

***Tidewater EMS Council, Inc.***  
**EMS MEDICAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**August 9, 2023 12:00 pm**  
**TEMS Office and Virtual**

**MINUTES**

**Welcome/Introductions** – James Reynolds, Chair

- Attendees were James Reynolds, Alan Perry, Amy Ward, April Achesinski, Chris Leonard, David Long, Chris Smith, David Keeler, Fred Paquet, Greg DeYoung, Jason Kinlaw, Michael O’Neill, Stephanie Hackett, Kris Long, Greg DeYoung, Valerie Vagts. Phone participants: Denise Baylous, Riana.

**Approval of Minutes** – Keith Johnson

- Motion to approve by Fred Paquet and seconded by Greg DeYoung. All motions in this meeting were unanimous with no negative votes or abstentions received.

**Directors Report** – David Long

- Thanks for being here today. TEMS is looking into options of sharing the recording of the meeting to be able to share with all members.
- Virginia Ambulance Association membership is being paid by TEMS. Communication to set up the profile has been set up using the identified super user in your agency.
- Working towards getting you registered as members of VAGEMSA
- Stroke is looking to make sure there is a time requirement from FMC to stroke assessment and the assessment should include stroke screening and stroke severity. Protocols have been updated to share anticoagulant and anti-platelet list and to share that information with the hospital staff. Goal is prehospital straight to CT
- Trauma is looking at the use of calcium by EMS. Calcium Gluconate is the safer medication to use, but calcium chloride takes less time. VBGH is doing a trial.
- Continue to evaluate TXA. 28 day survival rates are being evaluated
- MMT and Life Care are identified as the highly infectious disease transport companies. Have an isolation pod per agency and training for the personnel identified to be transporters. Timeframe to be operational is June

**Nurse Managers** – David Long

- Wall times are a hot topic of setting standard definitions for when the time starts and stops
- We got a year worth of data from Bon Secours for EMS blood draws which shows the time frame to intervention significantly shorter

**OMD Committee Report** – Valerie Vagts

- Whole Blood – Looking to expand to pediatric ages 5 and up. Portsmouth has a grant in to secure funding for them.
- IGEL – all agencies have picked up their IGELS and 1 agency is picking up this week. Leigh will get theirs from Norfolk Fire and Rescue. Sentara hospitals in Virginia Beach will be contacted by David Long for specific contacts and then will be distributed. Commercial agencies will be contacted by David Coulling for them to pick up their shipments.
- Ultrasound – we have a kickoff meeting next week to kick off conversations of what that will entail in the prehospital setting
- BiLevel CPAP – Going to do a contract modification to get these, target time is January
- July 1<sup>st</sup> training went out with no pushback from agencies and the updated protocols are posted
- Navy replaced Paul Roszko with Lauren Kalodner on this committee

**Performance Improvement / Education Coordinator** – Valerie Vagts

- PI: Finished trauma report, next working on an airway report
- STEMI – some hospitals are getting packs of 50 leads which may impact 12-lead clarity. Discussed the importance of using the neck strap with the LUCAS. Cardiac arrest summit in San Francisco 11/29-12/2. Chesapeake and VB both got Gold status with Mission Lifeline
- Stroke – Covered case reviews and discussed using stroke and severity tools with each patient

- Trauma – Covered case reviews and provided feedback to a couple agencies, there is an uptick of SMR not being used for kids (hopefully is addressed with the July 1 rollout). Whole blood expanding to ages 5 and up.
- ImageTrend Regional Tenant should launch by September 1<sup>st</sup> and should have the ability to loop in the other agencies outside of ImageTrend too.

#### **Education and Training – David Keeler**

- QTEE on July 27<sup>th</sup>. 30 participants, 178.5 category 1 CEU's were given out. Next one is October 26<sup>th</sup>
- Symposium registration is open through your OEMS portal
- Dementia training is a push from the state and is coming to the Eastern Shore in early November
- MIH program starts August 29<sup>th</sup> and is every Tuesday for 10 weeks. See the attached flyer

**Education and Training Committee** – Matt Owens did not have anything to share at this time.

#### **Commercial EMS Agencies and Pharmacies – No update**

**MCI/MMRS** – Stephanie Hackett stated shelter Newport News and Norfolk MRATs are in and should be operational by the end of this month. DMSU trailers are due for resupply, drop off September 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Suffolk and IOW will get theirs at the end of the year. David is working through the proposed MCI plan, 2 tabletop exercises on Southside and 2 more in the Peninsula will feed into MCI plan also. Expectation is to have this completed by June 30, 2024.

**OEMS** – No update at this time.

**EVHC** – Chris Leonard stated EVHC is working on a chem pack program/plan. Would like to replicate the successfulness of it across the region.

**Public Health** – No update at this time.

**TCC** – Kris Long finished summer session. 2 normal and 1 accelerated. Starting next semester program in August. January will be the next accelerated program start.

**Unfinished Business** – N/A

#### **New Business**

- Farewell to Jason Kinlaw as he heads to his new assignment, and hello to Rianna who is coming from California to take his place. Dr. Koladner is Paul Rosko's replacement on the OMD committee
- EMS Advisory Board stated Four for Life funds may be delayed until the December/January timeframe and they are trying to increase funding for EMS agencies.
- Ttrauma Dashboard was created and posted by the state epidemiologist. Feel free to play around and on it, but the data accuracy is still being validated at this time:  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/trauma-critical-care/examples-of-oems-data-in-use/data-related-links/trauma-triage-dashboard/>
- Chesapeake asking for policy and procedures for bystander exposure to biohazards. Not sure there is an EMS responsibility in those situations.

#### **Jurisdiction Reports**

- IOW – in process of hiring chief. Broke ground on hospital. JRB is closing for 4 days between November and March, unsure of the date, Friday 1am to Tuesday 1 am.
- TCC – submitted for accreditation, should go through 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2025.
- Norfolk – started academy with 50 lost 6. 3 new LT operational supervisors approved in budget, Call volume has increased to around 54,000 a year
- Northampton – Acquired property and assets of Cape Charles on 7/1. Down 2 positions. High School EMT class starts first of September. Received 3 year grant funding for MIH program to do MIH training, have a MIH person and funds to advance providers by one level
- Navy – 5 Paramedic candidates in community college. Kalodner is interested in the whole blood program. Bleed control kits are required on base due to an increase in shootings across the country.

Bullet proof vests and helmets will come in next year and the agency is responsible for replacement. Rianna is taking over for Jason on committee.

- Chesapeake – exploring the heart safe community program, participating in CRMC accreditation site visit tomorrow
- VBFD – academy graduates in 2 months and a new one is coming
- Norfolk and Portsmouth have minimum level provider set at EMT – A

**Announcements / Dates to Remember on the TEMS Web Site**

- Next QTEE Training: October 26<sup>th</sup>
- MOC meetings: December 13<sup>th</sup>

**Adjourned – 13:50**

**The next Medical Operations Committee Meeting will be held on October 11, 2023 at 12 noon in-person with virtual availability.**