

EMS Operations Committee Minutes
March 8, 2016
DTCI- Large Conference Room
801 Sycolin Road
1930 Hours

Co. 4	Cheryl Aycock
Co. 6	Kevin Piatt
Co. 9	Derrick Bennett/Jay J. Brown
Co. 12	Andrew O'Connell
Co. 13	Anthony Mino
Co. 14	Earl Hall
Co. 15	Byron Andrews
Co. 17	Rodney Krone
EMS Council	Jay J. Brown
LCFR	AC Johnson, AC Tobia, DC Salazar, Bill Toon, Mary Maguire, Danielle Brosan, Christine Langley-Obaugh
OMD	Dr. John Morgan
StoneSprings	Jaime Wolfin
Reston Hospital	Keith Morrison
Inova Loudoun	Jamie Stephens

1. Call to order

Chairman Andrews called the meeting to order at 1939 hours.

2. Roll Call

3. Approve February meeting minutes

A motion to approve the February 9, 2016 minutes was made by Chief Krone. The motion was seconded by Chief Bennett. All are in favor with no opposition or abstentions. Motion carried.

4. Chairman's Report

Chairman Andrews advised that the Executive Committee packet from February was sent electronically for review by the EMSOC. Chairman Andrews will be including the EC packet in electronic form in subsequent months as well.

Chairman Andrews advised that a straw poll vote was called by the EC for a draft SWP on Volunteer Physicals. The draft SWP has been distributed to the EMSOC for review and feedback. Chairman Andrews stated that this item will be placed on the April EMSOC Agenda for discussion. Any questions should be directed to Chief Tobia or Chief Andrews.

To further clarify, this item will be on the agenda for the EC at the April 26th meeting.

Chief Tobia advised that the draft policy does not change current practices at all with the exception of the Volunteer Battalion Chief Program. Chief Tobia stated that there are two FRG's, 3.1.2 relates to NFPA 1582 Physicals and 3.1.3 relates to OSHA physicals for EMS only providers. Both apply to individuals entering the system since April 1, 2011. Parallel to that, Chief Tobia stated we have a Respiratory Protection Program in the County. Chief Tobia elaborated by stating every year those with face pieces intending to enter an IDLH atmosphere are afforded the opportunity, at their discretion, to take advantage of a free physical through INOVA. On the form, individuals can acknowledge that they are only being fit tested to assure they can maintain a seal wearing a face piece or they can ask for a physical. Chief Tobia stated this year, fifty individuals have requested a physical thus the need for the SWP. The SWP outlines the steps of the process for an annual physical. Chief Tobia stated individuals may self-schedule, they may choose a one-time physical or an annual physical. If the individual chooses an annual physical, it will occur during their birth month. Chief Tobia explained that individuals will receive an email two months prior to their birth month encouraging them to sign up for their annual physical. Individuals who are cross trained in a dual role as a firefighter and an EMS provider would be assessed by the incumbent standard as defined in the draft SWP. Individuals who are single role providers would be assessed by the incumbent standard for the EMS only providers. Chief Tobia asserted that beginning July 1, 2016, the SWP would require individuals participating in the Volunteer Battalion Chief Program to get an annual physical. It should be noted, about half of the Volunteer Battalion Chiefs currently receive an annual physical through INOVA or through their employer. Chief Tobia submitted that half of them are part-time instructors in the system and in order to be a part-time instructor in an IDLH environment, one must have an annual NFPA 1582 physical. Chief Tobia pointed out that the leading cause of death among firefighters is cardiac related events within twenty-four hours of responding to or operating on the scene of a call. The second leading cause of death for EMS only providers is cardiac related events. Chief Tobia summarized by stating that the number one way to reduce the likelihood of a cardiac related event is by having an annual physical. Lastly, Chief Tobia stated that it is important to recognize that when an individual requests a physical, several responses may be received regarding the results. The only item that is shared with the Office of Health and Safety is a determination about ability to respond to calls.

Chairman Andrews suggested that a discussion would occur regarding the DRAFT SWP at the next EMSOC meeting. Should anyone have any questions, please forward them to Chief Tobia or Christine.

For clarification regarding clearance, the patient's private physician will need to communicate with the INOVA physician for a return to work to occur. A suggestion regarding a physician form to go with the SWP was proposed.

Again, recommendations from the EMSOC will be taken to the EC at the end of April. Chief Tobia clarified that items can be EC initiated or by the SWP. Additional discussion ensued that included history behind the policy as well as standards, in general.

5. OMD-Dr. John Morgan

Dr. Morgan mentioned the incident that occurred in Stafford County a few days prior in which a toddler was transported in a piece of fire apparatus and the firefighters were subsequently suspended. Interestingly, Dr. Morgan advised that we do not have an internal policy, but there is a State law as follows:

Non-transport response vehicle may not be used for the transportation of patients except in the case of a major medical emergency. In such an event, the circumstances of the call shall be documented.

Dr. Morgan stated in practice, those at the State level do not want it being done except for in extreme circumstances. Dr. Morgan also stated that we have the medical ambulance bus which is not a licensed transport vehicle, but we do use it from time to time.

It should be noted that additional details surround the incident in Stafford County and one should not just rely on what is being reported as the facts have not been widely distributed.

6. Reports

a. LCFR- DC Jose Salazar

Interstate Compact passed through the legislative process. Chief Salazar also advised that EAP services were approved.

Chief Salazar stated a form regarding items in which hospitals re-stock has been sent to the hospital liaisons for consideration. It should be noted that the hospitals do not replace expired items, it is a one for one exchange.

CAD to go live on or about May 24th. Chief Salazar stated that ImageTrend will impact the EMS side and the go live date is scheduled for July 1st. Of course, contingent on CAD integration. Incident numbers, address and times should pre-populate. Chief Salazar also reminded folks to make sure run reports are corrected.

Chief Andrews mentioned the EMS Supervisors Class and the possibility that an opportunity may have been lost for volunteers to participate. Chief Salazar informed Chair Andrews that he had also heard the feedback, but mentioned this was a first time class.

i. EMS Billing- Danielle Brosan

A memo will be distributed soon explaining the check process. In addition, the memo will contain a highlight key and summary sheet to include definitions which will demonstrate monies received per quarter per company. Additional details can be obtained by contacting Danielle. The initial start-up costs will come out of the Department as a whole. To clarify, Chief Tobia stated that the first year start-up costs were borne completely by DFREM.

Danielle also stated audit sheets for personnel that did not respond will be forthcoming. Danielle stated that the amount of errors has decreased significantly, in fact, almost by 40%.

ii. EMS Training-Bill Toon

Dr. Toon mentioned regarding the Fall and Winter EMT class, only 7 individuals have signed up to take their National Registry written exam (3 from the Fall and 4 from the Winter). If one should receive an email relative to this issue, please reach out to the individual and encourage them to sign up to take their exam. Every effort will be made in the future to do group testing, according to Dr. Toon. It should be noted, a minimum number of students is required in order to do the group testing and the hope is to begin with the Spring EMT class. In addition, there is a fee associated with group testing. Lastly, everyone would need to be bused together as well.

Dr. Toon stated that 41 completed applications have been received with 30 that have been notified that they have been accepted. The remaining 11 have been notified that they have been placed on the official wait list. These students will attend the first six sessions of class which will take them through the module I exam. Dr. Toon explained that if no one has dropped out of the program at that point, then the 11 individuals will be instructed to attend the next program by submitting an additional application. Please note, this is not without expense. In fact, for those 11, the cost per individual for textbooks is \$250. Please also note, credit will not be given for attending the six classes should individuals need to resubmit an application.

Assistant Chief Johnson encouraged folks to complete and return their surveys. AC Johnson also stated that three classes are planned for 2017 to include a summer course.

b. Committee Reports

i. Communications Committee (Chief Bennett)

The March meeting will be held on March 10th. No minutes were received from February. The CAD Demo will be Saturday.

Chief Salazar mentioned regarding PulsePointe, the start-up costs would be \$10,000 and the annual fee for maintenance would be \$3,000. It should be noted this is population based, so as the population grows, so will the maintenance fees. Chief Bennett stated that the EMS Council and Dr. Morgan advised that having a platform in which alerts could go out for cardiac arrests may be beneficial. Chief Bennett said he will be important to determine whether or not we can do this with the new CAD. In addition, costs will be reported back to the Council to ascertain whether or not funding would be available.

ii. Training Committee (Chief Aycock/Chief Mino)

Chief Aycock stated the meeting was held on March 1st and discussion ensued about the prerequisites requirement for fire school. More specifically, students enrolled in classes would not have completed the classes prior to the start of the school. A suggestion regarding an adjustment period for six months was made allowing those enrolled in the prereqs to enroll in the school. Chief Aycock reported that an assurance was given that all prerequisites in the future would be completed in time for school, so overlap does not occur.

Fire School application deadline was extended for one week so that Hazmat Ops results could be posted.

The next meeting will be held on April 5th. Chief Johnson would like participation to increase for this committee.

iii. SWP Committee (Chief Krone)

Chief Krone stated there was nothing to report this month.

c. EMS Council

Jay J. Brown reported that there was not a February meeting.

7. Old Business

a. Physio Lease Option

Chief Salazar reported he is communicating with procurement.

b. Ambulance Standards Committee

Chief Andrews stated he would attend to this matter.

c. Medication Security

Chief Salazar stated they are just waiting for funds to release so the Pilot can begin at Station 13.

d. Drug Bag Policy

Chief Salazar stated there are approximately 12 bags that need to be replaced at about \$300 each totaling \$3,600.

Jay J. Brown stated that there is concern about purchasing the bags out right. Some do not believe it is fair for the money to fund the bags for only a few companies. Chief Andrews believes there are funds available. Discussion ensued regarding the Council process for release of funds and additional projects, in general.

Jay J. Brown suggested using residual funds to purchase the drug bags. Mary Maguire suggested documentation to support the need with the revised data from the EMS Council. Jay J. Brown stated it would be a request to reallocate funds.

e. Bariatric Response Plan

According to the group, Stiles was tasked with putting together a list of resources. Features to units can now be connected. If one would develop Bariatric I, II or III options and define those then we can now associate those with the new CAD to specific unit types so dispatch can dispatch accordingly automatically.

Chief Salazar plans to follow up with Stiles.

f. Autism Risk and Safety Management

Nothing to report.

g. Heavy Rescue Service Delivery Workgroup

Chief Andrews stated he is waiting on a name from 17 and then he will provide the information to AC Johnson.

h. Dispatch Algorithm Workgroup

Chief Andrews stated he received names for consideration.

8. New Business

a. Rules of Order

A draft was received from Chief Hall, however, Chief Andrews has not had time to review the draft. Chief Andrews will plan on reviewing the draft document and will forward it to the EMSOC for review and feedback.

Chief Hall advised that he simplified the EC Rules of Order which resulted in the draft EMSOC Rules of Order.

b. Proposal to remove ER Rotation

Dr. Toon stated he spoke at the last meeting about wanting to move away from hospital clinical rotations and go to a field internship model. Again, students need to be approved to go into hospital settings by doing blood work and obtaining flu vaccines. Dr. Toon stated that this process includes a cost whereby the return on investment is small. Dr. Toon advised that the idea of better preparing students that come from fire companies only is also a consideration with regard to this proposal.

Attached is a schedule that includes the field internship. A minimum of 10 field contacts will be required. Moving forward, Dr. Toon stated he wanted to ensure there was no great opposition to the change. Dr. Toon relayed that the schedule and program could be tweaked, as needed.

Chief Andrews stated he had a concern regarding the instruction, specifically with Incident Command and Hazardous Materials. Dr. Toon agreed that those topics were not necessarily needed and he understood Chief Andrews' concern regarding possible mixed messages. Chief Andrews also relayed a concern about adding a safety component. Discussion ensued regarding infectious diseases and sharps containers. Dr. Toon agreed and advised revisions will be made prior to March 20th.

A motion was made to accept in concept adopting a field internship experience by Chief Bennett. The motion was seconded by Chief Salazar. The motion passed with no one opposed.

Discussion ensued about tours, possibly at StoneSprings. Dr. Toon will follow-up.

c. AVFRD ALS Chase Car

The AVFRD ALS Chase Car has been inspected and it is fully stocked. AVFRD hopes to have a medic unit every night at 22 by the end of the year. In addition, they will also have 5 new ambulances coming over the next 18 months.

d. Volunteer Physicals

Previously discussed.

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9. Committee Member Comments

None noted.

10. Announcements

INOVA:

3/30: Pediatric Seizures Class will be held, more information forthcoming

4/21: Cancer Benefit

5/21: Public Safety Education Day at Lansdowne

Adjourn: With no other business to discuss, the meeting is adjourned at 2021.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Langley-Obaugh, M.Ed., CVA

Executive Liaison