

EMS Emergency Management Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Hilton Norfolk – The Main
100 E. Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510
November 6, 2019
9:30 a.m.

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:
Thomas Schwalenberg , Chair	John H. Craig, III , VAVRS	Karen Owens	Dreama Chandler, Adv. Board
Easton Peterson , Health & Medical Emergency Response Teams (HMERT)	Lynette Eanes , ODEMSA	Caron Nazario	Morris Reece, VDH OEP
Matthew Marry , VHHA	Byron Andrews , AFD/VSFA	Vince Valeriano	Chrissy Snyder, Augusta Health
Judy Shuck , HRMMRS/TEMS	David Hoback , VFCA	Wanda Street	Donna Hurst, Augusta Health
Adam Galton , VSP	Daniel Brewer , VDEM		R. Bruce Stratton, Concord R. S.
	Robert Foresman , VEMA		Edward Brazle, VBEMS
	Bubby Bish , VAVRS		
	Mike Player , Regional Council, VA-1 DMAT		
	Bryan McRay , VAGEMSA		

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The chair, Thomas Schwalenberg, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the August 1, 2019 minutes:	A motion could not be made to approve the minutes as there was no quorum. The minutes will have to be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.	Review and approve August minutes at the February 2020 meeting.
Presentation:	EMS Provider Mental Health Survey Results – Vince Valeriano Vince gave a high-level overview of the survey results. The mental health of providers is of great concern due to lack of sleep, stress, PTSD, depression and suicidal thoughts. The committee discussed the sleep issues and sleep standards that were recommended a few years ago. Karen stated that more information would be forthcoming. This information will be presented to the Advisory Board this afternoon. Karen asked, now that we have the data, what is the best way to move forward? The goal is to target and address the biggest areas of concern. What does the committee want to target first? It was suggested by Easton to send the survey to their individual agencies to get specific outcomes and letting them obtain what is useful to them. Karen will talk with Easton about this offline. The next step is to decide what topics/resources to give the agencies to help the providers. The committee discussed simple ways to suggest health improvement ideas such as increasing their exercise – take 10-minute walk, get a gym membership, purchase a treadmill for the agency, etc. The committee also discussed marrying these numbers of (suicide and depression) with the Make the Call posters.	
Committee Chair Report – Thomas Schwalenberg:	The Office of EMS held an Advisory Board retreat and a large topic of the meeting was looking at the committee structure and opportunities to combine some of the committees. Still waiting on recommendations from the retreat. No other updates at this time.	

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Committee Member/Other Reports:	<p>Judy Shuck, HRMMRS/TEMS – Judy reported that HRMMRS is in a bit of a lull at this time. There has been some directives from Homeland Security and purchases will be made based on those directives.</p> <p>Thomas Schwalenberg, VA-1 DMAT – They are in the process of hiring for the team from all over the state. The DMAT team is on call for November.</p>	
Unfinished Business:	None.	
New Business:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tactical Medic Advisory Committee Concept – Karen Owens Two medical directors in the Hampton Roads area contact Karen about the potential of establishing a State Level Tactical EMS Advisory Committee. It sounds like information that we have already discussed in this committee and in Medical Direction Committee, etc. It would be more of an information clearinghouse. She is not fond of using the term “Advisory”. However, she recommends that it is tied to a committee that already exists. There seems to be some interest for some of the Advisory Board members, but this is a very slow moving target at this point. There has also been conversation about Tactical Medic Certification in the Commonwealth, but Karen is not a fan of this idea. She asked for feedback from the committee. Adam Galton feels that the time has come for such a committee and it would fit under this committee, Emergency Management. Karen also voiced concern about a lack of a goal or objective. The committee discussed best practices, canned programs that already exist, organizational structure to include representation from law enforcement, etc. Dreama Chandler suggested looking at this more as a workgroup since there is already discussion about combining some of the committees. Karen agreed. As far as certification goes, the committee agrees that this may not be feasible at this time due to fragmentation and standardization issues. • Mental Health Survey Already discussed this. 	
Other Comments/Questions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Floor Easton Peterson mentioned that a Hospital Task Force idea was brought up in his area and they are about to meet with VHHA to get an understanding of what support the hospitals want from EMS during an MCI or disaster. There is a thin line between helping them and supplementing their staff. This may need to come back to this committee at some point. <p>Matthew Marry thanked VDH for their collaboration in the Ebola Summit. This is the last year of the five-year Ebola grant. He wanted to personally thank Mike Player and Thomas Schwalenberg for their participation. He asked for feedback on how to engage EMS partners and what listservs to use. He is not asking for a solution today. He wants to continue to bring EMS and hospitals into the same conferences.</p>	
Next Scheduled Meeting:	The next meeting is February 6, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Richmond. May 7 and August 6 are the other meeting dates for 2020. More information will be forthcoming on the November meeting.	
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40 a.m.	