



**Fauquier County
Fire Rescue System**

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*Battalion Chief Rich Cluff, Chair
Chief John Kane, NBVFR, Co-chair*

EMS COMMITTEE

12/05/2023 Minutes

Committee members present: Rich Cluff, Battalion Chief, John Kane, NBVFR Fire Chief, Natasha Lorenzen, Deputy Chief of Operations, Joe Williams, RVFR, Dave VanBuskirk, CVFR Mike Proper, MVFR, Danielle McCloy, TPVFR, Dr. Jenks, Fauquier County OMD

Staff members present: Administrative Assistant Lindsay Flippo

I. Call to Order

Rich Cluff called the meeting to order at 1900 hours. Introductions of members present.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

N/A

III. Approval of the Minutes

N/A

IV. Old Business

- a. There has been discussion within stations about EMS supply purchasing through the county instead of individual companies. Will address this with budget and finance committee.
- b. Handtevy – no longer purchased by State per financial issues with OEMS. REMS Council has offered to pay through their organization, as well as NOVA EMS Council. Protocol app, which we use every day, is another option. Possibility of putting together a sub-committee to research and report back to EMS Committee on the options. Handtevy cost \$3000-5000 annually, vs. \$4000 for protocol app.

Rich Cluff made a motioned to table discussion until Joe Williams can reach out to REMS council to inquire about purchasing. Kane seconded and the motion was approved.

- c. EMT Program - For the summer EMT class, out of 9 students, 5 passed registry, 1 is precepting. Discussion on whether the focus should be on those volunteers within the stations. For the upcoming spring EMT class, there are 4 registered, with 1 from an outside jurisdiction. The class needs 8 students to be held. Discussion on whether it is worth it to pay for instructors and the costs for onboarding new members vs. working with those members already running calls who want to take Advanced EMT. Per Lt. Coleman, AEMT class would be nights and weekends, as well as longer class time. It is harder on the students, and more work for training department and instructors.

Rich Cluff motioned to present to the Executive Committee to cancel EMT B class, Danielle McCloy seconded. Approved.

Joe Williams motioned to do away with Spring EMT B and hold an Advanced class instead. Rich Cluff seconded with the amendment to research instructors/costs and discussion with Training and the Executive Committee. Approved.

- d. Clarification on released EMTs in the volunteer ranks. All EMTs need to pass a proctored protocol test. This applies to those who are released and practice in other jurisdictions.
- e. Skills drills and CEUs updates classes – will consult with training department for dates.

V. New Business

- a. Protocol Committee – reach out to interested personnel in stations with names of anyone who might be interested to be on. The EMS protocols should be revisited annually and kept current with new innovations/technologies/procedures.
- b. QA Compliance – DFREM has an assigned CQI Committee that oversees all CQI for DFREM. Cluff will talk with R Smith to possibly take on QA for volunteer providers. This may also affect EMS licensing within the System. Tabling discussion until next meeting.
- c. EMS Licensure – Discussion on the pros/cons of transitioning all EMS Agencies in Fauquier County under the one EMS license. The names on the side of apparatus that run as ALS/BLS unit will also need to say Fauquier County Fire Rescue. Committee members will report back to their individual companies to discuss with their membership the pros and cons. Tabling discussion until the next meeting.
- d. EMS Committee initiatives – what do you think our EMS committee should focus on, what we should discuss. Possibilities for what the committee should focus on include: medication compliance, QA/QI, funding of protocol apps and trainings, protocol committee, performance improvement evaluations (routinely evaluating performance and then evaluating that performance to measure quality of care being given), liaison to training (what is needed/how the county will benefit.), EMS portion of uniform rank. The committee should also be open to other requests that come along as the committee progresses, such as EMS equipment purchasing. The EMS Committee will be reporting back to Executive Committee and System Chief.
- e. EMS Committee financials – A lot of how and what we spend will be decided with the progression of the Budget and Finance Committee. Prior purchases by the EMS Committee include: protocol apps, EMS Symposium, and protocol training rollouts.

Kane motioned to propose to the Executive Committee that committee will fund a full scholarship for one paramedic within county to go through class, be released, and provide at least 2 years of service. Danielle McCloy seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Kane motioned to propose to the Executive Committee that committee will fund a full scholarship for one EMT within county to go through AEMT class, be released, and provide at least 1 year of service. Dave VanBuskirk seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Roundtable

a. Joe Williams

- i.** Per State, EMS station scheduled inspections will be going away, and transitioning to spot inspections and site visits. Very new, not sure how paperwork will be handled, was just introduced.
- ii.** DEA may be doing away with hospital pharmacies, how do we as an agency address this? There is already discussion on what would happen in the event we can no longer obtain drugs from hospital.

b. Natasha Lorenzen

- i.** Executive Committee is putting together general guidelines for each committee. For this committee, putting forth 2/5/10 year budget proposals for the Executive Committee to consider future.
- ii.** Meetings – every month for the foreseeable future, then maybe scaling back the frequency.

VII. Action Items

- a.** The committee will reach out to Budget and Finance Committee to get clarification on EMS supply purchasing as well as other committee finances and budget.
- b.** Rich Cluff will discuss with training on the possibility of an AEMT class as well as obtaining information on skills drills and CEUs training dates.
- c.** Committee members should reach out to their company membership for any interest in joining a protocol sub-committee to review the Systems Protocols, so they are as up to date as possible.
- d.** Committee members should think about how to address EMT program issues, discuss with members/chiefs, and bring back any ideas on how to improve.
- e.** Each member will discuss the possibility of doing away with an EMS license under their individual company with their membership and report back to the committee next meeting with questions, concerns, positives, and negatives.
- f.** Joe Williams volunteered to represent the EMS portion of Uniform Rank restructuring and rewrite, will coordinate with John Kane on this initiative.
- g.** John Kane will purpose the scholarship funds to the executive committee.
- h.** EMS Committee should work on putting forth 2-, 5-, and 10-year budget proposals for the Executive Committee to consider.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Battalion Chief Cluff at 2058 hours. Dr. Jenks seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 16th, 2024, at 1900 hours at Fauquier Hospital, Sycamore Room A.