

State Medevac Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Embassy Suites Hotel
2925 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294
May 6, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Guests & Other Attendees:
Victoria Smith , VNA, Chair	Rebecca B. Griffin , Consumer	Tim Perkins	Robbie Conner, CentraOne
Rick Cohen , PHI Air Medical	Chad Gainey , LifeEvac	Gary Brown	
Susan Rivers , Carilion Clinic Lifeguard	Burt Bogue , VCU LifeEvac	George Lindbeck	
Tim Ryan , U.S. Park Police	Michael Shamblin , Fairfax County Police Aviation	Adam Harrell	
Dwain Rowe , Highlands Emergency Air Rescue and Transport (Virtual)		Chris Vernovai	
Denise Baylous , Nightingale (Virtual)		Hannah Lyons	
Lt. Shawn Rivard , VSP		Wanda Street	
		Scott Winston (Virtual)	

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	The Chair, Victoria Smith, known as Torie, Ferguson, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A moment of silence was held for fallen Medevac and EMS service members. Tim recognized Bruce Edwards of Virginia Beach EMS who passed away in August 2020.	
Introductions:	Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	
Review & Approval of the February 6, 2020 minutes:	The February meeting minutes were not copied but will be sent via email to be voted on at the next meeting.	
Chair Report – Victoria Smith:	As a new chair, she has no report.	
OEMS Report:	<p>Tim recognized and thanked Jason D. Ferguson for his time as Chair of the Medevac committee. He served as chair from February 2018 to February 2020 and did an excellent job on the projects that he worked on. This is the first meeting of the Medevac Committee since February 2020 and Tim recommended to Torie that the committee composition remain the same until the end of 2021. Changes to the comp may occur in 2022. More information will be forthcoming.</p> <p>Gary Brown stated that Office is slowly gaining momentum with the meetings although communication and work was continuous throughout the pandemic. The latest EMS Quarterly Report is on the OEMS website with updates on each OEMS Division. There are a number of Advisory Board Committee Members whose terms will expire June 30. Gary has appealed to the Governor to extend their terms.</p> <p>Per Gary, symposium will be held this year but the number of classes will be scaled back and there will be no</p>	

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	<p>hands-on classes. No Advisory Board committee meetings will be held in Norfolk either. The night activities will be very limited. However, the Awards Reception will be held on Saturday night. The 2020 Awards Program is on the website.</p> <p>Adam stated that we are still looking for sponsorship opportunities on the vendor hall at symposium. The Office is transitioning from ImageTrend migrating to ESO. ImageTrend will still be available for agencies that want to continue to use it.</p> <p>Scott reported that Wayne Berry, Tidewater area, Program Rep is retiring in June 2021. This position is now in recruitment. We are up-to-date on agency and vehicle inspections as well as investigations. Scott also reported that Krista Samuels is the new Attorney General for the Office. Since October 2019, we have been working on integrating several EMS Regional Councils into hybrid state offices. So far Central Shenandoah EMS Council has come aboard followed by Blue Ridge EMS Council and then Rappahannock EMS Council.</p>	
Drone Workgroup – Susan Rivers:	<p>a. Drone Safety Update – Tim stated that the FAA sent out a lot of information about drone safety. Susan reported that there has been an increase in drone near misses in her region. No other updates since the last meeting.</p>	
Virginia Helicopter EMS Program Update – Tim Perkins:	<p>a. Statistics Report The amount of data submitted to the Medevac Helicopter EMS application (formerly known as WeatherSafe) continues to grow. In terms of weather turndowns, there were 458 entries into the Helicopter EMS system in Q4 of the 2020 calendar year. 64% of those entries (295 entries) were for interfacility transports, which is consistent with information from previous quarters. The total number of turndowns is a small decrease from 441 entries in Q4 of 2019. For the 2020 calendar year, there were 1,967 entries into the system, which was a slight decrease from the 2,081 entries for the 2019 calendar year. This data continues to demonstrate a commitment to the program and to maintaining the safety of medevac personnel and equipment.</p> <p>Tim asked the committee’s thoughts about scheduling in-service training. Susan agrees. She stated that there were two helicopters responding to same hospital. It was not intentional, but this could be tied into the training. Virtual training is a possibility.</p>	
Program Announcements and Updates:	<p>Susan Rivers, Carilion Clinic Lifeguard – Carilion is celebrating their 40th anniversary, but will not be doing a large event this year. They will be collecting stories from patients and providers who have used Lifeguard services in the past. That will come out later this year. Today marks the start of Nurses Week and National EMS Week is coming up. Carilion will offer virtual CE and livestream CE.</p> <p>Rick Cohen, PHI Air Medical – PHI has a new helicopter base opening in Culpeper, Virginia.</p> <p>Tim Ryan, U.S. Park Police – Park Police has been busy. DC has been a challenging place to work this past year. They have had some personnel changes, there’s a new chief, Pamela Smith and a new Lt. Commander in the Aviation Department. George Washington University’s helipad opened in March of last year.</p> <p>Dwain Rowe, Highlands Emergency Air Rescue & Transport – They have completed the branding name. It was formerly Wings Air Rescue. They are still a Med-Trans community based model serving Southwest</p>	

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	<p>Virginia. All aircraft logos have been completed.</p> <p>Denise Baylous, Nightingale – Denise stated that programs have come to the all three helipads unannounced. Just a friendly reminder to make the announcement before entering. A helipad access document for Norfolk General has been distributed. She will forward to Tim for committee distribution as well.</p> <p>Robbie Conner, CentraOne – CentraOne has been doing a Safety Analysis of air medical program. They hope to be moving all aircraft to a single frequency.</p> <p>Shawn Rivard, VSP – VSP has picked up a new helicopter and replaced one that was crashed in 2017. (Audio not clear enough for the rest of update).</p> <p>Germaine Clayborne, UVA Health – Opening a CDU in two weeks. Has acquired three facilities Culpeper, Haymarket, and Prince William.</p>	
Unfinished Business:	a. Legislative Updates – None. Tim asked if anyone has used the form that was created. No one has used it.	
New Business:	<p>Susan Rivers mentioned regulations pertaining to HEMS. With COVID and limited helicopter space, they had to carry a lot more supplies (PPE). Can we look at the supplies and possibly decrease those that are not necessary? Another topic of discussion is the CAMTS standards. CAMTS has changed the accreditation standards. She would like to form workgroups and reevaluate the process as it relates to HEMS. Tim stated that a work session can be held in-person and/or virtual. Gary agreed that a virtual work session can be held. Tim asked Scott when Rules and Regulations Committee will meet. Scott stated that the Rules & Regulations met a few weeks ago. Scott said that the tentative plan is to finalize the draft regulations by the August Advisory Board meeting. The committee agreed that a work session should be held to review the regulations. Tim will get the meeting set up as soon as possible before the August Advisory Board meeting.</p> <p>Cam Crittenden has left OEMS and has a new position at VCU.</p>	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:56 a.m.</p> <p>The August meeting will likely be at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Richmond.</p>	<p>2021 Meeting Dates: August 5 October/November TBD</p>