

**Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board
Regulation and Policy Committee
Office of EMS
1041 Technology Park Drive,
Glen Allen, Virginia
May 4, 2023 @ 3:00 PM**

Members Present:

Dan Norville
Kim Craig
Ed Rhodes
Beth Adams

Members Absent:

Estee Warring
Greg Woods
Anthony Wilson
David Hoback
Theresa Kingsley-Varble

Staff:

Ron Passmore
Marybeth Mizell
Daniel Linkus
George Lindbeck
Scott Winston
Megan Middleton

Others:

Gary Samuels
Billy Altman
Janet Blankenship
James Reynolds
Bryan Frankel

	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order	I. Call to Order @ 3:08 pm a. Introductions b. Unable to vote for ☞ Approval of draft agenda – any changes should be sent to RDPassmore before the next meeting.	Without a quorum the committee is unable to vote on anything.
OEMS Updates	III. OEMS Staff Reports a. OEMS Update – Scott Winston, Assistant Office Director Quarterly Report posted on the OEMS Website State Plan was approved at the Feb 2023 Advisory Board meeting and will be taken to the full Board of Health 6-15-23 for approval. Update on hybrid regional EMS offices, Central Shenandoah in Staunton, Blue Ridge EMS Council, Lynchburg Rappahannock EMS Council in Fredericksburg,	

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	<p>most recently the Southwest Virginia EMS Council in Bristol.</p> <p>EMS Symposium update, November 2023. There are a couple of changes to the format for Symposium this year, Symposium will kick off on Wednesday with a full general session and some things we did during the awards banquet, this will shorten the awards ceremony and focus on the award winners. We will also make the attendees aware of the nominees, so there is opportunity for folks to recognize them throughout the week.</p> <p>Lodging will be a housing bureau concept. You must register for Symposium to get a code to use when registering for lodging. Listing first, second, and third choice before receiving rooming assignments. Historically issues with reserved rooms not utilized are turned in and removed from our block. The hotel charges full rate for those rooms. This new method will keep the cost of rooming down and gives more opportunity to get lodging.</p> <p>Update - the General Assembly session concluded in February, and a veto session in April. Still don't have an approved budget, the budget conferences are to meet in June to come up with an approved budget and would go into effect the next biennium in July of this year.</p> <p>Legislation passed related to EMS as an essential service, clarifying that an ordinance or resolution specifies the geographic surface area boundaries of an agency's primary service area. That the locality shall seek to ensure essential emergency medical services are available and that an agency that is responsible for responding to medical emergencies in its primary service area and recognized by the locality is referred to as a designated emergency response agency. This is part of their emergency medical response plan. In recognizing them as a DERA they also are recognized as an integral</p>	
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	<p>and essential part of the official public safety service, safety program of the city, county, or town with the responsibility for providing emergency medical services.</p> <p>Delegate Buddy Fowler from Hanover patroned one bill, and then Senator Obenshain patroned the other bill. There are a couple of bills related to EMS personnel, EMS providers with a valid certification, within the scope of their certification, and are able to administer drugs and devices at a medical facility under oral or written orders, or standing protocol. This bill was requested on behalf of the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association. Providing specific language that clarifies EMS providers are authorized to practice in a healthcare setting. Although they are not practicing as an EMS licensed provider. We'll have to see how that unfolds, if there's a breach in protocol, or if there's some effect, who is going to be responsible for that provider?</p> <p>There was a bill from Delegate Orrock that would allow an EMS provider to administer a patient's prescribed medication in the case where the patient is unable to consent to the administration of the medication due to a medical emergency.</p> <p>House Bill 2175 requests the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a work group comprised of representatives of State agencies and EMS and Fire organizations to study existing Fire Service needs, analyze sustainability of current funding, and review alternative funding models from other states. They may hire an outside consultant, which is the preferred method, there's a lot of work to be done between now and the final report on the 1st of October of this year.</p> <p>The report is going to the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology. A work group met virtually and began discussion of the creation of a needs assessment that would analyze the existing Fire and EMS needs, funding availability, and any gaps in funding, at look at other states funding of EMS and Fire, identify best practices.</p>	
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	<p>A subgroup of the work group is looking at trying to develop a scope of work, because we can't begin to consider hiring a consultant until we know what it is we want to do and we don't have an approved budget. There was a budget bill requesting \$125,000.00 for the fees and costs of doing the study. We may hear the major key stakeholder groups, be asked to pitch in whatever they can to contribute monies to pay for the study.</p> <p>The Office of EMS has offered to provide some funding, along with Fire programs, and the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association indicated the same. Fire and EMS agencies may be surveyed and there may be some public town hall meetings to solicit input.</p> <p>It may be a report that shows findings but also recommends additional study. There has been discussion at Fire and EMS Council meetings, there is a need for funding. EMS has not had a substantial increase in funding for over 20 years. We would appreciate those of you in the departments and involved in your organizations be involved, provide information and any input and feedback that you can. That may help justify a case for increased funding for the Fire and EMS in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>b. Regulation & Compliance Enforcement Updates – Ron Passmore, Division Director</p> <p>i. Division Update(s)</p> <p>Update on DEA Board of Pharmacy OEMS Task Force, The BOP created a presentation for EMS agencies, on how to apply for CSR and which CSR. We're still perfecting that with the end goal being the official rollout of this track at Symposium. Classes will be available for EMS agencies at Symposium, how to start their relationship with BOP and how to apply for a CSR, and understanding the BOP regulatory compliance issues.</p> <p>We are rolling it out at the council levels out right now, with the intent of getting the information out but with questions being asked,,it will elicit where we need to go, where we need to grow the presentation and where the</p>	
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	<p>questions are going to lead us.</p> <p>a. Meeting w/ VA Society of Health System Pharmacists</p> <p>I spoke with the President or the Executive Director of the Virginia Society of Health System Pharmacists and was asked as the Regulation and Compliance Director to set a sundown date for when drug boxes were going away. I explained that it would be up to them, but strongly encouraged to give no less than 24 months of a sundown date, to let the agencies get prepared. SOVA Health has made an announcement they are done in three months.</p> <p>The goal was for 24 months but the hospitals are going to get out of doing this much quicker than the DEA regs are going to get finalized and promulgated, so its coming!</p> <p>We now have three special agents with the Food and Drug Administration that are assigned to EMS agencies in Virginia, and they're coming to meet my team at our staff meeting next month.</p> <p>Adulterating is a much larger crime than a diversion, so the DEA loses jurisdiction once its adulterated, and it goes to the FDA's jurisdiction, so now we have 2 DEA agents and 3 FDA agents in Virginia.</p> <p>We need subject matter experts, different folks across the Commonwealth who have managed their own drug box</p>	
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	<p>programs, or EMS agencies that have done their own programs that are willing to be a mentor to another similar sized agency</p> <p>UCapIt Pilot project in the Central Shenandoah EMS region. UCapIt machine will track the inventory that is removed from the machine and who took it, what agency they're with, and that will help streamline turnaround times in medical facilities.</p> <p>It may not be DEA compliant, because DEA has not weighed in on that. If your intent is to use it for Schedule 6's you should be fine, but if you ever intend to use it for controls, that may not work, you will not be compliant.</p> <p>We just don't know how this is going to look until the DEA finishes.</p> <p>ii. Ongoing Regulatory activities Periodic Review of Chapter 66:</p> <p>Chapter 66 a periodic review was kicked back due to style and format. There's been absolutely no substantive change.</p> <p>iii. Proposed plan for RIS Project 5100 –to enter Stage 2 of the regulatory process</p> <p>Submit final draft of Chapter 32 to EMS Advisory Board as action item at May 2023 Meeting</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chapter 32 is to go before the Advisory Board tomorrow for final approval, to go to the Board of Health this fall. We anticipate there may be some pushback from Medical Directors when this is brought to the GAB tomorrow. b. Once approved, we need to create the TH documents and the realistic goal is for us have that done and ready, so we can present that to the Board of Health in Sept or December. iv. Ongoing Regulation & Compliance Enforcement activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Variance/Exemption Request Reviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For awareness only – review request 4574 the variance exemption request, 4574, which was Dante Rescue Squad's request to allow 13 year olds to respond on EMS calls went to the final Board of Supervisors meeting in Russell County and the Board of Supervisors voted that down, so the request dies at that level. v. OEMS Admin Portal/LCR Database Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No new portal/LCR updates vi. OEMS Website Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regulation & Compliance Enforcement section updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chapter 32 Information posted (Progress Report, Draft of Regulations and RVEL (Required Vehicle Equipment List) 	

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New Business	New Business With the consensus of those in attendance, Chief Blankenship for VAGEMSA and Cody Jackson for the At-Large seat will be presented to the Executive Committee.	
Public Comment	Public Comment a. <u>None</u> b. _____ ☞ = R/R/A = Review/Revise/Approve	
Next Meeting:	Future 2023 Meetings Thursday August 3rd, 2023 Thursday November 16th, 2023 (Tentative) All meetings begin at 3p.m. and will be held in-person at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294.	
Adjourned	Time: 3:50 pm	Minutes taken by M Mizell