



Fauquier County Fire Rescue System

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

APPROVED

EMS COMMITTEE MINUTES

08/05/2025

Present: Chairperson Rich Cluff, FCFR, Co-chairperson John Kane, NBVFR, Tom Litchford, WVFC, Joseph Williams, RVFR, Danielle McCloy, TPVFR, Matthew Smith, FCFR, 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. Danielle McCloy made a motion to adopt the agenda. Joe Williams seconded, and it was unanimously approved.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes**
The minutes from the July 1, 2025 meeting were presented to the committee. Danielle McCloy made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Joe Williams seconded, and it was unanimously approved.
- IV. **Guests/Citizens**
 - a. FCFR Captain Matthew Smith – Capt. Smith was on hand to discuss his findings on the glucometer demonstrations and possible updates. A few months ago, the system trialed two different glucometers from our current ones, as the current ones are continuously sending errors. There are not a lot on the market, and we need to stay in compliance. The demo lasted about 1 month and was tested at Medics 1, 2, and 3, in order to capture our citizen demographics throughout the county. After the demo, a survey link was sent and when it was returned, Captain Smith analyzed the data, along with reaching out to surrounding jurisdictions for pros and cons. Captain Smith recommended the Assure Prism, as it has a nicer case, it is harder for vials to fail, and easy to use. There are inaccuracies with Prism, too, but those seemed more focused on better training within field personnel, rather than the unit itself. There are three vendors that manufacture the Assure Prism, McKesson, Bound Tree Medical, and Henry Schein. Captain Smith said the projected roll-out costs were as follows: McKesson would be between \$1,653 to \$2,104.50, depending on if we also purchase their test strips, which may make the meters free. Bound Tree would be between \$1,870.50 to \$3,677.20 and would also depend on meter costs and if we purchase their test strips. Henry Schein would be \$2,065.90. We would be able to demo these meters through a no-cost trial period, and after that we could determine which route to take in regards to vendors. The ongoing costs after initial roll-out would change due to field usage and maintaining minimums, per Petra in Pharmacy.

Chairperson Cluff asked for any discussion. Co-chair Kane asked why Prism? Captain Smith gave his reasons, including the consistent errors from readings from our current glucometers vs. Prism, and he believes that the benefits outweigh the costs. The unit itself is also nicer,

with slicker design. Chairperson Cluff also reminded the committee that all three of the glucometers that are able to meet compliance have given errant readings, and the costs from purchase to rollout will need to be approved, but he opened the floor for a motion. Joe Williams then made a motion to switch to the Assure Prism, along with purchasing their test strips. Tom Litchford seconded, and with no further discussion, the motion was approved. There is no rollout date, but hopefully after the October EMS training. This will now need to be presented at the next Budget and Finance Committee Meeting before we can move forward with the purchase.

V. Training

- a. Fall EMT will be starting August 16th and there are 16 students in the class. Spring EMT will begin planning stage next month. Co-chair Kane inquired about the possibility of a summer/fall schedule, but money does seem to be an issue. For FCFR staff, GO 25.064 was released requiring mandatory EMS Callback training. This includes the new protocol overviews, a GlideScope practical, as well as other skills trainings/rollouts. With the possible purchase of the Assure Prism glucometers, Chairperson Cluff also suggested including a skills station for them, too. Tom Litchford then asked about volunteer system members and if they would have training. Chairperson Cluff was unsure, so he will connect with Captain Shields to figure out a way to include them. Tom Litchford also inquired about the previously mentioned volunteer trainings. Co-chair Kane said he would get with his member Sam Neglia to work on it, as well as loop in the training coordinator at New Baltimore and get back with Tom at a later date.

VI. Pharmacy

- a. There were no updates, and per Petra Williams, everything seem to be going well. Operating Procedure 303 was recently released with some updates, however, there are more coming.

VII. Old Business

- a. GlideScopes – There were 23 delivered this week. Chairperson Cluff brought one for demonstration to the committee. These models are rechargeable with SD cards, so they can record, and then providers are able to transfer to the patient chart/report. For compliance purposes, there is a policy currently in the works. These scopes will be kept in the code bag with current McGraths, which will be returned for a refund. There will be training on them at EMS call-back October, with a projected rollout of hopefully the next day or two. There was a grant submitted, and Tom Litchford hopes to hear something soon, with the possibility of repurposing those funds for other equipment.
- b. Paramedic program through Laurel Ridge – There are 8 students that applied and are now enrolled, 7 FCFR members and 1 Volunteer. The tuition will be covered by the County, and orientation was held on July 8th.

VIII. New Business

- a. There was no new business.

IX. Roundtable

- a. Temperature controlled drugs in units – Co-chair Kane asked if the committee should start thinking about drugs during winter temps. Joe Williams brought up Pharmguard, a company making and installing temp-controlled cabinets with AC/Heat elements, some of which can be retrofitted to the apparatus. Pierce, E-One, and Demers are using them, with some success. Fairfax County is also working on a contract to outfit their units. Co-chair Kane said he is currently working with a Pharmguard cabinet at his day-job, so he will be able to come back

next month with opinion.

- b. OP 300.28 – Lindsay will resend to members, as there have been inquiries regarding providers in the field and their status, including patient touches.
- c. SimLab – it is being used for classes, unsure why people believe it is not. Anyone with questions can reach out to Deputy Chief Kidwell.
- d. REMS Council – REMS and Thomas Jefferson EMS have merged and will now become 1 council, which will fall under the NVERS EMS alliance, through RFAs that gives them money to use. This does mean NVERS EMS may now also be in charge of future budgets. Reps from the two councils were impressed with the NVERS EMS alliance with the resources and personnel. They will not dictate protocols or how REMS and Thomas Jefferson operate, they are only there to oversee. It was voted and approved by the members of both councils, but they are still in the planning stages regarding who and what will need to be done and figured out for the future.
- e. EMS advisory board – there have been many changes since the money went missing at the state level. Now that the State is back in the black, money has been doled out and grants are back open, along with rewarding in September for previous grants. Tom Litchford will look into grants available. There will be a new chairman elected in November, Kevin Dillard will be moving to state board of health after governor appointment, and the number of personnel will be reduced, with changes from committees to work groups. There should also be a written policy for providers coming up in regards to working K-9s and will be voted on in November. November 7 at 10 am, with a virtual meeting option. The link will be sent 10 days prior to all EMTs and superusers.
- f. EMS Symposium – want to bring back something, but it will look a lot different than previous years, to include sponsors and lower overhead costs. No dates coming up in the future.
- g. Cross-staffing – should there be a policy in place through the system to clarify? Co-chair Kane and Tom Litchford will discuss further, to help clarify volunteer units staffing with different personnel.
- h. VAVRS college – Tom Litchford attended this years’ college and was highly impressed. He would like to promote their classes for EMTs who aren’t able to participate in fire-type classes, as well as getting people their CE credits. He suggested maybe look into the membership for our volunteer stations (\$400 yr.) and fitting it into EMS Ops budget Joe Williams also mentioned they will also send instructors for classes all over the state, it’s a worthy investment.
- i. EZ Passes – Co-chair Kane asked that system members check your station’s volunteer units to see if you have them. He is working with Battalion Chief Gordon Mackison and will consult with Battalion Chief Fred McEvilly to make sure every ambulance has one.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Tom Litchford at 2018 hours. Danielle McCloy seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 16th, 2025, at 1900 hours at Fauquier Hospital.