems quality,  
16 a data group that actually would encompass  
17 really more of the focus of what  
18 pre-hospital care is.

19 Which is performance  
20 improvement and data that is going to  
21 incorporate trauma and stroke and STEMI.  
22 And so it really is an all-inclusive entity  
23 that could also include our post-acute care,  
24 post -- you know, the -- the rehab groups.  
25 So I'd hate to add a committee, which is

1 what essentially I'm saying. But if we get  
2 rid of a bunch of other committees, I think  
3 it's an even -- even keel.

4 But -- so that -- my proposal  
5 would be like the system quality and data  
6 group that actually does look at performance  
7 improvement across all spectrums of EMS  
8 care.

9 And it nicely feeds into  
10 Medical Direction. It nicely feeds into the  
11 trauma group that -- I -- I think you could  
12 pull out injury prevention. I think you can  
13 pull out emergency management.

14 If you start to mess around  
15 with some of the other ones, I have a  
16 feeling that it's not going to be in line  
17 with ACS and what the trauma needs are  
18 specifically.

19 That we're going to end up  
20 just pushing them off into their own little  
21 group and not necessarily correlating well  
22 with us.

23  
24 DR. O'SHEA: And I --  
25

1 MR. STARK: Yeah.

2  
3 DR. O'SHEA: I totally agree. I --  
4 Jake O'Shea. I clearly agree with the  
5 concept of a quality and -- and continuous  
6 improvement or -- or quality and data type  
7 of committee.

8 I think there's a tremendous  
9 amount of benefit to that. That it -- it's  
10 to our benefit to focus on. I guess -- one  
11 question I just want to ask about trauma  
12 committees versus some of the others is the  
13 other committees are allowed to have  
14 subcommittees.

15 Could we not say we have a  
16 Trauma Administrative Governance Committee  
17 in the bylaws. That committee may have  
18 whatever subcommittees it deems necessary.

19 And then just not necessarily  
20 reference them all within the bylaws  
21 specifically. Would that be an option for  
22 us? Would that be within the purview of  
23 that committee?

24  
25 BOARD MEMBER: Just put it all

1 under one umbrella.

2  
3 DR. YEE: I mean, that's what we  
4 used to do.

5  
6 MR. PARKER: That's what we had.

7  
8 DR. YEE: That's what we had. So  
9 we would go back to the other structure,  
10 which is -- I mean, it's the same -- we're  
11 doing the same thing. We're just calling it  
12 different things.

13 We -- we call everything a  
14 committee, right? Now we would have TAG as  
15 the committee and then they would have  
16 subcommittees.

17  
18 MR. PARKER: Subcommittees.

19  
20 DR. YEE: And that relieves the  
21 pressure of extra chairs.

22  
23 MR. PARKER: And extra seats on the  
24 Board.



1 DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle. I have a  
2 question.

3  
4 MR. STARK: Yes.

5  
6 DR. BARTLE: Will that -- anything  
7 with the trauma accreditation requires like  
8 all these trauma subcommittees or committees  
9 be on the Board? Or is it having it under  
10 the -- under trauma?

11  
12 MR. BROWN: Sam I'm missed what --  
13 I missed your question.

14  
15 DR. BARTLE: If they were to put  
16 all these trauma committees under one  
17 encompassing trauma committee, will that  
18 still meet the requirements for the  
19 accreditation? Or do they have to have a  
20 separate --

21  
22 MR. BROWN: ACS one? No. They  
23 wouldn't have any impact.

24  
25 DR. O'SHEA: Say that again, Gary.

1 MR. STARK: No -- the answer's no.  
2 They -- they do not have to be separately  
3 enumerated in subcommittees. Yeah. Okay.  
4 Other comments? Okay. Let's take 10  
5 minutes and then we will finish up the day.

6  
7 (The EMS Advisory Board Retreat discussions  
8 took a recess at 10:33 a.m., and resumed at  
9 10:45 a.m. The Board's agenda resumed as follows:)

10  
11 MR. STARK: I'll assume everybody's  
12 now. The other big issue of the day is  
13 composition of the Advisory Board. And  
14 currently, you know, obviously 28 members of  
15 the Board right now.

16 There's been some -- there's  
17 been comments, you know, about the size of  
18 the Board. You know, that it's -- it can be  
19 unwieldy. So we need to determine whether  
20 or not, you know, we need this size board.

21 If, you know, the folks that  
22 are represented on this Board are truly  
23 serving a purpose for the Advisory Board.  
24 Chris, I'll -- I'll offer it to you to, you  
25 know, any comment? Any initial comments

1 that you have about, you know, current  
2 structure of the Board and, you know, or  
3 just general comments about composition of  
4 the Board.

5  
6 MR. PARKER: I'm going to defer to  
7 others.

8  
9 MR. STARK: Okay. Let's open it  
10 up.

11  
12 MR. TANNER: I'll have a little  
13 comment.

14  
15 MR. STARK: Yes, sir.

16  
17 MR. TANNER: General -- I'm new to  
18 the Board. I represent VACO. And just  
19 about everybody in here is representing a  
20 stakeholder's group that represents a broad  
21 spectrum of the Commonwealth.

22 And I don't know that anyone  
23 should be eliminated, in my opinion. If  
24 some know of some that should be eliminated,  
25 then please speak. But it's prescribed out

1 on every committee where you serve and why  
2 you serve there, and what your mission is.

3  
4 MR. STARK: Okay. Yes.

5  
6 MR. SCHWALENBERG: Tom  
7 Schwalenberg, Tidewater EMS. I'm just going  
8 to ask, I guess, maybe more of a clarifying  
9 question. Which you say the Board is  
10 unwieldy. What -- what are we basing that  
11 off of? What are --

12  
13 MR. STARK: Well I guess, you know,  
14 sometimes it's hard to get, you know, 28  
15 members in the same place at the same time,  
16 you know, at times. Sometimes it's hard to  
17 get a, you know, a consensus on items.

18 If we're not seeing, you know,  
19 those types of issues then the question  
20 becomes, you know, do we believe the  
21 composition of the Board is an accurate  
22 reflection of, you know, those who promote  
23 the interests of the, you know, of the  
24 Advisory Board and those who are needed on  
25 the Board. If that's the -- what the

1 question becomes then.

2  
3 MR. SCHWALENBERG: So -- so I think  
4 those are two separate -- I think those are  
5 two separate issues. One is --

6  
7 MR. STARK: Yeah.

8  
9 MR. SCHWALENBERG: -- if we're  
10 saying it's unwieldy and it's not doing its  
11 -- its mission, then I would say as a  
12 relatively new Board member, I don't -- I  
13 don't see evidence of that. So -- but maybe  
14 that's just my tenure.

15 So I -- I don't see evidence  
16 of that. But I -- I think -- I think those  
17 are two separate -- those are two separate  
18 pathways that you're discussing.

19  
20 MR. STARK: Yeah, I agree.

21 Dr. Yee.

22  
23 DR. YEE: In the history of the  
24 Board, have we ever -- have we failed to  
25 have a quorum?

1 MR. STARK: Have you guys ever  
2 failed to have a quorum? Okay.

3  
4 MR. PARKER: So I do have a  
5 question to pose for the group. For those  
6 that have gone through Board recomposition  
7 in other arenas -- i.e, regional councils or  
8 what not -- what decisions did you take to  
9 get to that?

10 Would you just look at it as  
11 -- we've got too many members and we need to  
12 consolidate down. We've got duplication of  
13 members or member services.

14 So just thinking about those  
15 things, kind of have that discussion. And  
16 I'm going to tag some people that I know  
17 have been through that. Matt.

18  
19 MR. LAWLER: Matt Lawler. We --  
20 talking about the Central Shenandoah EMS  
21 Council. Our EMS council for decades was --  
22 had a board officially that if -- if  
23 everybody showed up, probably numbered close  
24 to 80 members. Because every EMS agency in  
25 the region, every hospital and, you know,

1 all the interest groups got a -- got a seat  
2 on the board. And I worked for the -- for  
3 the EMS council for over 16 years as a -- as  
4 a staff member, you know.

5 Observed this as a -- as a  
6 non-board member. And of course, Gary  
7 Critzer would be able to give you the -- you  
8 know, a much better detailed history of  
9 this, but he's not here.

10 So I'll try to do my best in  
11 his place. But probably 20 years ago, there  
12 was an attempt at restructuring the board.  
13 And 20 years ago, there are a lot of the --  
14 the stakeholders were more connected to the  
15 EMS council at that time.

16 And -- and the -- the desire  
17 to downsize the board failed because  
18 everybody showed up and said they still  
19 wanted their vote and their piece of the  
20 pie.

21 And then the really -- after  
22 that, there was a lot of discussion but no  
23 -- no formal action was ever taken to -- to  
24 re-size or restructure that board until very  
25 recently when after repeat years and years

1 of no representation from us. We decided  
2 that it needed to -- to try it again. At  
3 that point, I had become a board member, not  
4 a staffer any more, having left and taken a  
5 new job.

6 We -- we -- we had gotten into  
7 a -- a situation where the executive  
8 committee of that board was empowered to do  
9 all the business of the council. And that's  
10 what was happening with this executive  
11 committee that was made up of about eight,  
12 nine, 10 people were the ones who were doing  
13 all the work.

14 So we said, hey look, why  
15 don't we just flip this, eliminate the  
16 executive committee, restructure the board  
17 and have a -- a work-able board that's  
18 representative of the different interest  
19 groups in the region and go from there.

20 So what we ended up doing is  
21 our -- our council serves 10 municipalities.  
22 And we designed a board that had one  
23 representative from each municipality, the  
24 regional medical director, a representative  
25 of the hospitals in the region, two at-large



1 members to -- to kind of fill the void of --  
2 of areas where the -- that were under-  
3 represented.

4 And including the -- we  
5 recognized that the -- the city and the  
6 county reps were probably generally  
7 represent municipal departments, which is  
8 what happened.

9 So we wanted to fill -- we  
10 wanted a couple groups that have  
11 representation of the volunteer interest or  
12 whatever, you know, geographical area might  
13 have been under-represented on the council.

14 We ended up with a board of  
15 15. I don't remember all of the spots, but  
16 our past president that was here before. So  
17 we ended up with a board of 15 and -- and  
18 have been, you know, working now under that  
19 board structure for -- for about a year.

20 And it's -- it's served us  
21 well. We have fairly good representation on  
22 the board, probably pushing 75 to 80% of the  
23 reps showing up. So it's -- that's been  
24 successful for us. Some, you know, felt  
25 like that might be a little bit too big of a

1 board. But I think it's a -- it's a good  
2 sized board and it's been successful for us.  
3 You know, the problem with our previous  
4 board is nobody showed up to work and get --  
5 we would have the executive committee show  
6 up and then two or three other people would  
7 show up.

8 So that eight people would  
9 show up. The -- the board -- on paper, the  
10 board was unwieldy. But the functionality  
11 of it, it just didn't function, number one,  
12 was the primary reason for deciding to  
13 restructure that.

14  
15 BOARD MEMBER: So I'm going to --  
16 it kind of goes back to my last question,  
17 which is so -- so I have been through a  
18 board restructure, non-EMS related, another  
19 non-profit.

20 And the two things that drove  
21 the restructuring of that board were  
22 basically what -- what -- what's -- what was  
23 the current board not doing that needed to  
24 be done to benefit the organization. And  
25 then as the organization was looking towards

1 the future, where it wanted to go, what  
2 areas did -- that needed to be covered.  
3 Predominantly looking at stakeholder  
4 involvement that were not currently  
5 represented in the board.

6 And those really became our  
7 two driving sort of marching orders, if you  
8 will, to say how are we going to restructure  
9 this. And -- and the restructure was  
10 successful.

11 But I think the basic premise  
12 was what was -- and I'll bring it back to  
13 this board. What is the board not doing now  
14 that -- that is causing an issue?

15 I mean, we're -- I guess  
16 really that's a fundamental question. So  
17 what are we not doing now? Maybe I'm just  
18 not seeing it, I don't know.

19 But I think really, when we  
20 went through the restructure, those were the  
21 two things we looked at is -- is -- because  
22 we did have some gaps in -- in the current  
23 board. So what was the board not doing for  
24 the organization that needed to be done.  
25 And then, where do we want to position the

1 organization.

2  
3 MR. PARKER: Okay. Kevin.

4  
5 MR. DILLARD: So, Kevin Dillard.

6  
7 MR. STARK: Yeah.

8  
9 MR. DILLARD: My observations are  
10 that the stakeholders are currently very  
11 well represented. And I think the  
12 geographic areas are very well represented.

13 And in my years on the Board,  
14 I've seen very good participation and I  
15 think the Board functions well. So you  
16 know, is it perfect? No, probably not.

17 But I'm not seeing any huge  
18 concerns. I think the Board's been very  
19 functional and I think the Board's been very  
20 effective. So that's just my observation.

21  
22 MR. STARK: Other observations,  
23 folks that have been on the Board for a  
24 period of time while it's at the 28 members.

1 DR. YEE: Allen. So if we  
2 restructure -- not restructure -- reorganize  
3 the way we do business at the Board meeting  
4 to include more committee work, can we solve  
5 -- don't -- don't we solve some of the  
6 problems that -- that are perceived?

7 I mean, do we have to make  
8 this drastic change now? Can we just see  
9 what changes we make now, how it affects our  
10 productivity?

11  
12 MR. PARKER: One of the questions  
13 that was posed during our break was, if we  
14 restructure committees, is that suffice of  
15 how our -- our intent or need to or lack of  
16 need to restructure the Board.

17 Because I'm, you know, looking  
18 at some of the committees. If we put more  
19 representation on those committees where  
20 it's truly doing the work, do we need to  
21 restructure the Board?

22 Maybe we make this move since  
23 it's an easier move with the bylaws and  
24 changes that. And then we see where that  
25 goes, with the long term thought process do

1 we need to slim down the Board. We don't  
2 know where that's going to be. We don't  
3 know until we figure out this with the  
4 committees. Jason.

5  
6 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Jason  
7 Ferguson. So the question I have is, do we  
8 have anyone -- any stakeholder group that's  
9 not represented on the Board, versus looking  
10 around and saying what can we eliminate.

11 What's not represented, not to  
12 throw it out. And then, if we do, then  
13 maybe look at with the stakeholders that are  
14 currently here to say, is that going to be  
15 added to it?

16 Or is that something that we  
17 can go, okay, well, well kind of swap out  
18 here because of maybe over-representation of  
19 this particular group or that particular  
20 group.

21  
22 MR. PARKER: Gary.

23  
24 MR. SAMUELS: Gary Samuels. Yeah,  
25 we -- we've had this -- these discussions

1 before. And every time it leads back --  
2 everybody has their -- their interest or the  
3 reason they participate. When you really  
4 break it down, pre-hospital -- we're not  
5 going to go with the regions, but  
6 pre-hospital.

7 There are seven  
8 representatives. Hospitals, nursing,  
9 doctors, physician societies, VACEP,  
10 whatever you want to put them, I kind of --  
11 this group like VHHA, that's all hospital-  
12 driven things.

13 There's six people that  
14 represent the hospital systems. There's  
15 four that kind of represent government, and  
16 that includes the consumer position. That's  
17 kind of -- consumer's kind of representing  
18 the citizens.

19 VACO, VML and then ASCO [sp],  
20 which is the dispatchers. And then when you  
21 look at the regional councils, there's a mix  
22 of field providers, nurses, emergency  
23 managers. Depending on who was appointed  
24 into the position by their -- their regional  
25 councils. So the mix of groups is very

1       diverse. Even some of the regional  
2       councils, there's people that are nurses or  
3       -- and medics and flight medics serving in  
4       one -- serving a regional council on the  
5       Board.

6                        So I think that's -- that's a  
7       very diverse group. Looking at other --  
8       other groups -- other groups out there, you  
9       know, I'm kind of with you.

10                      Who's out there that we're not  
11       already tasking in this -- in this group? I  
12       mean, this group -- this Board used to be  
13       34, I think. And they mixed it back to 28.

14                      And trying to grow it based on  
15       adding a position, taking a position -- I  
16       mean, is there any one council or is there  
17       any one group that wants to give up a spot  
18       because they feel like -- or is that group  
19       under-valued or over-valued on the Board.

20                      And that's -- it's hard to say  
21       because I think the diversity of the folks  
22       that are -- that come to the table, that's  
23       our key. Because we're not group thinking.  
24       We're really weighing in how it's going to  
25       impact Northern Virginia versus southwest



1 Virginia versus the Eastern Shore. We're  
2 looking at all of those little pieces.  
3 We're trying to figure out how to best serve  
4 the citizens.

5 Yeah, we -- I mean, I could  
6 probably go down a list of interest groups  
7 throughout the state that are lobbying for  
8 other things and find something that we  
9 could plug into a hole on the Board.

10 Whereas with the revamping the  
11 committee structure, we're going to plug a  
12 lot of people into those holes. And I -- I  
13 think that in itself will lead to huge  
14 changes on the work that we get done and how  
15 -- how we report out at the end.

16 How we can support the Office  
17 with their needs and support population  
18 health and everything else. So I think  
19 there's a lot of work that's being done.  
20 But I think this is a diverse group of  
21 people that are already coming to the table  
22 to do the work.

23  
24 DR. O'SHEA: And Gary, I'm going to  
25 agree with most of what you said. Jake

1 O'Shea. I think I would distinguish between  
2 the hospitals and the physician groups. I  
3 think where the hospitals -- the physicians  
4 often work with or at hospitals.

5 I would not say that they are  
6 always representative of the hospitals in  
7 that setting. So I would -- I would  
8 distinguish between those.

9  
10 MR. SAMUELS: Okay.

11  
12 DR. O'SHEA: And would note that,  
13 you know, by that, the hospitals have a  
14 single representative on the Board.

15  
16 MR. STARK: You had mentioned that  
17 there were 34. I think, at one point, there  
18 might've been 37.

19  
20 MR. SAMUELS: Yeah.

21  
22 MR. STARK: So what would be, at  
23 this time, a reduction of Board at that  
24 point? Gary.

1 MR. BROWN: I'm leaning executive.  
2 Well actually at the time, if I remember  
3 correctly, the Board was 37 members. It was  
4 either the largest or one of the largest  
5 boards in the entire state.

6 And in looking at the  
7 participation -- to give you some examples  
8 of the organizations that were represented  
9 at the time and some rationale as to why  
10 they would maybe conclude that -- and there  
11 was suggestions made.

12 At the time, there were the  
13 three teaching hospitals in the state. Each  
14 had a seat on the Board. That was Eastern  
15 Virginia Medical School, VCU and UVa.

16 Actually I don't believe any  
17 of you were on the Board at that time -- I  
18 know Kevin meets a couple Boards. But those  
19 three institutions had a seat on the Board  
20 as teaching institutions.

21 It was decided that they --  
22 there are organizations that we should be  
23 working with through a more umbrella  
24 organization, such as VHHA representing all  
25 hospitals, not just the teaching hospitals.

1 At the time, actually the Department of  
2 Motor Vehicles and the Department of  
3 Emergency Services, which is now VDEM, had  
4 seats on the Board for coordination of --  
5 with EMS and so forth.

6 And as we all know -- and I  
7 think Beth brought it up yesterday -- that  
8 the roots of EMS, my roots in EMS as we know  
9 it is actually in highway safety.

10 And so, the thought process --  
11 these are entities, again, that as a -- as a  
12 State agency, OEMS-VDH is us. We should be  
13 working with DMV and VDEM on a daily basis,  
14 you know, which we do.

15 There was the Virginia  
16 Pharmaceutical Association that was on the  
17 Board. And it was determined that we should  
18 be working -- which we do -- with the Board  
19 of Pharmacy.

20 So they -- we don't  
21 necessarily need that association on the  
22 Board. So that gives you some ideas of --  
23 just samples of some entities that were on  
24 the Board that came off the Board trying to,  
25 number one, streamline a large 37-member

1 Board -- which was like herding cats, quite  
2 honestly. Trying to organize meetings and  
3 so forth. And where there should be already  
4 established type of relationships and  
5 connections with those organizations.

6 So that was a lot of the  
7 rationale in terms of paring things down.  
8 Actually from the General Assembly type of  
9 messaging we were getting as well, this was  
10 -- this was not just driven by EMS's the  
11 withdrawals were driven by the General  
12 Assembly who looked at this and said, too  
13 big of a Board. Got to pare it down. So I  
14 can stop right there and --

15  
16 MR. STARK: Did that kind of answer  
17 the question? Any other comments? Yeah,  
18 Valerie.

19  
20 MS. QUICK: I mean, I think it's  
21 still behooves us to look at the redundancy  
22 on the Board. And even just from a fiscal  
23 responsibility, I think that -- I think we  
24 all sort of agreed earlier that, I mean,  
25 someone from each of the regional council

1 areas is important. But could we -- I mean,  
2 could we actually define that a little bit  
3 more? Like instead of saying the regional  
4 councils could we actually say an EMS  
5 provider with this type of -- with -- from  
6 the municipality.

7 It would be an EMS  
8 administrator and then vary that through the  
9 different municipalities. That way, you  
10 actually get more of the boots on the ground  
11 potential, but then you represent all the  
12 different areas.

13 So one person has to be a  
14 volunteer, one person has to be a career  
15 pilot. One person has to be, you know,  
16 municipality.

17  
18 DR. YEE: This is Allen. So I  
19 think the regional council reps is how we  
20 take information from the Governor's  
21 Advisory Board -- take it down to the  
22 regions and from the regions into the  
23 agencies. So I think those positions are  
24 key, you know. And I think they -- it's --  
25 it engages all parts of the -- the system.

1 With that said, I would probably rephrase it  
2 as regional council or their equivalent.  
3 Right? You know, because -- because of  
4 restructuring some of the other group --  
5 council, whatever the right term is.

6 I don't know. Like we don't  
7 know what the future holds, right? Because  
8 -- let's say we become, you know, let's take  
9 the extreme. You know, all 11 councils  
10 become State offices.

11 Then each State office will  
12 elect a representative from the region. The  
13 function will still be the same.

14  
15 MS. ADAMS: Will it?

16  
17 DR. YEE: Hmm?

18  
19 MS. ADAMS: Will it? Beth Adams.  
20 Question, will it? Will it still be the  
21 same if it's -- if it's an office of the --  
22 and a remote office of the Office of EMS?

23  
24 MS. QUICK: But we're not looking  
25 at a functioning member of that agency.

1           It's a person from the region to represent.

2  
3           MS. ADAMS: But the statute already  
4 says that each organization and group shall  
5 submit three nominees from among which, the  
6 governor may make appointments.

7           Of the three nominees  
8 submitted by each regional EMS council, at  
9 least one member shall be representative of  
10 providers of pre-hospital care.

11           And so, it behooves the  
12 councils to -- to fulfill that. In the case  
13 of my recent nomination, it was -- two of  
14 them are active daily providers and then  
15 there's me. The governor picked me.

16           So they strove to meet the --  
17 they met the requirements in the -- in the  
18 nominee's part. Who the governor picks is  
19 who the governor -- I suspect the governor  
20 didn't actually go, oh, yeah.

21           Beth'd be great. I suspect  
22 that -- that it was somebody in a delegated  
23 role to do that. But I think there is --  
24 given the diversity of the Commonwealth, I  
25 think we need to continue to have regional



1 council representation. Because who best  
2 knows their region other than the people who  
3 live there, not the people who may have  
4 relocated there to -- to work or do  
5 something else.

6  
7 MR. STARK: Yeah, Dr. Yee.

8  
9 DR. YEE: Historically speaking, I  
10 mean, I been through a couple of Board --  
11 versions of the Board, a couple of tours.  
12 And what I'm about to say is just  
13 theoretical because the individuals truly  
14 have -- really have been productive on the  
15 Board.

16 But all -- all of the  
17 organizations have one vote, except for one.  
18 Why does that one organization have two?  
19 Why not two -- two representatives?

20  
21 MR. PARKER: So that's actually one  
22 of the questions that has been posed to me  
23 is why do we have one organization that has  
24 two seats. And then we have three seats  
25 that are covered by fire fighter -- or fire

1 groups. And no, do not construe what I just  
2 said. I'm just throwing that out there from  
3 some of the questions that I've been asked.  
4 I don't know the history. I don't know -- I  
5 don't know that. So just repeating --

6  
7 MR. SAMUELS: I think we can --  
8 this is Gary Samuels. With -- with the fire  
9 groups, they represent different groups of  
10 people. Not necessarily what would affect  
11 the career departments affect the volunteer  
12 departments.

13 And the same with EMS when you  
14 think -- when you really look at it. Not  
15 what you'd be bringing to the table or it --  
16 it could -- it could be -- it could be  
17 different for each of those groups.

18 If you look at the fire chiefs  
19 and Jennifer's not here. But if you think  
20 about the fire chiefs, they're worried about  
21 how it's going to impact the budget,  
22 correct? The fire fighters, we're -- we're  
23 more worried about -- I'm worried about  
24 health and safety. I'm worried about how it  
25 impacts the line fire fighter on the career

1 side. I would think that volunteers are  
2 going to look at -- they're looking at  
3 funding. They're looking at, you know, if  
4 -- if we put things into place that could  
5 impact our ability to recruit and retain  
6 members.

7 And the same with being -- I  
8 mean, with the VAA, Virginia Ambulance  
9 Association. If you put something into  
10 place that affects the ambulance  
11 association, that now impacts how Kevin does  
12 business or how that whole group does  
13 business, throughout the state.

14 VAVRS is looking at, you know,  
15 how -- recruit and retention again. How  
16 it's going to impact the ability for them to  
17 get boots on the ground. So there's -- and  
18 the VAGEMSA, that's a big mix of all the  
19 groups.

20 Because VAGEMSA could be --  
21 it's kind of affiliated with fire chiefs and  
22 administrators from different systems. And  
23 some regional managers. So when I look at  
24 what they bring to the table, each has a  
25 different focus. And not always what's good

1 for the chief is good for the -- the fire  
2 fighters in the field or the medics in the  
3 field, too.

4  
5 MR. STARK: Valerie.

6  
7 MS. QUICK: I -- I understand what  
8 you're saying completely and I would agree  
9 with you. But I don't think that that would  
10 negate anybody else's feeling as far as an  
11 administrator goes.

12 And let's just say an EMS only  
13 agency or a volunteer agency or, you know,  
14 let's say a private entity that -- they'd  
15 all have those same concerns. How do we  
16 keep our people safe?

17 How do we keep -- how do we  
18 financially influence this. I think that  
19 some of that should kind of is also  
20 represented already in the regional  
21 councils. That's you all belong -- and  
22 separate entities, too, regional councils,  
23 right?

24  
25 MR. SAMUELS: No.

1 MS. QUICK: Fire chief of --

2  
3 MR. SAMUELS: Fire chief, yes.

4  
5 MS. QUICK: -- of a specific  
6 organization, right?

7  
8 MR. SAMUELS: As a -- as a  
9 professional fire fighter, no. I may not be  
10 able to go to the regional meeting because  
11 I'm not recognized at the regional meeting.  
12 I'm not the -- I'm not the member who has  
13 been assigned to that.

14  
15 MS. QUICK: If you're a transport  
16 agency with an EMS license, why wouldn't you  
17 be?

18  
19 MR. SAMUELS: Because -- my  
20 understanding of the regional councils, I'm  
21 -- I'm a worker bee in the field. Whereas  
22 the chief if going to be the one that goes  
23 to that -- goes to the regional council and  
24 sits in the meetings. Or his designee --

1 MS. QUICK: Right.

2  
3 MR. SAMUELS: -- or her designee.  
4 So if it -- it leads it to believe that it's  
5 an administrative function or at the  
6 administrative level and not at the boots on  
7 the ground level.

8  
9 MS. QUICK: Well, it's definitely  
10 an issue in itself and we should be --

11  
12 MR. SAMUELS: And that's -- and  
13 that's what -- I think that's why a lot of  
14 -- a lot of the -- the groups came to the  
15 table and wanted a -- wanted a place of that  
16 table.

17 When I -- when I go back and  
18 I'm looking at the histories online here,  
19 there were -- there have been, you know, a  
20 few ads I think -- I mean, and the last ad  
21 was probably Mike Grove's position. Because  
22 no one had even looked at that.

23  
24 MS. QUICK: And why would the fire  
25 chiefs be any different than the EMS chiefs?

1 And I know it's because many of them don't  
2 exist. Because most of us are under fire.  
3 But I think that all of these entities  
4 matter.

5 I don't know that they  
6 necessarily meet three separate entities  
7 that represent fire. When -- what about  
8 some of the -- if we're dividing that out,  
9 then like what put in -- if there was an EMS  
10 association, why don't we have an EMS --  
11 some EMS rep?

12 And it's because we -- we mix.  
13 And I -- by no means am I -- am I saying  
14 that we should have a large influence by --  
15 by fire at lots of different levels.

16 But I think that we're getting  
17 that regardless because that's who's running  
18 agencies and calls and government statuses.  
19 I think they are well represented in -- in a  
20 lot of different areas.

21 And you know, should continue  
22 that committee work and should continue to  
23 just general work within the councils, I'd  
24 love them to be.

1 MR. STARK: Allen Yee.

2  
3 DR. YEE: Is this an academic  
4 discussion, or are we just really prepared  
5 to change the Board composition now? You  
6 know, I thought in our previous we talked  
7 about let's just see how -- how changes to  
8 our -- how we do business, will that make us  
9 more productive.

10 I mean, do we have to make  
11 this change? I mean, I don't know if we --  
12 I thought we were leaning toward not making  
13 changes at the Board level. Or did I miss  
14 something?

15  
16 BOARD MEMBER: I don't know if you  
17 want to bring that point to --

18  
19 MR. STARK: Yeah, actually it's on  
20 the table. Everything's on the table at  
21 this point.

22  
23 MR. PARKER: These are all -- these  
24 are all things that we discussed in  
25 different Executive Committees or in



1 different -- so just bringing in it all here  
2 while we're here.

3  
4 MR. DILLARD: Kevin Dillard. I'm  
5 -- I'm along the lines of Dr. Yee. I think  
6 we ought to try the committee restructure  
7 and see how that works versus splitting  
8 hairs on whether, you know, one organization  
9 has, you know, more representation than --  
10 than the other.

11 Like I said earlier, I think  
12 our Board has been very effective and very  
13 efficient. And I think the biggest changes  
14 can be made at the committee level right  
15 now.

16  
17 MR. PARKER: Okay.

18  
19 MR. DILLARD: I mean, that's where  
20 all the work happens.

21  
22 MR. STARK: Yes, sir.

23  
24 MR. TANNER: Gary Tanner.  
25 Listening to the discussion, I agree with

1 Dr. Lee [sic] and go back to what I said in  
2 the very beginning. We have stakeholders  
3 here represented. A vast group of  
4 knowledge.

5 I think the changes to the  
6 committees, subcommittees is where we need  
7 to focus and not scaling down this Advisory  
8 Board.

9 Briefly, I'd -- I'd say  
10 there's a huge difference and that's the  
11 reason that fire's represented in three  
12 different ways. Volunteers, that's me, he's  
13 paid and you have your chiefs.

14 And a lot of EMS runs through  
15 the veins of fire service now. It has for  
16 years. So I don't think that should be  
17 touched at all.

18  
19 DR. BARTLE: Sam Bartle. I have a  
20 question I want to everyone. I'm not  
21 looking for anybody to answer this, but it's  
22 something to think about. We need all to  
23 ask ourselves what is it that we bring to  
24 this table as a group? What can be done if  
25 we're not there? And are we bringing

1 anything of -- of substance and of -- that  
2 actually is making a difference. Then you  
3 know, we can justify what we do.

4 Or we can't -- we can't sit  
5 there and go, well, I'm here to represent my  
6 little old group, my own organization or my  
7 only -- my person. Then no, you're not.

8 And -- and I think we need to  
9 look at it in that way. Consider and think  
10 about it, what is -- what is it that you  
11 bring? And is what you're bringing  
12 important for the group as a whole.

13 Yes, we can all go around and  
14 say, yes, we're important. We do this, we  
15 bring this. But I -- we need to ask -- look  
16 at it the other way. Are we bringing  
17 something that is productive?

18  
19 MR. PARKER: Question.

20  
21 MS. QUICK: And -- and I would say,  
22 I'm not at all arguing that these entities  
23 are not important. That -- that's not  
24 really the -- the meaning of statement.  
25 It's just that where do we draw the line of

1 other people that have come up and said, I  
2 really should have a seat at the Board. So  
3 that's -- that's really the impetus for  
4 looking at those sort of structures.

5 I do go with what Dr. Bartle  
6 said, you know, we all -- we all are  
7 important. We all have -- have issues to  
8 bring up. But how do we streamline this to  
9 make the most sense?

10 And if it means we look at  
11 that in a few years while the committees  
12 really get restructured, I think that that's  
13 okay, too.

14 But I -- I do think that it is  
15 worth a conversation to say there are lots  
16 of entities that want to be at the table.  
17 But what table should they be at?

18 Is it this table, is it a  
19 committee table? And -- and how do we --  
20 how do we best serve that.

21  
22 MR. STARK: Yeah. I think it's  
23 well said. Do you advance the interest --  
24 one of you bring, you know, from the agency  
25 to EMS system. Yes, Eddie.

1 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Thank you,  
2 Eddie Ferguson. So to this point, we talked  
3 a lot about patient care and doing what's  
4 best for the patient. And I think that's  
5 the core value that we all are here for.

6 But I think we also have to --  
7 I'm just going to throw it out that politics  
8 side of this. This is a Governor's EMS  
9 Advisory Board. The candidates are selected  
10 by the governor.

11 Can't say politics don't play  
12 into this. Some of the organizations that  
13 have seats on this Board are highly involved  
14 as legislative stakeholders. They affect  
15 change through the General Assembly.

16 They have lobbyists, they have  
17 funding. And so we just can't forget that  
18 because I think all combined and everybody  
19 working together on the same team like the  
20 prior EMS legislative summits that worked in  
21 the past years, I feel like that there is  
22 some benefit to the overall progression of  
23 public safety throughout the Commonwealth.  
24 And so, if we don't consider that, then we  
25 may go off in a direction that may -- we --

1 we may be redirected. So I would just  
2 suggest that, you know, we remember that  
3 some of the organizations that have seats at  
4 the Board are very engaged in legislative  
5 action.

6 And we just can't forget that.  
7 Patient care is the driving force and that's  
8 what makes the most difference in, you know,  
9 who gets the right care.

10 But when something's coming  
11 before the General Assembly that has an --  
12 has an impact on patient care, such as the  
13 two Medevac bills that tried to go -- one  
14 passed and one different -- years ago.

15 All these agencies are at the  
16 table. And meanwhile, the Office of EMS  
17 can't be directly involved in that. I'm  
18 hoping one thing that the legislative  
19 stakeholders are some benefit to the Office  
20 of EMS in these -- in these countless hours  
21 sending out reports now that the General  
22 Assembly's in session. So just a -- just a  
23 thought. I'm patient care-driven. But I'm  
24 also not totally disconnected from what  
25 really happens based into our work.

1           Something to think about.

2  
3           BOARD MEMBER: So just three  
4 things. First of all, I kind of agree with  
5 some of the comments that have already been  
6 made. But -- but I would propose that we  
7 look at the committee structure, we look at  
8 the work of the committee.

9           Does that have a change? If  
10 -- if we change all these things at one  
11 time, are we going to really know what made  
12 the difference.

13           If -- if -- again, I'm still  
14 struggling with what's the deficiency we're  
15 trying to fix, number one. Number two, if  
16 -- if we have people who are saying they  
17 want to be at the table, then -- and I don't  
18 know who those are -- who those  
19 representatives are.

20           If we have people who are  
21 saying that they want to be at the table,  
22 then why don't we just come out and say,  
23 x-y-z organization thinks they need to be at  
24 the table. And then have a frank discussion  
25 of what does that organization bring to this

1 Board. Again, new guy. But I -- I've not  
2 been approached by Organization X saying, I  
3 need to be at the Governor's Advisory Board.  
4 So if that's the case, then let's discuss --  
5 you know, let's open it up and have that  
6 discussion.

7  
8 MR. STARK: Dr. Yee.

9  
10 DR. YEE: So Dr. Aboutanos is not  
11 here, so I'm going to speak on his behalf.  
12 He's asking for six more representatives.  
13 Who the six are, I am not 100% sure. But it  
14 is -- you know, it's going to be that injury  
15 prevention I would suspect.

16  
17 MS. ADAMS: Well, he specified  
18 yesterday what he wanted, who he wanted to  
19 fill that.

20  
21 DR. YEE: So we -- you know, he's a  
22 member of the Board. We should probably  
23 have some discussions around that -- the six  
24 members he's asking for.

25



1 MS. ADAMS: So -- Beth Adams,  
2 Northern Virginia. What the good doctor  
3 said yesterday was that we needed an injury  
4 epidemiologist representing the prevention  
5 group.

6 A health care professional,  
7 not necessarily a physician for the acute  
8 care to represent acute care. That we  
9 needed somebody in the rehabilitative  
10 services, either physical therapist,  
11 occupational therapist, or speech  
12 pathologist for the post-acute care.

13 He didn't -- for hospital  
14 quality and burn care, he didn't -- he said  
15 specified health care professional, not  
16 necessarily an MD.

17 And then for the trauma  
18 nursing care, he wanted a trauma program  
19 manager. Those were the people he was  
20 looking -- the -- the kinds of credentials  
21 or expertise he was looking to seat at the  
22 table for trauma side, representing the  
23 trauma group.

24  
25 DR. YEE: Chris is looking at me

1 for some reason. So I'll start, I guess.  
2 This is Allen. So I think we do have that  
3 representation at the committee level. I'm  
4 going just throw that out there. My name is  
5 Sam Bartle, for the record. That's all I'm  
6 going to say. He did it.

7  
8 DR. BARTLE: Payback is something.

9  
10 DR. YEE: Payback. So we do have  
11 that representation, but we did put it into  
12 the committee level. Which I would argue is  
13 the workhorse of the committee -- of the  
14 whole structure.

15  
16 BOARD MEMBER: I agree.

17  
18 BOARD MEMBER: Are EMO's not  
19 represented in any of the committees?

20  
21 MS. QUICK: And that's where I  
22 think you need to be careful. That's all  
23 I'm doing is bringing up -- that is the  
24 question that you can say, are we  
25 represented in another committee --

1 MR. STARK: How nuanced do we have  
2 to get --

3  
4 MS. QUICK: Yeah.

5  
6 MR. STARK: -- in our  
7 representation?

8  
9 MS. QUICK: Like are we going to  
10 shoot ourselves in the foot by saying, we  
11 represent that within another committee.

12 But oh, wait a minute. This group  
13 represents this hospital in the committee.

14 So I think that's why we have  
15 to be thoughtful about how we -- we go about  
16 saying no or yes to those certain members.

17  
18 DR. BARTLE: Just a question that  
19 leads up to another part. What is it of  
20 those groups is it going to bring -- bring  
21 to -- what are we looking to get from those  
22 groups? Is it something to make a decision  
23 on at this level or something to make a  
24 decision on the committee level? Is it to  
25 help with trauma, with their ongoing

1 programs and changes? Is it something to  
2 help with Medical Direction? Is it  
3 something to help with -- where are we --  
4 what is it that we want from it? Do we want  
5 one of those on the bigger board or not?

6  
7 MR. PARKER: Dreama.

8  
9 MS. CHANDLER: Dreama Chandler. I  
10 think they already have the representation.  
11 They all fall under the TAG, which is  
12 Dr. Aboutanos chairing that.

13 He has a seat on the Board.  
14 He speaks for all of those committees, so  
15 they have representation. It's not that  
16 they're not represented at all.

17  
18 MR. PARKER: I think before  
19 Dr. O'Shea -- I think the -- if you look at  
20 what we did with the bylaws where we created  
21 the committees. And then in the bylaws it  
22 says the committee chairs are members of the  
23 Board. So then we look at -- if you look at  
24 restructuring the committees to make into  
25 actual subcommittees, does that negate that

1 meaning?

2  
3 MS. CHANDLER: Why can't we make a  
4 bylaw change saying that the committee  
5 chairs do not have to be a member of the  
6 Board?

7  
8 MR. STARK: Dr. O'Shea.

9  
10 DR. O'SHEA: And I would -- I would  
11 kind of echo what Chris said. My  
12 understanding was this request came based on  
13 those six committees that are in the bylaws.  
14 If you remove from the bylaws and make them  
15 subcommittees of TAG, does that obviate the  
16 need for the request?

17 Or the other option that we  
18 had not considered is -- does the Advisory  
19 Board recommend to remove the current chairs  
20 of the committee and replace with Advisory  
21 Board members to keep it consistent with the  
22 current bylaws? I'm not advocating for  
23 that, but it is an alternate solution. I --  
24 I would also note that I think the one group  
25 that we may not have as broad a

1 representation from on the Advisory Board is  
2 the prevention side of the world. And that  
3 may be a place to -- to think about. I  
4 think we are all engaged in prevention in  
5 some way, shape or form, however.

6  
7 MR. STARK: Dr. Yee.

8  
9 DR. YEE: So I wholeheartedly agree  
10 with Dr. O'Shea that we do not have  
11 prevention and epidemiology as part of our  
12 Board. However, the Office of EMS now has a  
13 division of epidemiology that maybe that  
14 representation. So we -- that problem may  
15 have solved itself.

16  
17 MR. PARKER: So we may be able to  
18 get information through the two  
19 epidemiologists within the Office to suffice  
20 the need for the Board.

21  
22 DR. YEE: Correct.

23  
24 BOARD MEMBER: Is that epidemiology  
25 a tool or -- I don't -- the end result.

1 MS. ADAMS: Great question.

2

3 MR. STARK: Would you repeat that?

4

5 BOARD MEMBER: I said is  
6 epidemiology a tool that we -- the Board  
7 uses or is it the end result of something  
8 that we made?

9

10 DR. YEE: I think it's both.

11

12 MS. ADAMS: Mm-hmm.

13

14 BOARD MEMBER: I think -- we might  
15 want to look at what we're wanting from each  
16 member of the Board to figure out how we --  
17 you know, that's going to achieve --

18

19 MR. STARK: I didn't hear you.

20

21 BOARD MEMBER: We need to consider  
22 what we want as members of the Board, from  
23 ourselves and from the each other and all  
24 that should be done. Then after that point,  
25 is it -- we add someone else. Take someone

1 else on.

2  
3 DR. YEE: I would argue -- this is  
4 Allen. So I would argue that we delay that  
5 discussion until after we -- we restructure  
6 the committees and see what kind of  
7 productivity we have.

8 Because we have a new focus on  
9 epidemiology. This is something new to EMS.  
10 So let's give the -- let's give the  
11 structure a chance to at least to --

12  
13 MR. PARKER: Right.

14  
15 DR. YEE: -- create some  
16 initiatives. But I do think we need to look  
17 at the committees again with these six  
18 positions in mind -- these six entities in  
19 mind.

20  
21 MR. STARK: Jason.

22  
23 MR. R. J. FERGUSON: Jason  
24 Ferguson. I just want to say like -- echo  
25 Dr. Bartle did. It's -- we just have to be



1 mindful and look at the position, what the  
2 position represents. We can't base it on  
3 the individuals sitting at these tables.

4 Because we change, so we can't  
5 say, well, we've got a medic here. We've  
6 got a flight medic here. We've got an  
7 educator, we got a nurse here. Because we  
8 all will rotate off.

9 So what does the individual  
10 position offer the Board? And maybe we're  
11 well represented already. Maybe there's no  
12 change that needs to be made.

13 But looking at position  
14 itself, that does kind of -- our point  
15 before was is there any position that's  
16 missing? And we can't just base it on  
17 individual characteristics now of the -- of  
18 the existing Board.

19 Because I think we've all done  
20 a great job with what we've been doing,  
21 right? So I'm looking at the future of  
22 where we will be.

23  
24 MR. STARK: Other comments,  
25 thought?

1 MR. HENSCHTEL: I'll take about two  
2 minutes.

3  
4 MR. STARK: Go ahead, Jon.

5  
6 MR. HENSCHTEL: I'm going to -- I'm  
7 going to echo what the devil's advocate said  
8 yesterday. And I have a little bit of  
9 heartache with thinking that we would, you  
10 know, go in a direction that increased the  
11 Board size again.

12 It's tough enough with this  
13 large a group to say we're going to get  
14 things done. As I said yesterday, we know  
15 everybody's got their own opinions about the  
16 various things we discussed.

17 They have their own  
18 stakeholder groups with certain interests  
19 involved. You know, we have -- to some  
20 degree -- set that aside to do what's in the  
21 best interest of the whole.

22 I think the more people you  
23 bring to the table, the more difficult that  
24 becomes. So increasing the size, I -- I  
25 don't feel is a good move, particularly when

1 we've downsized for -- for good reason.  
2 Composition, I can't sit here and tell you  
3 exactly what that looks like, particularly  
4 if we're going to say look toward the  
5 future.

6 It's going to evolve and  
7 change as we continue to go through these  
8 processes. I do think, to an extent, we're  
9 -- we're kind of putting the cart before the  
10 horse.

11 It's already been mentioned  
12 several times. I think our best bet if  
13 we're missing key stakeholders and interest  
14 groups that need a seat at the table to help  
15 us devise a more robust plan moving forward.

16 We have to start at the  
17 committee level. If we -- if we assess  
18 where our committees are at, what they're  
19 doing and then restructure those a little  
20 bit.

21 See if there's a need to add  
22 some different stakeholders, we start there.  
23 Which is certainly going to be more simple  
24 as well because we don't have to go through  
25 a big process to make that change. If we

1 try to change this, who knows how long it's  
2 going to take? If we even get to that point  
3 while some of us are still on the Board.

4 As far as the level of  
5 engagement and involvement, I can't sit here  
6 and attest to what everybody independently  
7 does. But what I can attest to, I missed  
8 one Board meeting.

9 And I've been here roughly  
10 four years. I look around the room and I  
11 see the same people that are here routinely  
12 virtually every time. Which I think is, at  
13 least, a big piece of this in my mind.

14 Now to what level everybody's  
15 engaged, I can't -- I can't say. But when I  
16 go to my own board meetings in my region and  
17 I struggle to get enough people there for a  
18 quorum.

19 This, to me, is a testament to  
20 at least the level of involvement people  
21 want -- want to be involved and want to be  
22 here. So I also see the vast and varied  
23 backgrounds everybody brings to the table.  
24 And I think it behooves us to recognize that  
25 -- that we are doing a fairly good job. Do

1 we hit every mark? Absolutely not. But  
2 that's -- that's where I sit with this. I  
3 think we have to start at that committee  
4 level, as has been mentioned, and see how  
5 that develops and then go from there.

6 If we feel there's another  
7 change in the making, then we look at what  
8 needs to occur here. That's just my  
9 position. Appreciate it.

10  
11 MR. STARK: Any remarks?

12  
13 DR. YEE: Can we go back and look  
14 at the committees again? Because we --  
15 we're saying that the work has to be done by  
16 those committees. Let's go back and make  
17 sure that you have everything there. Who  
18 we're taking out, you know.

19  
20 MR. PARKER: So part of the  
21 discussion we had was after receiving Ron's  
22 comments and the actual minutes, maybe an  
23 Executive Committee meeting to kind of point  
24 that up a little bit. Because we had some  
25 ideas floating around and Ron's taking a lot

1 of notes and -- and bringing them back. And  
2 then we'll have that -- we'll kind of  
3 massage it and then send it out to the  
4 group.

5 Any thoughts on that? Because  
6 we had talked about having the Executive  
7 Committee look at the -- maybe it was a  
8 yesterday idea.

9  
10 MR. STARK: Yes, Dr. O'Shea.

11  
12 DR. O'SHEA: So we did talk about  
13 the Executive Committee and I think the  
14 Executive Committee reviewing it is a good  
15 thing. I guess what I would ask is that  
16 when it comes back to the EMS Advisory  
17 Board, it does not come back in a -- let's  
18 all rubber stamp this. But rather in a  
19 format in which we have an opportunity to  
20 really discuss and dig in --

21  
22 MR. PARKER: Right.

23  
24 BOARD MEMBER: Draft.

25

1 DR. O'SHEA: Yeah.

2

3 MR. PARKER: Yeah.

4

5 DR. O'SHEA: In -- in the context  
6 of -- of the spirit that we've done today.

7

8 MR. PARKER: Right.

9

10 BOARD MEMBER: I'll just add to  
11 that. The Executive Committee should be the  
12 ones to take all the comments that's been  
13 made additionally today, because there's  
14 been some good discussion that might help  
15 you refine even further the committee.

16

17 BOARD MEMBER: Right. Absolutely.

18

19 BOARD MEMBER: I think that's the  
20 key and then collaborating with this group  
21 --

22

23 BOARD MEMBER: Right.

24

25 BOARD MEMBER: -- to finalize that

1 product that everybody's in agreement.

2  
3 MS. CHANDLER: All right. So let's  
4 review. Core composition of the Board we've  
5 decided to hold off on that. Correct? So  
6 we can mark that off the list.

7  
8 MS. QUICK: But can it be like no  
9 additions, no subtractions? Can it be like  
10 that --

11  
12 MS. CHANDLER: Well, that's what --

13  
14 MS. QUICK: -- for now?

15  
16 BOARD MEMBER: At this time.

17  
18 DR. YEE: For now.

19  
20 MR. PARKER: Subject to change in  
21 the future.

22  
23 MS. QUICK: Oh, no, I know, I know.  
24 But for now, we already have somebody bring  
25 us six potential. And so I think right now



1           our position is, we're going to hold on  
2           additions or deletions --

3  
4                   BOARD MEMBER:   Yes.

5  
6                   MS. QUICK:   -- until we get through  
7           this process.

8  
9                   MR. STARK:   Yeah.  A lot of this is  
10          going to be driven by composition of the --  
11          the committees.

12  
13                   BOARD MEMBER:   Yeah.

14  
15                   MR. STARK:   Same thing with goals  
16          and objectives of the committee, that's  
17          going to be driven by that.  We discussed  
18          some of the core responsibilities of the  
19          Board yesterday.

20                           And we talked, you know, about  
21          the future of EMS and trauma -- trauma care  
22          systems.  So I was -- yes, Beth.

23  
24                   MS. ADAMS:   Question.  So how would  
25          we see this proposal that Dr. Aboutanos has

1 submitted? Did he submit in writing?

2  
3 MR. PARKER: No.

4  
5 MS. ADAMS: Was it a conversation,  
6 hey Chris, I want six more committees? I  
7 mean, I ask for a lot of things that if I  
8 didn't follow a structured process or -- if  
9 there's going to be a, you know, pat on the  
10 back or elsewhere, that would say thank you  
11 for sharing.

12 There's no action required  
13 because there's no formal process engaged.  
14 Right? So this is a -- a wish list, a  
15 suggestion? It's not.

16  
17 DR. YEE: So -- so this is Allen.  
18 I'm going to speak from Mike's behalf. You  
19 know, doctors aren't the best people in the  
20 world to put things on paper. Right?

21  
22 BOARD MEMBER: Really?

23  
24 DR. YEE: I think his intent was  
25 what he gave the Board -- this Board was his

1 version of a formal request.

2  
3 DR. O'SHEA: So -- Jake O'Shea. I  
4 guess if we -- if we state the problem,  
5 which to me the problem is that we have a  
6 bylaws document that has some internal  
7 conflict, so that's a problem.

8 How would we resolve the  
9 conflict in the existing bylaws that has six  
10 committees that are not members of the --  
11 whose chairs are not members of the Advisory  
12 Board.

13 But the bylaws require chairs  
14 of committees be members of the Advisory  
15 Board. It sounds like the preferred  
16 resolution of this group is not to add  
17 members to the Advisory Board, but rather,  
18 to revise the bylaws documents to try to  
19 remove that conflict in some way. Is that a  
20 fair statement?

21  
22 MR. PARKER: Which I think some of  
23 that will be removed by removing the  
24 committees, or moving the committees to  
25 subcommittees.

1 DR. YEE: Yes.

2  
3 MR. PARKER: I think that would  
4 take care of some of that.

5  
6 DR. YEE: But not all the  
7 committees will -- not all the current  
8 trauma committees will -- will go to  
9 subcommittees because --

10  
11 MR. PARKER: Right.

12  
13 DR. YEE: -- acute care is likely  
14 going to stay a committee, I would -- I  
15 would hope. The public health would, I  
16 would hope, would stay a committee.

17  
18 MR. PARKER: And maybe we look at  
19 within the bylaws having it to where there  
20 is not necessarily the chair, but a liaison  
21 to the committee. Some kind of working --  
22 something. But there's potential there. I  
23 think Gary's had his hand up. Gary Brown.

24  
25 MR. BROWN: I do want to address a

1 little bit of what we just said about a  
2 thoughtful process of what Dr. Aboutanos did  
3 submit. And -- and I do think that  
4 actually, over the past several years, that  
5 was the most vetted, the most thorough, the  
6 most methodical process that has been --  
7 that has occurred.

8 The evaluation of any aspect  
9 of EMS in the Commonwealth has been years.  
10 We had an outside American College of  
11 Surgeons consultative visit in looking at  
12 various, you know, guidelines and standards  
13 and benchmarking to evaluate the trauma  
14 system.

15 And then once those  
16 recommendations were -- were made to this  
17 Board and to the citizens and to everyone in  
18 Virginia -- hospitals and so forth -- there  
19 was a -- it was like, okay, how do we work  
20 towards addressing those recommendations of  
21 the ACS state consultative visit?

22 And there was a trauma systems  
23 plan task force that was developed. Many  
24 work groups that were developed. And  
25 basically, it categorized the

1 recommendations. And that was a real -- it  
2 was a three-year process that -- that  
3 committee and everyone involved went  
4 through.

5 And then it was a  
6 recommendation that did come up to the  
7 Advisory Board to address the  
8 recommendations of the ACS visit knowing,  
9 and I -- and I think this is the good part.

10 I mean, it's just my opinion,  
11 that it is driving some of these discussions  
12 now. Because it's like taking a budget and  
13 you adopt a deficit budget knowing you don't  
14 have enough revenue identified.

15 But you -- you're not cutting  
16 back your expenditures. So you adopt a  
17 deficit budget. That's what we did here.  
18 We adopted -- or when I say we, the Board  
19 adopted a deficit budget.

20 And it's forcing this kind of  
21 conversation. So I do think that we still  
22 have to keep these discussions on the table.  
23 There is -- there's still a lot of history  
24 that -- of how we got where we are and so  
25 forth and so on. Chris, I look at you.

1 You're -- you represent two organizations.  
2 That was a conscious decision that -- that  
3 the powers that be did not want it being a  
4 -- or keep being a, and being a, as two  
5 separate seats on the Board.

6 They said, no. You can have  
7 one seat and you somehow work it out to have  
8 representation of those two organizations.  
9 So again, I think what's -- what the trauma  
10 folks did is -- is very good.

11 I think it's healthy for this  
12 Board to have these types of discussions and  
13 what is not -- you know, what is not on the  
14 table. I have some personal opinions.

15 One of the big things in the  
16 country right now, if you've been through  
17 the national association saying it's  
18 official, is trapped in its management. You  
19 know, the road to zero. Move over.

20 That's huge in this country.  
21 That's kind of missing. Mental health.  
22 Look at what's going on. And we've been  
23 talking of health and safety now. Again, I  
24 think we can -- you could -- you can address  
25 this through the committees structure and so

1           forth. But the -- there are lots of areas  
2           that we need to really look at that are much  
3           broader than -- actually, in some respects  
4           than what we're reflecting in some -- in  
5           some regards.

6                         So again, that's just me. I'm  
7           just trying to speak to the facts of what  
8           occurred in terms of process and -- and also  
9           what's not affecting this Board at the  
10          table, quite honestly.

11                        Because of the stressors that  
12          was placed on the Board by the Board  
13          knowingly adopting a bylaws change with six  
14          new committees. You know when they did  
15          that.

16  
17                        MR. STARK: Any comments? Yes.

18  
19                        BOARD MEMBER: Do you know one  
20          thing? I think it was actually brought up  
21          with Beth and Dr. Yee, that maybe there  
22          needs to be a formal, in writing if you want  
23          EMS -- have a seat on the Board. What do  
24          you bring to the table, what do you hope to  
25          address? What -- what are you representing



1 and how can you represent -- you know, help  
2 -- help EMS with, you know, whatever.  
3 Obviously, it needs to be re-worded. But  
4 maybe there should be a formal, in process  
5 writing.

6 And then it would be reviewed  
7 by, say, the Executive Committee or  
8 something like that. So just for future  
9 cases.

10  
11 MS. ADAMS: Could -- could you say  
12 that again?

13  
14 BOARD MEMBER: A formal process to  
15 be able to submit an application for a new  
16 position on the Board. Because you brought  
17 that up. How did Dr. Aboutanos -- was it  
18 just a speak thing?

19 Was it writing? No, it wasn't  
20 any of those because there is no  
21 requirement, apparently, in our bylaws that  
22 says you must go through this process to be  
23 considered to have a seat on the Board.  
24 Right?

1 MS. ADAMS: Okay. That's not what  
2 I was --

3  
4 DR. YEE: So --

5  
6 MR. STARK: Dr. Yee.

7  
8 DR. YEE: So one of the things  
9 about these six positions, I mean, it's kind  
10 of an academic discussion. But they're not  
11 from an organization. Right? All of us are  
12 from organizations. The positions are  
13 functional positions.

14  
15 MS. ADAMS: Right.

16  
17 DR. YEE: Not organizational.

18  
19 MS. ADAMS: These seats are  
20 functional positions.

21  
22 DR. YEE: Yeah, they're not  
23 organizational. So that's -- you know, we  
24 add some strength to the argument that those  
25 positions should be at committee level.

1           BOARD MEMBER: We still have the  
2           conflict with the bylaws. They want the six  
3           positions. According to our bylaws, it says  
4           that as committee chairs, they are to have a  
5           position on the Board.

6                        So I think we, as I said, the  
7           easiest path would be to change that wording  
8           in our bylaws. Because if not, we get those  
9           six positions.

10                       We'd have to get into  
11           legislation because it's Code who is on this  
12           Board. Do we want to go down that road of  
13           getting legislation put in and, you know,  
14           all of this.

15  
16                       MR. PARKER: Because at the end of  
17           the day, we may have to seven-person Board  
18           if we go through legislative --

19  
20                       BOARD MEMBER: Yes. And Code  
21           changes that -- to bring about things that  
22           we don't want. So either we make them  
23           subcommittees or we change the wording of  
24           the bylaws. But as --

25

1 MR. PARKER: That's why I think we  
2 ought to take a look at the committees  
3 first.

4  
5 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah, but --

6  
7 MS. ADAMS: The bylaws currently  
8 say that they are on -- that they are  
9 committee. So -- that they exist.

10  
11 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah, so their  
12 chairs should have a seat on the Board  
13 according to --

14  
15 DR. YEE: So we need to take that  
16 line out of --

17  
18 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah, so we need to  
19 solve that.

20  
21 MR. STARK: Yeah, that needs to be  
22 amended.

23  
24 DR. O'SHEA: Jake O'Shea. I do  
25 want to say one thing about the bylaws

1 change. The bylaws change were voted in at  
2 the November meeting of the EMS Advisory  
3 Board. And at that meeting, I think there  
4 were nine new members of the Board?

5  
6 MR. BROWN: 18 new members.

7  
8 DR. O'SHEA: 18 new members of the  
9 Board. Some of us had not received the  
10 document prior to that meeting because of --  
11 of logistical challenges.

12 And I would certainly say that  
13 I didn't appreciate the impact of that  
14 change on the structure of the Board and  
15 some of the other pieces.

16 So I think it is appropriate  
17 for -- to look, you know, at it again. I  
18 will say, not to discredit at all the amount  
19 of work and the effort and the structure and  
20 the thoroughness that went into that  
21 process.

22  
23 MR. PARKER: I agree.

24  
25 DR. O'SHEA: Which I think we all

1           paid a tremendous amount of respect to at  
2           the time.

3  
4                   MR. D. E. FERGUSON:   Just a quick  
5           question, it's Eddie Ferguson.

6  
7                   MR. STARK:   Go ahead, Eddie.

8  
9                   MR. D. E. FERGUSON:   So where --  
10          where does the Secretary of the  
11          Commonwealth's Office come this with?  When  
12          we talk about how to get a new seat on the  
13          Board, that -- that office is -- is that  
14          Board applications.

15                   That works gets recommended  
16          then, is this what's happening here?  We're  
17          going to make a recommendation?  Do they set  
18          -- do they set the composition of the Board?  
19          Are they --

20  
21                   MR. PARKER:   So the composition of  
22          the Board is set in Code.

23  
24                   BOARD MEMBER:   Yeah.

1 MR. PARKER: The Secretary receives  
2 the application. So if you're -- I'll say  
3 mine. This -- the Virginia ENA/Virginia  
4 Nurses Association seat goes up next year.

5 So working with the president  
6 of that group next year, we've already had  
7 discussions this week about nominating three  
8 people. So when the time comes, she's  
9 already started that list.

10 She'll submit three names to  
11 the Secretary and then that goes to the  
12 governor. It is the governor's pick for it.  
13 So when it comes to re-compositioning the  
14 Board, that's a change of legislation. We  
15 had that discussion yesterday.

16  
17 MR. D. E. FERGUSON: Right.

18  
19 MR. STARK: Yes.

20  
21 MR. LAWLER: So -- Matt Lawler. I  
22 think there's a concern here that we're  
23 getting ready to undo, you know, the years  
24 of -- of hard work from the -- from the  
25 trauma system with these committees. But I

1 think -- my view on that is that we're  
2 actually validating the work that they did.  
3 Because we want to borrow the collective  
4 wisdom of that process and apply it for our  
5 entire system.

6 So you know, for example,  
7 injury and violence prevention. If we take  
8 that and broaden the scope of that -- that  
9 committee, the work of the trauma system  
10 component of that for injury and violence  
11 prevention is still -- still exists and  
12 continues one.

13 While we also, you know, stand  
14 that and apply it, you know, more wholly to  
15 the collective EMS system for public health  
16 and local area health care and all those  
17 sort of things.

18 So I don't view that as kind  
19 of undoing the hard work that's been done.  
20 I view it more validating it than barring,  
21 you know, the hard work that we did and  
22 using it for the rest of the system.

23  
24 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah. It's a good  
25 point.



1 MR. PARKER: Gary, can I have a  
2 question on -- can I ask a question on  
3 procedure? Gary Brown.

4  
5 MR. BROWN: Sorry.

6  
7 MR. PARKER: Is this a point where  
8 we've had the retreat and now we can take it  
9 back under advisement of the Executive  
10 Committee, or do we need to have some kind  
11 of motion from this today to take it back to  
12 the Executive Committee, the discussion on  
13 the committees? Or how does that work since  
14 this is not a true meeting?

15  
16 MR. BROWN: It's -- it's not a true  
17 meeting. It is a retreat. I -- you know,  
18 to be honest, I don't think I have the --  
19 I'm not sure I have the correct answer for  
20 you.

21 But I think it -- I think it  
22 should be the will of the Board members  
23 here -- the Executive Committee is in the  
24 bylaws to do the work of the Board when the  
25 Board is not in session. And you've been,

1 not only empowered but entrusted, to take on  
2 the work of the Board. And I think with  
3 Mr. Stark's, you know, summary and -- and  
4 write-up of this -- this retreat, I think it  
5 could be placed with the -- I mean, back to  
6 the Executive Committee at first.

7 Let the Executive Committee  
8 decide on the process and procedure, and  
9 then work with the Board. I -- I -- it's  
10 going to -- it would all have to come to  
11 the, in my opinion, has to come to the full  
12 Board eventually.

13  
14 MR. PARKER: Right.

15  
16 MR. BROWN: But I think there --  
17 there's still -- we have to cut down on the  
18 chaos data and have -- have some sort of  
19 structure to it.

20  
21 MR. PARKER: Can we also ask with  
22 that that by a certain date, the committee  
23 chairs have work with their committee --  
24 through email. And we can get a list of --  
25 like a current list of what -- who's on the

1 committees. Not necessarily goals and  
2 objectives, but what they're doing. And --  
3 and then that would help kind of drive  
4 things.

5 There's a lot of missing -- if  
6 you look at Workforce and Development on the  
7 document that they have, there's no mission  
8 for that. So kind of try and figure out  
9 what their work actually is. I think that  
10 would help. Any other comments?

11  
12 MR. BROWN: Can I just --

13  
14 MR. STARK: Yeah, Gary.

15  
16 MR. BROWN: One more thing. I -- I  
17 think it was said earlier. I don't know  
18 remember said it, but I do think that the  
19 Advisory Board committee guidance document,  
20 I think part of it -- if it's not already  
21 implied, it just needs to be clear that the  
22 -- each committee take a look at their  
23 composition, their structure. Is this still  
24 applicable? Is it -- does it still  
25 represent this -- this discipline and

1 environment in the system that you want it  
2 to represent. But there -- there are some  
3 that came up -- I think prior to today  
4 brought it up where, you know, it's  
5 interesting maybe attending those meetings  
6 or maybe even serving on those committee  
7 meetings.

8 Some committees basically  
9 don't have another seat available for  
10 another Advisory Board member.

11  
12 MR. PARKER: Right.

13  
14 MR. BROWN: So you do want to take  
15 -- I think you really, in my opinion, every  
16 committee needs to take a look at the  
17 composition of their own committee.

18  
19 BOARD MEMBER: Yeah. That's kind  
20 of what I was going to suggest that when  
21 they look at their missions, at the mission  
22 and their goals, what is the composition?  
23 And if that is not who they need, who do  
24 they feel they need? Or do they need more  
25 seats on the committees? What -- what do

1 they need to do to accomplish their goals  
2 and missions. And let's include that in it.

3  
4 MR. PARKER: Is it -- is it  
5 something that can be -- you know, is two  
6 weeks, three weeks enough time to get that  
7 information back to -- or just send it to me  
8 and then I'll -- I'll let it go from there.  
9 Is that enough time frame?

10 Or do we need to have a  
11 meeting first? Trying to not belay this --  
12 all of this work to be done until next year.  
13 We're trying to get some of it accomplished  
14 since we are in conflict.

15  
16 MR. SAMUELS: Gary Samuels. I -- I  
17 think that you need to have a meeting of --  
18 of each committee. Whether it's, you know,  
19 before we go to the full Board meeting in  
20 November.

21 I don't want what comes out of  
22 this today, or what we're trying to do, to  
23 have another financial impact that we  
24 discussed -- you know, because we rushed the  
25 process to a point that we're trying to

1 outrun something that is not chasing us.  
2 We're -- we know that we have to fix the  
3 bylaws. That's a quick fix.

4 And that can be -- that can be  
5 fixed with a few tweaks and voted on at the  
6 next meeting, so that we maintain a level of  
7 transparency there with that situation.

8 And then, we're trying to  
9 build something that's going to take us to  
10 the future. But it's not a time machine and  
11 it's -- it's not going to move us that fast.

12 Because we -- I don't think  
13 everybody meeting in November understood the  
14 financial impact to the Office of EMS and to  
15 our Board. Only one or two people even  
16 questioned anything at the meeting.

17 I just read through it. And  
18 no one -- every -- everybody at that  
19 meeting, when you read the comments from the  
20 meeting in November, everyone wanted to get  
21 this over with.

22 They wanted to get this in  
23 place. No one -- no one looked at the major  
24 impact in the budget and -- any of that. No  
25 one even commented on that. There was --

1           there was very -- everything was, hey, we  
2           need to get this going. So I don't think we  
3           should be running fast with this as -- as we  
4           did that. Because --

5  
6                       MR. PARKER: Right.

7  
8                       MR. SAMUELS: There's going to be  
9           -- I think there's going to be more push  
10          back because people haven't -- we -- we just  
11          want to make sure that we do the right  
12          thing. And it -- it levels out this budget  
13          and sort of thing that we're looking at.

14  
15                      DR. YEE: So we're going to have --  
16          this is Allen. So we're going to have some  
17          of these committees meet, even though we're  
18          going to -- that our discussions today --  
19          we're going to have the committees meet to  
20          talk about what they've -- they're going to  
21          do.

22                      But in our discussions today,  
23          they're -- we're going to change the focus  
24          of several of these committees like acute  
25          care, injury prevention to -- to a new, more

1 global focus. That's not very fair to the  
2 -- those committees. I mean, we -- the  
3 intent is -- go that direction, we need to  
4 tell them up front.

5  
6 MS. ADAMS: I agree. Beth Adams.  
7 I -- that's kind of the equivalent of, we  
8 gotta talk, but this is what we've already  
9 decided. So --

10  
11 MS. MARSDEN: Julia Marsden. I  
12 agree, also. It's the communication that's  
13 so valuable to actually engage them before  
14 saying this is what you have to do. We need  
15 to get their thoughts. Or at least, have --  
16 give them an opportunity to talk about it.

17  
18 BOARD MEMBER: Well, when you --  
19 when you contact the committee chairs and  
20 ask them to do this, tell them that each  
21 committee is being looked at, and the  
22 possibility exists for this to happen.

23  
24 DR. O'SHEA: I think I would --  
25 Jake O'Shea. I think I would -- you



1           could've had, you know, the -- there's a  
2           question of -- of do we have duplication of  
3           efforts out there and trying to reduce any  
4           administrative duplication.

5                       Or do we have areas where we  
6           are focused on one component of care, trauma  
7           specifically, and we should be focusing that  
8           concept more broadly across multiple areas  
9           of care. And moving from injury prevention  
10          to injury and illness prevention.

11  
12                   MR. STARK: Other comments? I  
13          appreciate everybody's input. I feel like  
14          we made some headway today. I will provide  
15          a synopsis and the Executive Committee's  
16          going to take a look at that.

17                   And then we'll have these  
18          discussions with a base. And if any of you  
19          have questions in the meantime, I'll make  
20          Chris sort of my point of contact, if  
21          anything needs to be passed along to him.

22                   But looking forward to  
23          reviewing the record and my notes from  
24          today's meeting, yesterday's meeting.  
25          Appreciate everybody's input, too. Good

1 discussion and, you know, very candid  
2 discussion. And so, I really appreciate you  
3 guys for having me down here. And lunch is  
4 here, so with that, if no other comments on  
5 the table, we'll go ahead and eat and get  
6 the heck on the road?

7  
8 BOARD MEMBER: Well, can we have  
9 your review and not just the Executive  
10 Committee? I mean, weren't we -- are we all  
11 kind of like to -- I would personally like  
12 to --

13  
14 MR. STARK: Yeah, I'll pass it  
15 along to Chris. And then you guys can  
16 discuss where -- where everything should go.

17  
18 (The EMS Advisory Board Retreat concluded at  
19 11:57 a.m.)  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

CERTIFICATE OF THE COURT REPORTER

I, Debroah Carter, hereby certify that I was the Court Reporter at the STATE EMS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING RETREAT, DAY 2, held in Glen Allen, Virginia, on September 17th, 2019, at the time of the State EMS Advisory Board Retreat herein.

I further certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the testimony and other incidents of the State EMS Advisory Board Retreat herein.

Given under my hand this 18th of October, 2019.



Debroah Carter, CMRS, CCR  
Virginia Certified  
Court Reporter

My certification expires June 30, 2020.