

TIDEWATER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL, INC.

Executive Committee

MINUTES

September 29, 2008

Tidewater EMS Council Office, Norfolk

1. Dr. Martin called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm. A motion passed to approve the minutes of 4-24-08 as distributed.
2. Discuss issues related to proposed TEMS/PEMS consolidation – Mr. Edwards detailed his experience gained and information received from involvement with the state Process Action Team. In general, compared to many regions, he feels the TEMS Council is well run and has demonstrated collaboration with PEMS. He said the early design of the Virginia EMS system encourages the statewide diversity in EMS which exists today. He feels in 2008 this design is hampering the system from moving forward. With the encouragement of PAT, the three regions in the western part of the state presented a plan to collaborate to the point of possible merger in the years ahead. Several other regions are opposed to merger but all have been asked to conduct a SWOT analysis regarding merger and collaboration, and to identify advantages and disadvantages of both options. Our Executive Committee, jointly with the Peninsulas EMS Executive Committee, previously conducted the analysis and agreed to continue and increase collaboration between our two regions, but without likelihood of merger. Mr. Edwards feels collaboration, statewide, is the best direction to take whether it leads to a merger or not. He feels we should continue to support such collaboration and encourage it elsewhere. Following general discussion of the committee, it was the consensus to support the joint statement previously developed by TEMS and PEMS to continue and increase collaboration where possible. The two executive directors will meet tomorrow and continue this discussion. Mr. Chandler asked the committee if all areas are “fair game” for potential collaboration and the response was yes, but in areas involving transfer of funds the Executive Committee or Board should be consulted.
3. Consider approval of alternate 4-day voluntary workweek for employees – Mr. Chandler presented this as an employee benefit option. Employees could voluntarily select a 4-day 10 hour/day compressed work week schedule versus a 5-day 7.5 hour/day standard work week schedule, but the office will maintain a 5-day 8:30 am – 4:30 pm schedule. A motion passed to adopt this benefit option, and for the Executive Committee to review the results six months following implementation.
4. Other – Mr. Weber noted the reported sale or merger today of Wachovia Bank which holds the bulk of the Council’s checking accounts. He noted that depositors appear safe but investors are losers. Members discussed the potential need to spread the Council’s operating funds among several banks to make sure the account totals are protected by FDIC insurance. At present, the Council’s main checking account is over the \$100k insured limit. Mr. Weber also reported on the recent marriage of former board member Darleen Anderson to Jim Mastin.
5. Adjourn – Dr. Martin adjourned the meeting at 1:10 pm.

Minutes prepared by Jim Chandler