

Virginia EMS Advisory Board
August 4, 2017
Meeting Summary

Chairman's Report- Attended Town Hall meetings on Intermediate 99 and closing ceremonies for the EMS Memorial Bike ride.

State Commissioner- Dr. Levine thanked the EMS community in general and thanked Bruce Edwards for his time served on the Board of Health. She also congratulated Gary Critzer, as he has been appointed to the Board. She spoke of the opioid crisis, indicating that deaths are continuing to rise, as well as overdoses. A Federal commission has been established to look at this crisis.

OEMS Report:

- Director Brown thanked EMS in general for their tireless efforts.
 - Tim Perkins spoke on House Bill 1728 workgroup, indicating they have met three times. The next meeting is September 14th.
 - New staff members to Trauma and Critical Care, as well as Business Development were introduced.
 - Nasal Narcan grant, applications are open until 9/29/17. Each licensed EMS vehicle would receive two doses.
 - EMS Training Funds-
 - Initial Certification- The developing scholarship program was discussed for initial certification programs. This process is under development and should be on-line and live by October of 2017. More information will be forthcoming.
 - Continuing Education- OEMS is working with EMS councils to distribute these funds. All councils have been contracted to receive these funds. These funds will not be a reimbursement, but rather paid up front.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee-
 - Received update on ACS Taskforce.
 - Update on EMSTF
 - Discussed EMT-I, VAVRS Financial Report, and HB1728.
 - Nomination Committee established.
- FARC-
 - Reminder that Fall cycle just open, deadline 9/15
 - Processed 2.5 million this quarter
 - Two new FARC members
 - Confirmed Kevin Dillard as REMS representative
- Rules & Regulations-

- Continuing to work on regulation revisions. More information will be available at the next board meeting.
- Legislative & Planning-
 - Did not meet
- Transportation-
 - Did not meet
- Communications-
 - Melissa Wood was appointed to the Medevac committee
 - Discussion about FirstNet
 - Approved PSAP accreditation for Mecklinburg County
 - Reemphasized agencies having appropriate Federal Interoperability channels in radios
- Emergency Management-
 - Reviewed Fire at senior living facility in Chesapeake
 - Electronic field triage program being worked on for testing this Fall
- Medical Directions-
 - Discussed motion that had been presented from committee. There was some concern over wording as it related to the future of current Intermediates. Appendix E of the Quarterly report was amended to remove items #3 and #4 from the motion. Amended by unanimous vote.
- Medevac-
 - No Action Items
 - Workgroup meeting to talk about HB1728 on 8/23 at 1PM
- Trauma-
 - TSOM committee is actively working on recommendations from the report.
 - Discussing the impact of the Trauma fund with recent legislative changes
- EMSC-
 - Child passenger safety course- Ruckersville, Insurance Institute
 - Discussed pediatric considerations during sheltering
 - EMSC grant cycle is coming up
- Training & Certification-
 - Motion as included in the Quarterly Report, Appendix C. The motion recommended that when the National Registry of EMT's no longer offers and I-99 exam, that Virginia cease issuing initial Intermediate certifications.
 - Motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- Workforce Development-.
 - Officer I was offered at Rescue College, will be taking suggestions and revising for Symposium
 - Standards of Excellence program continues to move forward
 - Recruitment & Retention Network meeting will be in conjunction with Symposium
- EMS Council Directors-
 - Announced Wayne Perry as new Treasurer
 - Craig Evans will be the representative on the Training and Certification Committee
 - Mary Kathryn Allen will be the representative on the Transportation Committee

New Business

- EMSC is being looked at from the National level. There is concern that EMSC may be done away with or lose substantial funding. A request was made for the Advisory Board to go on record with a statement to oppose the elimination of EMSC. The Board approved a letter of support for EMSC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Ferguson
WVEMS Advisory Board Representative