



OLD DOMINION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ALLIANCE INC.

7818 E. Parham Road, Suite 911
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 www.odemsa.vaems.org

Old Dominion EMS Alliance
Board of Directors

March 26, 2025
 7 p.m.

Board Members Present: Heidi Hooker, Lisa Baber, Kathe Ware, Allen Yee, M.D., Walt Bailey, Bert Martin, Willoughby Hundley, M.D., John Vasquez, Jimmy Lee Pair, Pier Ferguson, Jessica Goodman

Board Members Absent: Greg Neiman, Cary Strosnider, Joelle Cramer,

ODEMSA Staff: Ryan Scarbrough,

Other: Catina Downey, CPA

Minutes Scribed by: Heidi Hooker **Reviewed by:** Greg Neiman, Board Secretary

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Meeting Called to Order	The quarterly meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Board Vice-President Lisa Baber. The meeting format was virtual. Lisa welcomed members and guests to the meeting. A quorum was determined. The Agenda was approved. The December Quarterly Meeting Minutes were approved. (0:00-00:58)	<p>Motion by: Kathe Ware to approve Agenda. Seconded by: Pier Ferguson Vote: Unanimously approved</p> <p>Motion by: Bert Martin to approve the December Quarterly Meeting Minutes Seconded by: Kathe Ware Vote: Unanimously approved</p>
President Reports: A. Board President	Walt Bailey- Walt reported on the status of the Regional EMS Council workgroup that was established by Chair Kevin Dillard of the EMS Advisory Board. Walt said the group was not progressing as quickly as he believed it	



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<p>B. PD-13</p> <p>C. PD-14</p> <p>D. PD-15</p> <p>E. PD-19</p>	<p>should, and that it appeared at times as though “the tail was wagging the dog”. So, Walt reached out to the Council Presidents to have direct meetings with them as well as Christopher Lindsay at VDH. Walt said when the time comes, it will be the Council Boards of Directors that will be making decisions. He said they had some great conversations regarding the “hybrid models”, especially for those that were not very familiar with the model. He said he will keep members of the ODEMSA Board informed as the situation progresses.</p> <p>Walt said he has a meeting with the Secretary of Health, Gary Critzer and Christopher Lindsay scheduled in two weeks. He said they will be discussing the placement of OEMS. He has not been provided with an agenda to know other topics. (15:46-19:06)</p> <p>Bert Martin- Bert reported the next Southside Sub-Council meeting is April 1 at Southside Rescue Squad in South Hill. He said dinner will be provided. He said virtual meetings haven’t worked well during the past year so they will discuss in-person meetings at the April 1 meeting. He said they have also discussed incorporating more CEU events throughout the year besides the weekend that’s normally done in January. (00:59-02:02)</p> <p>Walt Bailey- No report. (02:03-02:15)</p> <p>Lisa Baber- No report (02:16-02:45)</p> <p>Pier Ferguson- Pier said they met a month prior. She said officers were elected. She said Cary Strosnider remains the President and that she is the Vice-President. They also discussed strategies to increase attendance. Kathe Ware added that Southern Virginia Medical Center (SVMC) does monthly CE and offers meals with attendance. There was also discussion about a rural trauma course coming soon. (02:46-05:38)</p>	
<p>Advisory Board Report:</p>	<p>Lisa Baber said two new members were appointed to the State EMS Advisory Board, with Walt Bailey being one of the two. Walt will represent the</p>	



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Virginia Volunteer Firefighters Association. Chief Eddie Ferguson was recognized for his 6 years of service on the Board as a member and Executive Committee member. Scott Winston was also recognized for his 40 years of EMS service with 35 of those at OEMS. Dr. George Lindbeck was recognized for his 18 years of service as the State Medical Director.

Lisa asked Dr. Yee, who is acting as the interim State Medical Director, to describe how the State Medical Director position will look in the future. Dr. Yee said the State Medical Direction Committee had been tasked with determining the role of the State Medical Director. He said, after lengthy discussions, the committee is recommending the State Medical Director position should exist but should be a part-time position. They are also recommending that the position rotate to assure growth, with a term of six years. If at a later time it is determined that the position does need to be full-time, then it will most likely also be recommended the term limits go away.

Lisa said work is continuing regarding the six topics that were assigned to various committees from Chair Kevin Dillard. She said Walt will give a report on the Regional EMS Council Workgroup and the decisions that have been made.

Lisa said that Daniel Linkins has been appointed as the OEMS Acting Deputy Director, EMS Education and Compliance. Dr. Greg Woods has been appointed as the Acting Deputy Director, Operations. Dr. Maria Beermann-Foat, the new OEMS Director was in attendance and told the committee a little about herself.

Lisa said the Virginia Board of Pharmacy approved storage of medication boxes stored on QRV's parked outside locations other than EMS agencies provided they (1) Must be locked at all times (2) Equipped with auxiliary power connections for temperature control (3) Medication Kits locked in Board approved holders. Dr. Yee said the Medical Direction Committee did approve the use of steroids at the EMT level.

Lisa said the Training and Certification Committee is recommending a hybrid training plan to the Advisory Board Executive Committee. They want oversight to be centralized at OEMS to include statewide policy development, accreditation, and uniformed data management. They want the program delivery



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	<p>decentralized to the Regional EMS Councils to provide more flexibility. They are also recommending additional funding to the Councils for training resources.</p> <p>Lisa said the OEMS Placement Workgroup is exploring 3 key questions (1) Should OEMS remain under the Department of Health or move to another department (2) Should OEMS remain an Office or transition to a department. The Workgroup has not taken a position on the first two questions (3) Should the State EMS Advisory Board remain an advisory board or transition to a policy board. It has been decided via a unanimous vote that the board will transition to a policy board. (05:39-15:45)</p>	
Executive Director Report:	<p>Heidi did not have more to add. She said her report is interjected into other agenda items. (19:07-19:47)</p>	
OEMS Report:	<p>No Report (19:48-19:49)</p>	
CVHC Report: David Calkins	<p>David Calkins was unable to attend, but submitted the following report-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am assisting Kriste with the single audit. There are a few items that I am coordinating with VDH and VHHA to provide. • We have provided all required deliverables to date, on time and in full compliance with the HPP cooperative agreement. • We continue to work with our Members and Partners to spend down FY25 funds. • We held our annual Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE) on Tuesday, March 25. It was a success, and we expect a more involved exercise potentially involving EMS support (to test interfacility transport) next year. (19:50-19:50) 	
<p>Financial Discussion: A. Quarterly Financial Statement – Action Item</p>	<p>Catina distributed the Quarterly Financial Report prior to the meeting. The floor was open for anyone that had questions to ask. There were no questions. A motion was made to approve the Quarterly Financial Report. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. (19:51-22:52)</p>	<p>Motion by: Lisa Baber to approve the Quarterly Financial Report Seconded by: Pier Ferguson</p>



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<p>B. Annual Financial Report - Delayed</p>	<p>Auditors are still not able to complete the Annual Financial Report. Catina said that since we received over \$750k from the VHHA as the CVHC fiduciary, it has pushed us to complete a “Simple Audit”. Catina described that a Simple Audit confirms the money received was spent per grant guidelines, in other words a Federal Contracts Audit. Heidi said the audit is now not expected to be complete until May. Heidi said she has already reported this to Greg Woods and let him know that ODEMSA will seek another one-quarter deliverable extension for the Annual Financial Report/Audit. Greg indicated that an extension would be approved. Heidi announced this will be on the agenda at our next meeting. (19:51-22:52)</p>	<p>Vote: Unanimously approved</p> <p>A second one-quarter extension will be requested for the Annual Financial Report/Audit</p>
<p>Current Business: A. Drug Box Program- Update B. Regional EMS Councils Restructure- Update</p>	<p>Heidi said this project has taken a considerable amount of staff time. Heidi said in recent weeks two region-wide surveys have been accomplished. She said, beyond the surveys, Ryan has been reaching out to the agencies via phone and email to get regular updates on their readiness. We’re tracking when agencies receive their CSR and DEA licenses. We’re also assessing how many filled hospital drug box stock agencies want and how many extra empty boxes they want, among other things. Beyond collecting the data just mentioned, Ryan has been assisting the agencies by populating a dedicated place on the ODEMSA website with information, educating agency contacts and assisting them by answering questions. Ryan then gave a detailed presentation that showed where each agency stands. He showed them the tracker he’s been using. (22:53-31:40)</p> <p>Heidi said the Regional Council Restructure workgroup has voted to reduce the number of Virginia Regional EMS Councils from eleven (11) to seven (7). The amount of money dedicated to the Councils moving forward would not have successfully supported all eleven. Further, during the Presidents meeting, they were presented with three (3) map recommendations. The presidents choose a map that merged the following current Councils together within the same service area-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tidewater EMS Council (TEMS) and Peninsulas EMS Councils (PEMS) • Rappahannock EMS Council (REMS) and Thomas Jefferson EMS Council (TJEMS) 	



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<p>C. ODEMSA Telework Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lord Fairfax EMS Council (LFEMS) and Central Shenandoah EMS Council (CSEMS) • Blue Ridge EMS Council (BREMS) and Western Virginia EMS Council (WVEMS) <p>Heidi said ODEMSA, Southwest Virginia EMS Council (SWEMS) and Northern Virginia EMS Council (NVEMS) will all remain as they are today, without change. Next, the presidents had to determine if the Councils would be state field offices or non-profit organizations. The presidents voted to have the Councils as non-profit organizations. So, ODEMSA will remain intact, and we will remain a non-profit organization. Heidi said all of the OEMS staff hired on at the current “hybrid” offices, CSEMS – BREMS – REMS – SWEMS, have been told that their positions will terminate at the end of November. Heidi said VDH is extending the Councils Designation by six months. She said she has heard there will be an RFP process in the Fall. (31:41-39:38)</p> <p>Heidi reminded members that Dr. Yee brought up the telework policy at the last meeting and it was decided we would table it until this meeting. Yee asked if staff should be back in the office 5 days a week. Lisa asked Heidi what the current policy is. Heidi said staff work in the office three days a week and telework for two. The staff stagger their days to ensure there are staff in the office at all times. She said all staff are in the office together on Wednesdays to allow for brainstorming and other needs. Heidi was asked how she felt the policy was working. Heidi said she felt it works well, and it has not interfered with work production. A few Board members spoke to say they have also observed no issues with the quality and quantity of work from staff. It was asked what the OEMS current policy is. Heidi said she confirmed with Chris Vernovai that OEMS staff are teleworking one day a week. Heidi added that there have been no issues with staff coming in on telework days when needed. She also added that it is a benefit to the employee. After a brief discussion, the Board did not wish to change the policy. Staff will telework two days a week. (39:39-46:06)</p>	
<p>New Business: A. Stroke Triage Plan- Action Item</p>	<p>Heidi said the Stroke Triage Plan, STEMI Plan, EMS Plan and the MCI Plan do not have changes since the last time the Board approved the documents. A motion was made to approve the items A-D under New Business. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. (46:07-47:00)</p>	



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<p>B. STEMI Plan – Action Item</p> <p>C. EMS Plan – Action Item</p> <p>D. MCI Plan- Action Item</p>		<p>Motion by: Bert Martin to approve the Stroke Triage Plan, STEMI Plan, EMS Plan and the MCI Plan. Seconded by: Kathe Ware Vote: Unanimously approved</p>
<p>Business from Floor</p>	<p>Dr. Yee made a motion to enter an executive session so members could discuss a legal matter. After returning from executive session there was no other business from the floor. (47:01-1:01:54)</p>	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>June 18, 2025 (Location – Virtual – Web-Conference)</p>	
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm</p>	