

EMS Emergency Management Committee
Virginia Office of EMS
May 2, 2024
10:00 a.m.

| Members Present: | Members Absent: | OEMS Staff: | Guests |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Joseph Williams (Chair) | Michael Player | Kari Magner | Peppy Winchel (TJEMS) |
| Robert Lipscomb (BREMS) | Andy John | Amber Moore | Brie Dixon (HCA) |
| Tarry Pribble (VAVRS) | Dave Hoback | Karen Owens | Corey Huches (AMR) |
| Ray Whatley (VAGEMSA) | Adam Galton | | John Arney (INOVA) |
| James Moss (VDH-OEP) | Jessica Robison | | Spence Campbell (EVHC) |
| Matthew Allen | Easton Peterson | | Robert Hawkins (VHHA) |
| Stephanie Hackett (Hampton Roads MMRS) | | | |
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| Topic/Subject | Discussion | Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person |
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| Call to Order | Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. | |
| Presentation(s) | No presentations for this meeting | |
| Information on Meeting Instructions and Introductions | Committee Chair, Joseph Williams reminded committee members they need to state their name prior to speaking. | |
| Review and approval of last minutes & meeting agenda | Committee meeting minutes from February 1, 2024, were approved by the committee. Motion – Matthew Allen, second by Ray Whatley. | |
| Committee Chair Report | No report from the Committee Chair | |
| Committee Member/Other Reports | <p>James Moss (VDH – OEP) – CBERS is focused on Highly Infectious Disease tabletop exercise. There have been 2 sessions in the western part of the state. Upcoming: Chesapeake, central, and Fairfax. If further information is needed, please reach out to James Moss or your regional Healthcare Coalition Coordinator.</p> <p>Matthew Allen (VHHA) – Great attendance at the Summitt. EMT continuing education hours were offered for those who attended. Thank you to Megan Middleton with ODEMSA who assisted in having CEUs available for the event.</p> <p>Stephanie Hackett (Hampton Roads MMRS) – Pulsara project is moving forward. There will be one more planning meeting and then will be pushed through the hospitals in approximately one month. After that, the system will be pushed out to EMS agencies.</p> <p>Tarry Pribble (VAVRS) – No update Ray Whatley (VAGEMSA) – Meeting has been postponed due to Pharmacy meeting this evening. No information currently.</p> | |

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| | <p>Kari Magner on behalf of Michael Player (DMAT-1 and Regional Councils) – reviewed DMAT-1 report with attendees, which was included with the minutes.</p> <p>Kari Magner on behalf of Andy John (VDEM) – VDEM worked with VSP to host Operation FREE Virginia Opioid Awareness event based on the impact of the fentanyl crisis in VA. VESTEX – the Commonwealth annual statewide disaster exercise to be conducted on Monday May 6-7, 2024. The exercise will test the Commonwealth’s ability to coordinate a comprehensive response to the disaster.</p> | |
| Office of EMS Report | <p>Karen Owens, on behalf of the Office of EMS, advised VDH is bringing together partners regarding the MCI Opioid Crisis. Addressing the mass dispersant of Narcan. The group is looking at the possibility of stockpiles of Narcan (similar to the Chempack program) and how that would operate.</p> | |
| Unfinished Report | <p>Triage Tag – Karen provided information on a question received regarding triage tags and the new regulations that have been submitted for consideration. More specifically the requirement for a triage tag for every patient and the process how that would work and how agencies can handle missing information. Karen shared that she was working with the data team and others to determine if this is an issue and how it might be handled.</p> <p>Electronic Patient Tracking – no update</p> <p>MCI Program – Sam Burnette, who manages the MCI program for OEMS, advised the program is due for an update. We were waiting to see what the results showed from the triage tag workgroup and motion submission. The goal is to develop a generic class to offer and then encourage the regions can incorporate their plans into the classes offered in their areas. We have found many providers are not aware there are regional plans. We are working to increase the number of trainers across the state to increase the number of participants in the Commonwealth.</p> | |
| New Business | <p>Joe Williams – Chairman Kevin Dillard asked the committee to elect a vice chair. Names mentioned at the meeting were: James Moss, Michael Player, and Ray Whatley. Ray and James both accepted the nomination. Michael Player was notified via email so he could consider before the August meeting.</p> <p>James Moss – VHHA appointed a new director of Emergency Preparedness. Robert Hawkins has worked as the Executive Director of the Southwest Virginia Hospital Coalition and as a local health emergency coordinator.</p> <p>Matthew Allen – VHHA has been working with Devin Chinault at OEMS to update the EMS Communication Center information in the Communications Portal.</p> <p>Karen Owens – Tidewater EMS Expo is in two weeks (May 14-19th, 2024). There will be recognition for their 50-year anniversary and an awards banquet. May 18, 2024, Peninsulas EMS Council will be holding their awards ceremony and EMS Day at Busch Gardens Williamsburg. They are selling tickets at a discounted rate. Luncheon will be held in the Black Forest. OEMS currently has consultants on site. A survey has gone out for input from stakeholders, leaders, etc. for strengths and weaknesses of the current EMS System.</p> | |

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| Public Comment | None | |
| Next Scheduled Meeting | Next scheduled meeting August 1, 2024 | |
| Adjourn | The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m. | |