



Quarterly Association Meeting

Friday, December 11, 2020

Electronic Meeting

MicroSoft Teams

10:30 am

Meeting Agenda

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2020
- 3) Life Memberships
 - Byron Andrews
- 4) VAGEMSA Committee Reports/Offer Reports
 - President / Executive Committee – *Jeff Meyer*
 - 1st Vice President / Administrative Committee – *Robert Lee*
 - 2nd Vice President / Membership Committee – *Brian Hricik*
 - Past President / Special Projects Committee – *Gary Critzer*
 - Treasurer’s Report – *Ray Whatley*
 - Secretary - *Daniel Norville*
- 5) Elections of Officers - *Byron Andrews*
- 6) Legislative Report – *Ed Rhodes*
- 7) Office of EMS Report – *OEMS Staff*
- 8) Presentations –
 - Arlington Fire Department Whole Blood Program
 - Newport News Fire Department Crisis Teams
- 9) Unfinished Business / New Business
- 10) EMS Advisory Board and State Committee Reports
 - i) Executive Committee: *Eddie Ferguson*
 - ii) Communications: *n/a*
 - iii) Emergency Management: *Bryan McRay*
 - iv) EMS for Children: *n/a*
 - v) Legislative & Planning: *Jeff Meyer*
 - vi) Training and Certification: *Larry Oliver*
 - vii) Medevac: *n/a*
 - viii) Medical Direction: *Eddie Ferguson*
 - ix) Rules and Regulations: *Dan Norville*
 - x) Provider Health & Safety: *Bryan McRay*
 - xi) Transportation: *Chip Decker*
 - xii) Trauma System Oversight: *n/a*
 - xiii) Workforce Development: *Mike Watkins*
 - xiv) Mobile Integrated Healthcare: *Allen Yee*
- Other State Boards and Committees
 - xv) E911 Board: *Gary Critzer*
 - xvi) Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee – *Dan Norville*
 - xvii) Traffic Incident Management: *Brian Hricik*
- 11) Adjournment



VAEMSA Meeting Minutes *(Draft)*

February 7, 2020 Embassy Suites by Hilton, Richmond, VA

VAGEMSA Quarterly Association Meeting

1st Vice-President Robert Lee called the meeting to order at 10:00 hours. 1st VP Lee welcomed everyone to the meeting, lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance a moment of silence for fallen firefighters and EMS providers. 1st VP Lee explained that President Meyer was unable to attend while he dealt with urgent departmental business. Introductions were made around the table.

Officer Reports:

- President's Report – N/A
- 1st Vice President – No Report
- 2nd Vice President – Brian Hricik requested all present review the circulating roster and update for all their agencies. Much work is being done to bring agency rosters up to date. Brian reminded all that this is an officer election year and anyone interested in serving should make their wishes known to the nominating committee when it is formed.
- Past Presidents Report – Eddie Ferguson advised planning continues for the State Fire Chief's Conference. We will continue to support through CE sponsorship. He expressed his and the associations thanks to Debbie Akers and the OEMS for their support. He also advised that we intend to offer the same support to the Fire Officers and Chief Officers training meetings.
- Treasurer's report – Ray Whatley reported balance as of 1/17/20 was \$892.40. Some agencies are scheduled to pay shortly, and he is available advise on or receive your agencies dues after the meeting.
- Lobbyist's Report – Ed Rhodes was engaged in other business onsite but while waiting, Eddie advised that HB438 regarding PTSD inclusion in line of duty injury was facing some pushback and suggested we contact our representatives. Brian advised that HB874 / SB160 Hands Free while driving had broad LE support, but little had been heard from Fire/EMS. A motion was made, seconded, and approved for the association to develop and transmit a letter of support for this legislation. Ed Rhodes, upon his return, expanded on the PTSD bill and advised that it would add the disease to the workman's comp list but was not a presumption. It would cover both career and volunteer EMS providers. Cost of the bill is still unknown. 3 additional cancer presumptions are moving forward. Cadaver blood draws and the process for processing are in 2 separate bills. Lights and sirens for DOT vehicles has again been set aside. Ed advised that the Governor has expressed an interest in cutting vehicle registration fees in half. Further explanation indicates it would not affect 4 for life. He also stated that the VSP had requested an increase to the vehicle registration fee of \$2.50 a year for 10 years. An Honor and Respect flag, for fallen public safety personnel, is still in the works. 911 Bills have been introduced requiring over-the-phone CPR

instruction or EMD certification for all dispatch agencies. These are still in process. Collective bargaining legislation “still has legs” but its outcome is unknown.

- OEMS Reports – Scott Winston reported suggested everyone review the Quarterly report. He advised that a new process and vendor had been completed and they had processed 7500 to 8000 background checks last year. Discussion ensued regarding the new vendor, challenges, and achievements. Localities still could pass local ordinances to process their own fingerprints but must attest to a provider’s compliance with OEMS regulations. Questions should be discussed with Ron Passmore, Reg & Comp. Adam Harrell advised that a new digital process for return to locality funds has been developed and when implemented agencies as well as localities will have access to the information online.

At this point the chair took the opportunity to introduce the draft minutes of the November 2, 2019 meeting and they were approved. Ed Rhodes returned, and his report has been appended above.

Old Business:

No old business was offered.

New Business:

Robert Lee advised the membership that the Exec Comm was looking into a membership rate increase and should be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

Committee Reports: (More detailed reports can be found in the EMS Quarterly Report booklet found on the VA OEMS web site)

- Executive:
- Communications:
- Emergency Management:
- EMS for Children:
- Legislative & Planning:
- Training and Certification: Psycho-motor (practical) testing is under review. New national educational standards are being developed.
- Medevac
- Medical Direction: Scope of Practice has been changed to allow EMTs to maintain IVs during transport. Not start but maintain. Guidelines for EMTs to draw and administer EPI for anaphylaxis is being developed. 3 White Papers are being developed for Vaccination Best Practice, RSI Best Practices, and Mobile Integrated Healthcare Best Practices.
- Rules & Regulations: Implementation is again delayed. OEMS is recruiting new legal representation due to Robert’s retirement. Selection and onboarding will require some time, Designated Infection Control Officer will become an agency and agency OMD issue and not in regulation. Ground Critical Care Certification will be structured similarly to Air CC.
- Provider Health & Safety
- Transportation: Discussed design elements related to new technologies and patient and medication temperature control best practices.

- Trauma System Oversight:
- Work Force Development: EMS Officer I conducted 9 classes. Development of EMS Off II continues. Evaluating Military Veteran Prior Learning.
 - Mobile Integrated Healthcare:
 - Financial Assistance Review Committee:

Other state boards and committees

- E911 Board: Discussed above.
- Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
- Traffic Incident Management

The next meeting will be held May 8, 2020, 1000 hours in conjunction with the regular GAB meetings. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully Submitted, Dan Norville



Life Membership Application: At the next VAGEMSA meeting Retired Deputy Chief Byron Andrews with Alexandria Fire Department will be considered for a VAGEMSA Life Membership.



Deputy Chief (ret.) Byron Andrews served the Alexandria community for over 33 years. Originally hired to work as a dispatcher, he transitioned to a firefighter where he assisted the Alexandria Fire Department in strengthening the Hazardous Materials Team as well as other specialty teams within the City. As an active Paramedic, Chief Andrews was an active ALS provider within the City of Alexandria as a Firefighter/Paramedic prior to the department formalizing the position. Throughout his time working for the Alexandria Fire Department, he was also a volunteer with the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad in his hometown community. There he rose to the level of Chief and led the SVRS to receive recognition as the national level as the EMS Agency of the Year in 2006, as recognized by JEMS.

As he continued to promote through the ranks of the Alexandria Fire Department, Byron filled many roles; including, but not limited to: Lieutenant, Captain, Battalion Chief, Chief Training Officer, Chief's Executive Officer, Deputy Chief of EMS, and ultimately retiring at the rank of Deputy Chief of Professional Development.

Byron was a mainstay of regional, statewide and national EMS. Some of his accomplishments include:

- Multiple stints as President of the Northern Virginia EMS Council
- Multiple stints as a representative to the Governor's Advisory Board on EMS, representing multiple organizations
- Representative to the Virginia Professional Firefighters Association
- VAVRS Board Member
- Strong supporter and advocate for the National EMS Memorial and National EMS Memorial Bike Ride
- Assisted in the development of the EMS Officer 1 program through the Professional Development Committee
- Responder to the Pentagon on 9-11-2001
- Part of the Hurricane Katrina Response TaskForce deployed to states in the Gulf of Mexico region
- Adjunct instructor at the Northern Virginia Community College EMS program
- Representative to the IAFF's Mobile Integrated Health/Community Paramedicine working group
- Served as member of VAGEMSA for over 10 years.
- 2019 winner of the Governor's EMS Award for Excellence in EMS

Byron has left a legacy of excellence in all aspects of patient care, education, leadership and management throughout the Commonwealth over his tenure as a provider, mentor, educator, administrator and friend to many of us.



Report of the Nomination Committee

Obviously with the Pandemic we all have had to learn to adapt to doing things a new way and this year's election for the Executive Board of VAGEMSA is no different. This is how we will conduct this year's elections.

- 1) The bylaws identify that during elections, the votes will be by member agencies. During the roll call, the beginning of the meeting. Each agency must identify who will be voting on their behalf the agency and will confirm a current email and/or phone number. This will be critical to build the electronic ballot.
- 2) The first motion by the Nominations Committee will be to affirm the wishes of the Board members to advance in Rank the 1st Vice President to President and the present President to Past President. This will be a simple majority vote
- 3) The second motion will be to elect by acclamation Dan Norville for Secretary and Ray Whatley as Treasure. This is a simple majority vote
- 4) The third action will be as follows:
 - a. Since we have two open positions the 1st and 2nd Vice President and have received 5 candidates for the position to run for Vice President the committee is recommending that we select two candidates of the five during the election.
 - b. Floor nominations will be entertained during the meeting
 - c. Once the nomination is closed, each identified voting agency will receive an email/ text message from the nominations committee through an online election software. The software will generate a random identifier so that the ballot is secret.
 - d. The vote will be open for 15 minutes, at the conclusion of the vote the results will be shared after the votes are closed.
 - e. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be selected as the 1st Vice President, and the candidate with the 2nd highest votes will be the 2nd Vice President.
 - f. In the event there is a tie, there will be a runoff in the same fashion with those candidates that are tied. In the event there is a tie with the 1st and 2nd candidate then the two can either voluntarily agree to a position or it will be determined by a flip of a coin.

The Nominations Committee has received the following candidates.

Michael Colman	Richmond Ambulance Authority
William "Billy" Ferguson	Franklin County Fire and Rescue
Bradley Beam	Williamsburg Fire Department
Steve Powell	Rockingham County Fire and Rescue
Jim Gower	Newport News Fire Department

Respectfully Submitted

Byron F Andrews, III