

TIDEWATER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL, INC.

**Board of Directors**

**MINUTES, March 12, 2020**

Directors Present

Thomas E. Schwalenberg, Treasurer, Virginia Beach  
Dennis J. Keane, Special Operations  
Jason "Todd" Lewis, Virginia Beach  
Genemarie McGee, RN, Vice Pres., VHHA  
Vernie Francis, Franklin  
Lewis H. Siegel, VaCEP  
Chris Smith, Isle of Wight  
James B. Spicer, Suffolk  
John DiBacco, Norfolk

Charles Ray Pruitt, Accomack Co.  
Paul S. Kea, Southampton Co.  
Robert G. Burton, Norfolk  
Stewart W. Martin, MD, President, Virginia Beach  
Janice E. McKay, Tidewater ENA  
Darren Padilla, Chesapeake  
Lewis H. Siegel, VaCEP  
Edward M. Brazle, Virginia Beach  
Daniel A. Norville, At-Large  
Hollye B. Carpenter, Northampton Co.  
Donna Marchant-Roof, Virginia Beach

Directors Absent

Christopher I. Jacobs, JD, Virginia Beach  
Michael T. Brooks, Norfolk  
W. Travis Kirby, PA-C, EVMS  
Jeffrey J. Meyer, Portsmouth  
John W. McNulty, III, Chesapeake

Others Present

David Long, Executive Director and Secretary  
Wayne Berry, Office of EMS

1. Opening – Ms. McGee called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Directors and guests introduced themselves. A **motion** was made, seconded and passed to approve the Board of Directors meeting minutes of 12-12-2019.
2. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Schwalenberg provided an overview of financial statements and investment accounts and commented TEMS was in good fiscal shape. Additionally, he reported that the first draft of the FY21 Budget was reviewed by the Audit and Finance Committee. The FY 21 budget includes a two percent increase COLA for employees, and line items for a new audio/video conferencing system and a contract for Media and Marketing.
3. Other Committee Reports – Mr. Long reported that the creation of the Nurse Manage/Leader Committee. This committee will have a positive impact on regional collaboration between hospitals and EMS agencies, which will serve to strengthen the EMS delivery system in the region.
4. Consent Agenda – Ms. McGee asked if any director would like to remove any item from the consent agenda for separate discussion and vote. There were no requests, and a **motion** was made, seconded and passed to approve the items on the consent agenda as presented below:
  - A. Approve Hampton Roads Mass Casualty Incident Response Guide (previously approved March 2017, no changes)
  - B. Acknowledge Approval of Tidewater Regional Trauma Triage Plan by OMD Committee (previously approved March 2018, no changes)
  - C. Acknowledge Approval of Tidewater Regional Stroke Triage Plan by OMD Committee (previously approved March 2018, no changes)
  - D. Approve the TEMS Regional EMS Awards Program (previously approved March 2018, no changes)
  - E. TEMS Bylaws as approved 3/14/2019
5. Other Unfinished and New Business
  - A. EMS contract modification request – Handtevy, OSHA, and new vehicle; Mr. Long discussed the OEMS "contract modification" process, which allows each EMS council to submit contract modification requests twice a year; July 1-15 and January 1 -15. The request must be submitted with investment justification and will be reviewed by the Office of EMS. During the Governor's Advisory Board meetings, I met with OEMS staff to review our submission and was informed we would

receive 100% of funding for Handtevy subscription, 50% for OSHA classes, and 50% for adding a vehicle to the fleet. The additional vehicle is necessary to curb the rising mileage reimbursement of 10 employees. The registration fees for the OSHA classes will provide the remaining 50% for conducting those classes. TEMS will be responsible for the remaining 50% of the vehicle purchase. A **motion** was made, seconded and passed to approve accepting the contract modification.

- B. OEMS update – Regional Councils (Central Shenandoah, Rappahannock, Blue Ridge); Mr. Long notified the Directors that two additional EMS councils had approached the Office of EMS seeking to implement the “hybrid” model for staffing the EMS council. Blue Ridge and Rappahannock EMS Councils were approved and will be transitioning during FY20. To date, none of the remaining councils (8) have expressed an interest.
  - C. Corona virus (COVID-19) – Mr. Long led discussion regarding telework for staff; decision made to continue current work schedule and the Board is willing to revisit as relevant information becomes available.
  - D. TEMS programs update (HRMMRS, EVHC, CISM, Healthcare Education Expo); Mr. Long provided program updates; HRMMRS has been working to secure an increase in sustainment funding. The decision now rests with the regional chief administrative officers. EVHC is making strides with a staff of four full-time employees. Two additional full-time vacancies need to be filled. Mr. Long met with Tidewater CISM Team leadership and discussed the need for an “overhaul” of the program. Efforts are underway and a new team leadership has been appointed. The Tidewater Healthcare Education Expo is scheduled for April 27 – May 2, 2020 at the Delta Hotel. Have a diverse offering of courses and a theme of “*Resilience in Action...Answering the Call, Managing the Stress.*”
  - E. Other
6. Governance – Mr. Meyer was unable to attend, so Mr. Long advised that the Governance committee met on March 6, 2020. He provided an update on the top three priorities from the TEMS Strategic Plan.
- A. Vacancies –Isle of Wight appointment of Pat Humphries, Norfolk appointment of John DiBacco, with no additional nominations from the floor, a **motion** was made, seconded and passed to approve the appointments.
  - B. 1.2 Identify emerging trends and best practices EMS patient care, and seek region-wide efficiencies, consistency, cost-sharing and reduced duplication. Assigned to the Education & Training Committee; work in this area led to the region-wide implementation of Handtevy System.
  - C. 3.1 Promote the concept of regionalized training opportunities, including simulation training and assessment of the need for a regional EMS training academy, that leverage the efforts of TCC, other training centers, individual agencies, EVMS and the council. Assigned to the Medical Operations Committee (MOC). Discussion regarding “perceived” paramedic shortages. Many agencies have examined call data which revealed a large percentage of calls could be managed at the AEMT level. There are three AEMT program in Tidewater; Accomack, Norfolk, and the Hampton Roads EMS Training Academy (Portsmouth/Suffolk venture). TCC offers but concerns raised about lack of flexibility in scheduling. Discussion about whether there is a role for TEMS to offer AEMT training or AEMT test sites. Governance Committee recommends monitoring the current programs and demand.
  - D. 4.2 Utilize data and nationally-recommended evidence based EMS treatment guidelines to update protocols and medications in a timely manner. Assigned to the Performance Improvement Committee; work in this area led to the complete revision of the TEMS Protocols-13th Edition.
  - E. Other
7. Announcements – other dates, news and training on [www.tidewaterems.org](http://www.tidewaterems.org)
- Sign up for email Response news [www.tidewaterems.org/listserv](http://www.tidewaterems.org/listserv)
8. Adjournment – With no additional business, Ms. McGee adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 11, 2020.