



# OLD DOMINION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ALLIANCE

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## Air Medical Committee

April 9, 2026

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Chair:** Greg Jones – Med-Flight I

**Vice Chair:** Jay Lovelady – HCA Air Care Eagle

**Members and Guests Present:** Greg Jones, Jay Lovelady, Dempsey Whitt, William Parker  
**Virtual Attendees:** Chris Craft, Catherine Plumb, Craig Bride  
**ODEMSA Staff:** Ryan Scarbrough, Chris Vernovai, Heather Nelson  
**Minutes Scribed by:** Heather Nelson  
**Materials Provided:** Previous meeting minutes and agenda

Topic / Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action / Follow-up; Responsible Person
<b>Meeting Called to Order</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greg Jones called the meeting to order at 11:00 am</li> <li>• Moment of silence for fallen comrades</li> <li>• After introductions, it was determined that a quorum was not present. The meeting remained a workgroup throughout.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meeting minutes/agenda could not be approved</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Old Dominion EMS Alliance Report</b>		
<b>ODEMSA</b>	<p><b>Ryan Scarbrough</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrapping up grant funding at this time – should be turned into the office by the 20th</li> <li>• New employees hired and starting their roles:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Heather Nelson: Field Coordinator</li> <li>○ Chris Vernovai: Training Director</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Currently working on building back of committees and operations to how they were before</li> <li>• Blood Program – Question brought up by <b>Greg Jones</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Contract with Inova Blood Services has been signed and approved by the board; Dr. Yee drafting plan</li> <li>○ Funding will start July 1<sup>st</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We are currently preparing for the purchase date to be able to hit the ground running.</li> <li>▪ Will get logistics sorted soon</li> <li>○ Information is slowly being distributed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information will go out soon to avoid premature leak</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Tentative plan: rings out from Metro Richmond Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If not in ring, the idea is to be able to pass through a ring to intercept an agency to get blood, or get blood through HEMS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First phase will be the central ring and second phase will go the second ring and then third ring</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ We are getting special funding through the OEMS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trying to make a system that will create funds that will fund itself once state funding stops.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Attempting to find the best model to adapt and work together.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Greg Jones</b> rose another concern after running a call where they started blood on an ATV accident out of Goochland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How do we track the unit cradle to grave? How do we document? (he documented it as a procedure)</li> <li>▪ Can Dr. Yee put together an education through ODEMSA?</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Jay Lovelady</b> brought up a question asking how to mitigate waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Only way it can be wasted is if it goes out of temperature in your custody <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Store in refrigerator</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ After a 14 day cycle, the blood gets sent back where it will be spun into its components (PRMB, platelets, etc.) or put to the front of the line to be used.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Agency Reports</b>		
<b>Lunenburg County</b>	<b>Chris Craft</b>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing to report – more of a concern               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ County has told us we have to utilize MedFlight first before contacting agencies like LifeEvac or ACE due to them charging for their services.</li> <li>○ Even with LifeEvac 5 being at CMH, we still have to call MedFlight first even though its 10 minutes to the helipad if the helicopter is there.</li> <li>○ This is a Hindrance to patient care                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Greg Jones</b> – “Air Medical industry had a long, difficult track record with aggressing billing practices”.                       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• billing practices in the air medical industry have significantly improved, with most patients facing costs of \$200-\$400</li> <li>• the No Surprises Billing Act has helped address previous concerns about excessive charges</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Requested to have an education events with the local board of supervisors to update them on these processes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Buckingham County</b>	<p><b>Catherine Plumb</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flight is an important resource</li> <li>• Discussed challenges with flight medical resource availability and accurate ETAs in Buckingham County, highlighting issues with dispatch center information and aircraft assignment processes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ongoing conversations with Cody Main from Life Evac about integrating the rapid SOS system with PSAPs to improve accuracy and efficiency</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Discussed challenges with flight dispatching and aircraft selection               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ issues with integrity and transparency in current processes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Hospital Reports</b>		
<b>VCU</b>	<p><b>Dempsey Whitt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LifeEvac 5 has gone live at CMH on February 4th</li> <li>• Currently working on NC license to service the 4 counties in the northern part on NC – should have that in the next 2-3 months               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In the final stages – Dr. Yee got his NC medical license</li> <li>○ This will allow us to do any transport that we need to do</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Window washing season at VCU main               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This caused a major safety event om recent years</li> <li>○ Will communicate if the VCU helipad needs to be closed down</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>HCA</b>	<b>Jay Lovelady</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report at this time</li> </ul>	
<b>VCU Comms</b>	<b>William Parker</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report at this time</li> </ul>	
<b>Bon Secours</b>	<b>Craig Bride</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Had to leave before report was given</li> </ul>	
<b>Old Business</b>		
<b>State MedEvac Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No longer a committee due to restructuring through the Office of EMS – now a work group assigned underneath med control               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Member still try to meet virtually to generate materials and awareness</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>New Business</b>		
<b>Regional Air Medical Evacuation Guidelines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed updates needed for various guidelines and attachments, with Heather assigned to handle the updates with the option to also make changes through a shared document.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Main updates included replacing outdated content from 2011, updating the field triage algorithm in Attachment A, and creating a new, more accurate map for Attachment B</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Discussed the challenges of helipads at freestanding emergency rooms and considered adding language about forethought in helipad planning.</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjourn</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Meeting July 9, 2026, at 11:00 AM</li> <li>• The meeting adjourned at 12:16 PM.</li> </ul>	With no additional business from the floor, the meeting was adjourned.