

State EMS Advisory Board
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Embassy Suites Hotel, 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294
August 5, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Advisory Board Members Present:	Advisory Board Members Absent:	VDH and OEMS Staff:	Guests:
Kevin L. Dillard, Chair	Rebecca Branch Griffin – Excused	Gary Brown	Dr. Colin Greene
Beth Adams	Benjamin Nicholson – Excused	Scott Winston	Steve Powell
John C. Bolling	Daniel Norville – Excused	Adam Harrell	Linda Johnson
Dreama Chandler	Jeremiah O’Shea, MD – Excused	George Lindbeck, MD	Ray Whatley
Kim Craig	Sadie Jo Thurman	Marian Hunter	Quincy Scott
Gary Critzer	Valerie Quick, Vice Chair - Excused	Jacqueline Hunter	David Long
Angela P. Ferguson		David Edwards	Alex Derhovhannessian
Dillard Eddie Ferguson		Melinda Carter	Whitney Pierce
R. Jason Ferguson		Mohammed Abbamin	Connie Moore
Paula Ferrada, MD		Samuel Burnette	Tracey Taylor
Matthew Lawler		Chris Vernovai	Tanya Trevilian
Patrick McLaughlin, MD, MS		Karen Owens	Kelley Rumsey
Marlon Matthew Rickman		Keith Roberts	Gary Dalton
Bryan Rush		Tim Perkins	Michael Player
Gary Samuels		Ron Passmore	Greg Woods
Sonny Saxton		Chad Blosser	Clarissa Noble
Victoria Smith		Wanda Street	Ryan Petty
Bill Streett		Irene Hamilton	Richard Szymczyk
Gary Wayne Tanner		Amanda Loreti	Joey King
Joseph Williams		Daniel Linkins	Peppy Winchel
Allen Yee, MD, FAAEM		Daisy Banta	Byron Andrews
		Jessica Rosner	Damien Coy
		Charles Feiring	Heidi Hooker
		Kelsey Rideout	Greg Neiman
		Mary Kathryn Allen	Dallas Taylor
			Tim Kennedy
			Amanda Turner

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Call to order – Kevin Dillard, Chair:	<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p> <p>Approval of the May 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes – The May minutes were approved as submitted.</p> <p>Approval of the August 5, 2022 Meeting Agenda – The agenda was approved as submitted.</p>	
II. Chairman’s Report – Kevin Dillard:	<p>Mr. Dillard began his report by congratulating Gary Brown on his 42 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia as of last month. He also congratulated Gary Critzer for being elected chair of the State Board of Health. A letter of resignation has been received from Advisory Board member, Lisa Simba, who chaired the Provider Health and Safety Committee. A new member will need to be appointed from the Virginia Fire Chief’s Association. The 30th Annual National EMS Memorial Service was held in Arlington, VA on July 23rd. Seventy-three honorees were recognized during the service. On another note, if anyone has any ambulance equipment that they are willing to donate, please see Mr. Dillard. This is for a project he has been working on.</p>	
III. Vice Chair Report – Valerie Quick:	<p>Ms. Quick had to leave for a family emergency – no report.</p>	
IV. State Health Commissioner – Colin M. Greene, MD, MPH:	<p>Gary introduced Dr. Greene to the Board and allowed Dr. Greene to give a short bio of himself. Dr. Greene stated that he was a family physician in Lynchburg in the 1980’s and that he spent 30 years in the Army and retired in 2017. He was also a District Director in Winchester.</p> <p>Dr. Greene reported that we are still dealing with COVID and looking at the outbreak of monkey pox, which is a self-limited disease. We are also looking at other public health issues such as mental health, opioid and other drug addictions, health disparities, etc. It is an honor to be here. He thanked The Office of EMS and the EMS providers for their hard work and bravery, particularly during the early days of the COVID pandemic.</p>	
V. Office of EMS Report:	<p>Gary Brown Mr. Brown thanked Dr. Greene for his comments and his service and role provided during the pandemic. Mr. Brown also spoke about EMS as an essential service and more information will be shared later in the meeting on this. For Dr. Greene’s benefit, he asked every member of the Advisory Board to introduce themselves and state what organization they represent. Each member complied with this request. The 42nd Annual Virginia EMS Symposium is scheduled for November 8 – 13. The registration opened on Monday and we already have nearly 400 registrants. The three hotels that we booked (the Marriott, Sheraton and the Hilton) are completely sold out. We hope that this does not deter you from attending symposium. There are many other hotels in the Norfolk area. The November Advisory Board meetings will be held the week after the symposium. The cost of the symposium registration fee has been rolled back to \$100 (1992 registration fee). If you have any problems registering, please let Wanda or myself know and we will get you registered. Gary stated that the quarterly EMS report is on the website.</p>	

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	<p>Scott Winston Scott has no remarks at this time. He will have comments later in the meeting.</p> <p>Dr. George Lindbeck Dr. Lindbeck has no report.</p> <p>Adam Harrell Mr. Harrell reported on the Virginia’s Data Board Project. This project began almost two years ago with the start of the transition from Image Trend to ESO reporting system. This involves the capability of billing for services, CAD integration, IT infrastructure. It also has a Hospital Data Exchange. Alex Derhovhannessian, of Qlarion, explained more about the Virginia’s Data Board Project. Alex mentioned that Bryan Hodges and Jessica Rosner have been amazing in making this successful.</p> <p>New OEMS Employees Jessica Rosner introduced Daisy Banta, Epidemiologist Karen Owens introduced Kari Magner, Emergency Planner</p>	
VI. Assistant Attorney General – Krista Samuels:	Per Mr. Brown, Krista Samuels is out of the country.	
VII. State Board of Health EMS Representative Report – Gary Critzer:	Gary Critzer reported that the State Board of Health last met on June 23 rd for a 5-hour meeting. A number of regulatory actions were taken on everything from food regulations, rainwater harvesting, regulation of hospitals, Virginia medical care facilities and the certificate of public need and nursing facilities. They also approved the Regional Council designation for the Office of EMS. There was a presentation for the Commissioner of the status of VDH and all the ongoing activities. There were also regulatory and legislative updates as well as budget updates. There was also a presentation on the history of public health in Virginia. The next meeting is on September 22, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Perimeter Center.	
VIII. Standing Committee Reports and Action Items:	<p>a) Executive Committee – Kevin Dillard The Executive Committee met last night. The committee discussed the Med Flight temporary operational changes. The Virginia State Police (VSP) had been in operation 24/7 since 1987 but they recently sent out correspondence stating that due to a pilot shortage, they will temporarily not be providing services overnight. We would like to send a letter of support to the VSP to get the program back up and running 24/7 as this is an essential service. Chief Eddie Ferguson made a motion on behalf of the Virginia State Firefighters Association to express support for the Virginia State Police Med Flight program to reinstate services back to 24 hours as soon as possible. All Board members were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>The next item of discussion is the Bylaws, which were brought before you at the last meeting by the Advisory Board Bylaw Workgroup. Gary Samuels made a motion to accept the Bylaws as amended as presented at the May meeting. Dr. Paula Ferrada seconded the motion. All Board members</p>	

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	<p>were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>Another discussion item was from the Advisory Board Composition Workgroup. The workgroup discussed whether the Office of EMS should be under the Secretary of Public Safety and become its own department. They also made recommendations for a new Advisory Board structure. More information will be forthcoming on this, as the Chair Valerie Quick had to leave due to a family emergency.</p> <p>The next item of discussion was the efficiency and costs involved in Shared Business Services (SBS). OEMS fiscal staff was moved to the SBS of VDH. There is still a lot of concern from the Advisory Board members who have not received travel reimbursements. A letter was sent to Bob Hicks, Deputy Commissioner, in May and we have not received a response. The recommendation from the Executive Committee was to send another letter to the State Health Commissioner advising him of the situation and to ask for an intervention. A motion was made to send a letter to the State Health Commissioner. All Board members were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>Another discussion item is the \$4.25 for Life funding. This has been a great program for the enhancement, growth, sustainability and support of the statewide EMS system and all the jurisdictions, EMS agencies, EMS providers, EMS educators and regional EMS councils. However, there has not been an increase in the funding in 20 years. The costs have gone up dramatically since then. It is apparent that an increase is needed, but how much? There was discussion about hiring an outside consultant group, specifically, Performance Management Group to perform an assessment and report to the Advisory Board. A motion was made to hire Performance Management Group to perform an assessment and provide a report concerning the \$4.25 for Life funding. All Board members were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>Finally, the Executive Committee discussed the Advisory Board meeting time. We discussed at the last meeting whether we should continue with 10 a.m. meetings or go to the 1 p.m. meetings that were previously held. A survey was conducted and we received 100% response with 64% of the Board members saying they would like to continue with the 10 a.m. meeting time. A motion from the Executive Committee was that we continue with the 10 a.m. meeting time for the Advisory Board meeting. Dreama Chandler seconded the motion. Chief Eddie Ferguson stated that he sees value in the 1 p.m. meeting time in that previously some meetings went over the 1 or 2 hour timeframe. The majority of the Board members were in favor of the motion. Two opposed. The motion carried.</p> <p>This concludes the Executive Committee report.</p> <p>b) Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC) – Kevin Dillard</p>	

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	<p>The Fall grant cycle opened on Monday, August 1, 2022. The deadline to submit applications is September 15, 2022. The FARC will meet on December 1 to grade grant applications. Luke Parker has left the Office of EMS and we are excited to have Michael Berg back with OEMS as the Grants Manager.</p> <p>c) Administrative Coordinator – Gary Samuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules and Regulations Committee – Gary Samuels for Dan Norville The Rules and Regulations Committee met on June 9 in conjunction with the Medical Direction Committee. They also met on June 27. The two committees made regulatory language changes and hope to have the final review on October 5. One member was added to the committee, Joe Hundley of Virginia Beach Fire Department. • Legislative and Planning Committee – Gary Samuels The Legislative and Planning Committee met this morning. They had a robust discussion on EMS as an essential service. They are moving forward with drafting final legislation and working on talking points as well. The next meeting is September 23 to review the State EMS Plan. There was one action item for the Advisory Board to oppose the National Registry EMT 22 Resolution 13 relating to the eligibility criteria for initial EMS education. These items were referenced in the EMS Quarterly Report. Gary Brown and Scott Winston gave background information on this Resolution. A motion was made to support the opposition to National Registry EMT 22 Resolution 13. All Board members were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried. Mr. Samuels thanked the workgroup that worked on the EMS as an essential service. When you go back to your stakeholders to discuss this topic, get them to put this on the legislative agenda. He also thanked the Bylaw Workgroup and the EMS Advisory Board Composition Workgroup for all their efforts. <p>d) Infrastructure Coordinator – Eddie Ferguson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation – Eddie Ferguson The Transportation Committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled in October. • Communications Committee – Sonny Saxton The Communications Committee met this morning. They reviewed the EMS State Plan, communications supporting operables and interoperables. They also discussed minimum training standards for telecommunicators and dispatchers. They continued discussion on 988 and 911. • Emergency Management Committee – Joseph Williams The Emergency Management Committee met yesterday. There are no action items. A workgroup was formed to look at the various aspects of mass casualty incident management including training, triage systems, triage tags and the design of the triage tags. Some Office of EMS staff will be assisting with the workgroup. They are looking at inserting a link to the infectious disease website to update the public on monkey pox. The next meeting is November 	

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	<p>17 at 9 a.m.</p> <p>e) Professional Development Coordinator – R. Jason Ferguson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training & Certification Committee – R. Jason Ferguson The TCC did not meet in July. The next meeting will be in October. • Workforce Development Committee – Jason Ferguson for Valerie Quick The WDC met yesterday and had no action items. The discussion focused on workforce shortage issues and the effect of those shortage issues on education. He and Valerie will continue to work on strategies for these issues. • Provider Health & Safety Committee – Lisa Simba (Resigned) The Provider Health and Safety Committee did not have a quorum so they did not meet today. Karen Owens was asked to come forward to present three CISM teams for approval. The applications have been reviewed and have met the requirements for accreditation. It is standard practice to bring them to the Board for approval. The teams are: Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue Peer Support, The Virginia Peer Support Association and the Town of Vienna Police Department Peer Support Team. A motion was made by Jason Ferguson to approve the CISM teams presented. The motion was seconded by Gary Samuels. All Board members agreed to the motion. None opposed. The motion carried. <p>f) Patient Care Coordinator – Allen Yee, MD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Direction Committee – Allen Yee, MD The MDC met on June 9 with the Rules and Regulations Committee. They also met on July 7. There is one action item and one informational item. The action item is the addition of epinephrine at the AEMT level to be administered nebulized and IV as a “red dot” so it requires additional training by the agency post hire. Dr. Yee made a motion for the above action item. The motion was seconded. All Board members were in favor of the motion. None opposed. The motion carried. The informational item is that currently we have two liaison positions: EMS for Children and VAGEMSA. We have asked for a third liaison position from Trauma. We are working with Dr. Ferrada and Mindy Carter to identify an individual for the position. • Medevac Committee – Victoria Smith The Medevac Committee met July 1 to work on the Medevac sections of the State EMS Plan. We also met yesterday and have no action items for the Board. There were updates from individual programs on various projects. Lt. Shawn Rivard, of Virginia State Police Med Flight program, discussed with the committee that they had reduced their hours temporarily. They are looking to hire more pilots. The majority of the meeting discussion was about the committee composition. We had to decide whether to offer a seat to each licensed Medevac service in the State or go with an alternative committee structure. The decision was made for OEMS staff to reach out to each licensed Medevac agency to gauge their interest in having a seat on the committee. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMS for Children Committee – Patrick McLaughlin, MD The EMSC met yesterday and had no action items to present to the Board today. We reviewed the State EMS Plan as it pertained to EMSC. We are proud to support 48 pediatric specific presentations at symposium. We are beginning to crank up work on the Federal EMSC grant cycle. The next meeting is November 17. <p>g) Trauma System Coordinator – Paula Ferrada, MD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma Administrative and Governance Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD The TAG met this morning. We have been discussing ways to work collaboratively together. We have also changed the committee composition on some of the committees. We have worked hard to increase diversity, inclusion, and equity and also geographic diversity. We are also establishing workgroups for more efficiency. • System Improvement Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD for Stan Kurek, MD System Improvement met yesterday and discussed repopulating the committee. They discussed having a representative from Veterans Affairs Hospital. They are in the process of reviewing the 2022 EMS Data Report. • Injury and Violence Prevention Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD for Corrie Miller-Hobbs IVP met yesterday and discussed the committee composition to replace former members. We re-evaluated the objectives. We will work closely with Emergency Preparedness and Response and Prehospital Care on some initiatives for injury and violence prevention. • Prehospital Care Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD for Mike Watkins The PCC met yesterday. They had a quorum and worked on the objectives and also some data points that they would like to have. • Acute Care Committee - Dr. Jeff Young Dr. Young stated that they met yesterday. The purpose of the committee is to review the trauma center designation process in the Commonwealth and submit recommendations to the Office of EMS. They have established a workgroup to review the American College of Surgeon site visit process and our own site visit process. They will compare criteria for both to streamline the process. • Post-Acute Care Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD for Beth Broering PAC committee met yesterday also and are working to fill positions and look at patient outcomes. There were no action items. • Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee – Paula Ferrada, MD for Michael Feldman, MD The EP&R met yesterday and went over their mission and objectives. They discussed preparedness for the entire Commonwealth of Virginia. They discussed involvement of all hospitals, coalitions, and emergency services and tactical units as a part of this process. They 	

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IX. Regional EMS Council Executive Directors Report – Greg Woods:	<p>also discussed active shooter events, hurricanes, mass casualty, infectious disease events, etc.</p> <p>The chair, Tracy McLaurin, could not be here today. The Regional Director’s Group last met on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 in collaboration with the Office of EMS. This meeting facilitates greater collaboration between the Regional Councils and OEMS staff as well as attendance to the various Advisory Board meetings and workgroups. New regional work plans have been created and submitted. We are awaiting review of those and expect those to be completed by the end of August. Greg also gave updates on each of the regional council activities around the State such as whole blood programs, annual expos and regional awards programs. The regional councils will also sponsor the leadership track at symposium this year. The regional councils have voted to move away from bi-weekly online meetings to monthly meetings. The next in-person meeting will be Wednesday, November 16, 2022.</p>	
X. Public Comment:	None.	
XI. Unfinished Business:	None.	
XII. New Business:	<p>Beth Adams reported that the International Journal of Paramedicine is launching officially in October 2022, but they are accepting abstracts and articles. The National EMS Management Association is the publisher of this website. This will be the first peer-reviewed journal by EMS Personnel. See more information here: https://internationaljournalofparamedicine.com/index.php/ijop</p> <p>Gary asked everyone to pause for a moment of silence in memory of Dr. Gaylord Ray who recently passed away. He was a former member of the Advisory Board and was one of the first volunteer State EMS Medical Directors in the 80’s. He had a great impact on the system.</p>	
XIII. Adjournment:	The Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.	The next meeting is November 18, 2022 at the Embassy Suites.

Transcribed by Wanda L. Street, Executive Secretary, Sr.