



Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

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

APPROVED

EMS COMMITTEE

11/26/2024 Minutes

Present: Chairperson Rich Cluff, FCFR, Joe Williams, RVFR, Michael Proper, MVFR, Danielle McCloy, TPVFR, Petra Williams, GVFR, Battalion Chief Rob Smith, FCFR, Hugh Hill, Flint Hill Vol. Fire, Executive Assistant Lindsay Flippo

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Cluff called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was presented to the committee. Joe Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda. Petra Williams seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the September 24th, 2024 meeting were presented to the committee. Danielle McCloy made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Petra Williams seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

IV. Guests/Citizens

- a. There were no guests present.

V. Old Business

- a. Training Updates – AEMT – there are 8 in the course, with 2 out of county students. The completion date is December 12th. Fall EMT – there are currently 12 in the course, with 1 out of county student, The completion date is December 21st. EVOC I, II, and III will be starting January 11th – 12th, 2025, class will meet at EMS Station 1. Health & Safety program manager will also be held on January 11th – 12th, 2025, class will meet at Station 10. Spring EMT – will be starting on January 11th and registration is currently open. To date there are 9 signed up. Next CPR courses will be December 2nd, online, and December 7th at EMS Station 1.
- b. LifePak 35 Updates - Training went well, but volunteer participants were low. Everyone does need to put hands on the new Lifepaks before use. We are working on train the trainers for the field. Currently 1 is in use on Medic 1, to “demo”. ImageTrend interface is now up, and the purchase of the mounting equipment is in county procurement. Next round of training is coming, and we will work to give better, longer notice for Volunteers, so they are able to work their schedules as needed.
- c. Pharmacy Regulation Update – We are currently waiting on security at 30 John Marshall, which has pushed our Board of Pharmacy inspection back. As for station installs, all but 2 have been completed, still need to install cabinets at 3 and 10. Petra Williams has been hired as the Pharmacy Administration Program Manager, and Ryan Daniels has been hired as a courier. Some of the new meds, drug bags, substance kits, first in and suppression boxes are in and/or currently being

ordered. We did receive an extension date from Fauquier Health, who will supply drugs for us until January 31st. We were just too far behind to meet deadline, as there were too many needed supplies (not just drugs) that were on backorder or that we received damaged and had to return for exchanges.

VI. New Business

- a. Budget Requests – Chairperson Cluff presented the EMS Committee’s proposed budget to the FCFRS Budgetary and Financial Planning Committee. Some of the asks included: \$10,000 for symposium fundings, Handtevy for \$9,000, Protocol App for \$3,000, Educational Supplies about \$6,000, and the biggest ask, Laryngoscopes, which will be about \$75,000. The budget also included Dr. Jenks’ salary. The total, with incidentals, was \$187,851. Joe Williams inquired about REMS. Further discussion was had in Roundtable.

VII. Roundtable

- a. REMS Council– Chairperson Cluff has been in contact with REMS Council, as well as other REMS-affiliated EMS agencies to discuss how we and they are utilizing REMS. Currently, REMS provides us with CLIA waivers and a back-up medical director. There are resources REMS offers, but with their facility and personnel so far away, it’s hard to justify the efforts. Training is harder because of their location, system members don’t want to travel that far, and it’s hard for them to come up to us, too. Also, they have grants, which we have submitted to and not received. Our REMS representative Joe Williams relayed from other REMS personnel he has been in contact with that we don’t ask for assistance and haven’t in years. Per state legislation, we have to be a member of an EMS council. Chairperson Cluff then brought up discussion on Northern Virginia EMS Council and how it would cost us \$1323.65 if we became members with them. Chairperson Cluff then brought forth to the committee discussion on how much we really should pay REMS. They are requesting \$18,000, but we are not receiving that amount for services in return. Northern Virginia EMS Council receives more money than REMS from the state, so that may be why our cost would remain so low. Danielle McCloy inquired about if there is a minimum amount to pay, but it was concluded that there isn’t one. Co-Chair Kane, who had spoken with Chairperson Cluff prior to the meeting, wanted to make a suggestion of \$4,000, as a fair and equitable amount. Mike Proper believed the REMS Council seemed more of an insurance policy, and \$2,000 might be better. Petra Williams spoke that she believed \$4,000 would be a good start, and we could revisit next year to see if we should lower the amount some more. Danielle McCloy believed it seemed too high, especially with the amount of people and state funds paying into it. Joe Williams believed there were some valid points made but seemed unsure about lowering the amount.

Chairperson Cluff asked for a motion. Mike Proper made a motion to pay REMS \$4,000, with a return of investment and possible lowering of the amount to be discussed after some time. Joe Williams seconded, and it passed.

- b. ImageTrend – Volunteer members are still being moved over to the Fauquier EMS side, but it looks as though by the first of the year it should be completed. That means turning off the volunteer sites. Those who need access to do reports, and to show up on reports, will be available. FCFR will handle reporting and QA/QI to the state. There are still a few things being worked on in the backend and we will push out an IB to the volunteer system members when it’s complete with more information on how to handle the transition.
- c. Mike Proper asked about an email that went out to Volunteer Chief officers regarding released AIC volunteers, so they could get access to the new station drug cabinets. The email was sent out by DC Kidwell and included all station chiefs and ACs. Mike will reach out to his Chief for more information.

- d. Joe William spoke about the EMS advisory board. The person responsible for the money issues with state OEMS has been charged and sentenced. Currently there are audits occurring, with a big report released soon. It's also been identified that these the issues also came from VDH, not just OEMS. There were no checks in place, so people were left able to do things that were not supposed to be doing. There will be a big change on how OEMS is run. There will be a new director appointed at the beginning of the year, with several co-directors. There will also be one point of contact for finances for both OEMS and VDH. The consultant report that was done was inaccurate and is no longer valid. The advisory board will change in order to give them more legislative power over EMS operations within the state. There will also be a communications task force team, to help dispatch centers during disasters. There is currently no state medical director, and they are working on hiring a new one. The trauma system is also currently being reviewed, as is training, registry testing, and EMS councils. Current placement of OEMS is under VDH, but other departments are looking into possibly placing EMS under them. It was also discovered that OEMS was not only not reaching out to EMS jurisdictions, they were also not communicating with VDH. Start to see the changes over next 6-8 months. There was a question about working on disseminating the information of new changes to our committee. Email Lindsay with any questions or concerns you may have, and Joe will take those back to the board.
- e. Chief Kane wanted to remind everyone about affiliations. Please update and re-affiliate with Fauquier. He also mentioned helping out with precepting, with runs at 1 and 10. By rotating stations, it helps those waiting for release to get calls in, as well as learning the diversity in terrain and patient demographics throughout Fauquier. New Baltimore volunteer Sam Neglia would like to head this initiative, and Lindsay will work with him to get the word out. Email and text to interested system members, included members at 3 and 4, along with 1 and 10. Chief 360 may also be able to assist, working on a demo for system members.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Mike Proper at 1954 hours. Joe Williams seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 2025, at 1900 hours at Fauquier Hospital.