

Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC)  
 Quarterly Meeting  
 Technology Park  
 Glen Allen, Virginia  
 February 11, 2010  
 1:00 PM

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Administration Staff:	Staff/Other Guests:
Wayne Peer, Chairman	Brad Ferguson	Amanda Davis	
Billy Altman		Linwood Pulling	
Dan Butler		Dennis Molnar	
Stuart Smith			
Pokey Harris (via telephone)			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. FARC Chairman Report:	Wayne Peer, FARC Chair, made a motion to approve the minutes from November 12, 2009.	Minutes approved
II. FARC: A) Review of 2009 Grant Cycle	<p>An update on the 2007-2008 DHS grant award was discussed, 1300 Panasonic Toughbook Computers were awarded to use for EMS licensed transport vehicles. The 12-09 grant cycle funded an additional 117 Panasonic Toughbook Computers. OEMS received \$4.3 million in requests and \$2.8 million was awarded by DHS. OEMS funded an additional \$1.1 million for the toughbooks requests. Discussion by FARC members included comments such as: (1) Is it the RSAF's obligation to place toughbook computers in all EMS vehicles? (2) Is this a priority?</p> <p>Rappahannock County submitted a request for radios for the 12-09 grant cycle and that request was not awarded. FARC discussed the status of the Rappahannock County grant that was awarded for the 12-07 grant cycle for \$262,000.00 to fund a tower, however the agency actually purchased repeaters. OEMS reviewed the information submitted and made a decision to not pursue.</p> <p>The Virginia Interoperability Communications Conference (VICC) was held in Roanoke in September 2009. Ms. Davis attended and was asked if OEMS is going to start looking at communications equipment and require P25 compliance. This isn't a requirement by OEMS.</p>	<p>Amanda Davis, Grants Manager, informed FARC members that the toughbooks are an OEMS priority in EMS licensed transport vehicles. FARC will review requests on a case by case approach for the non-transport vehicles.</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>

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	<p>FARC briefly discussed the following grant requests: VAVRS, various sheriffs' departments requesting grants for AED's, Danville FD asking for the Image Trend software and the TEMS/PEMS Recruitment and Retention project.</p> <p>Amanda Davis, Grants Manager, reiterated the fact that any information received after the grant deadline will still be forwarded to FARC. It is each FARC members decision on whether they take that documentation into consideration when reviewing and making their recommendation for grants.</p> <p>Amanda Davis, Grants Manager, briefed FARC on the status of coordinating a special grant cycle for 12-Lead. During the November 2009, Dr. Michael Kontos presented on EKG 12-lead and how important it is for EMS to recognize and interpret. This gives the patient a better chance for survival. Mrs. Davis is working with the OEMS Trauma Division to develop a survey (inventory assessment) of 12-Lead equipment and training. OEMS will be working with the AHA and VHAC on making 12-Lead a priority for EMS providers.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>FARC has made 12-lead a priority. Mrs. Davis will continue to work with the OEMS Trauma Division on the 12-Lead survey along with AHA and VHAC.</p>
B) Statewide Initiatives	<p>OEMS received a total of 117 grant applications requesting a total of \$6.7 million. OEMS awarded 99 grants for a total of \$3.5 million.</p> <p>Wayne Peer, FARC Chair, commented on possibly implementing a statewide initiative for a specific item. Questions raised were: (1) Would this benefit the system? (2) Should we set aside a pot of money to fund this project? (3) Would create several problems. First, OEMS would have to have a state contract. Second, some of the municipalities would still have to go through their own procurement process. (4) OEMS would have to be very specific as to the make and model (ex. Panasonic Toughbook CF-19). (5) OEMS would have to make sure it met everyone's procurement requirements.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>FARC was asked to submit suggestions on what they would like to see funded as a special initiative and how to fund these special initiatives.</p>
C) VPHIB – Report Information (PPCR)	<p>Sherrina Gibson, Informatics Coordinator for the OEMS Trauma Division, is the supervisor in charge of the Virginia Pre-Hospital Information Bridge (VPHIB). Ms. Gibson is in the process of developing automated reports and would like to know what type of reports FARC would like to see. FARC commented that they are interested in reports that would give information on cardiac arrest, time utilized and whether they were successful (autopulses). This would be emailed to FARC before the grading of the awards.</p>	<p>Mrs. Davis will send out a reminder to FARC to submit what kind of information they would like to capture on these reports. Ms. Gibson will work with Ms. Davis to develop these.</p>
D) AHA Training Meeting (Priority for EKG's)	<p>Mrs. Davis is attending a meeting with Paul Sharpe, Trauma Coordinator, on February 18 at AHA regarding the 12-Lead project with AHA, VHAC and the OEMS Trauma Division.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p>
E) Electronic Correspondence for all grantees	<p>Mrs. Davis discussed on-going efforts to make all grants correspondence electronic. OEMS will continue to collect email address in order to make progress in electronically submitting all information to the correct personnel.</p>	<p>Mrs. Davis suggested putting this on the agenda for the next OEMS IT meeting.</p>

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F) Northern VA EMS Council Request	Melinda Duncan, Director of the Northern Virginia EMS Council, sent correspondence to Ms. Davis regarding submitting a grant for the 06-10 grant cycle. There is a commercial agency that needs a bariatric patient ambulance that could carry a patient weighing between 400 and 500 pounds. Ms. Duncan inquired about applying on a commercial agency's behalf for this vehicle. FARC discussed why this would be an issue, specifically because one bariatric ambulance in northern Virginia won't satisfy the entire area.	No further action is required An agency must be a licensed EMS agency to operate an ambulance in Virginia and the regional council doesn't meet that requirement.
<p>III. Grant Manager Report</p> <p>A) Grant Scoring Sheet - Pilot for 06/10 Cycle</p> <p>B) VCIPS</p> <p>C) PPE Grant</p> <p>D) DHS Grant Submission - 2010</p> <p>E) Prior Grants Outstanding Report</p> <p>F) EMS Council Designation Site Reviews</p>	<p>FARC will be re-piloting the grant scoring sheet for the 06-10 grant cycle. FARC members will grade one grant per region using this scoring sheet and give suggestions for improvement during the June 2010 grant awards meeting. FARC made suggestions such as: inserting grant number, agency name and number in the scoring sheet. FARC would like to standardize the scoring sheet by the 12-10 grant cycle.</p> <p>Mrs. Davis is working with VITA-911 and OCP to develop the Virginia Communications Index for Public Safety (VCIPS). This is a collaborative effort to create a listing of communication-specific public safety grants on a web-based application. VCIPS will allow you to search for specific grants and will eliminate duplication of grants submitted. This will be posted on all of the public safety web sites. Ms. Davis met with VITA-911 January 21 and was given a draft completion date of July 1, 2010 for a demo to be ready.</p> <p>The Personal Protective Equipment grant was awarded in September 2009 by OEMS. This grant awarded surgical and N95 masks to EMS agencies for EMS personnel in order to protect them from the H1N1 virus. To date, 528,000 masks have been purchased at a cost of \$437,000.00.</p> <p>The DHS 2010 grant submission is due April 7, 2010 to VDEM. Mrs. Davis will submit the grant for OEMS requesting dual band radios in all permitted EMS transport vehicles. Not all agencies will need to upgrade the radios, OEMS will look at those on an individual basis.</p> <p>The OEMS Grants Unit placed a condition on all grantees that did not draw down funds for awarded items for the 12-09 grant period. This condition stated that each agency must submit a statement and explanation of not submitting for reimbursement. There were various reasons why some agencies did not draw down funding, turnover in the agency, not being able to meet match money and other financial reasons. The conditions will force the awarded agency to be accountable for not pulling down the grant.</p> <p>Tim Perkins, EMS System Planner, is developing site review teams to review each EMS council for designation. The site visits will take place from February 2010 through April 2010.</p>	<p>Mrs. Davis will edit the scoring sheet to incorporate the information FARC suggested.</p> <p>Mrs. Davis will continue to work with VITA-911 and OCP to develop the VCIPS template.</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>DHS grant will be submitted to VDEM on April 7, 2010.</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p>

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<p>G) Update of Regional EMS Council Scanner Grant</p> <p>H) State EMS Plan Development</p> <p>D) Consolidated Grant Application Program</p>	<p>The EMS Regional Councils submitted a regional grant for the 12-09 grant cycle to purchase CTS scanners for EMS instructors. When this grant was first submitted, it was submitted under the Virginia EMS Councils Regional Directors Group, however because this is not an official non-profit group which does not have a Federal Identification Number (FIN), which is required, this was changed and put under the Blue Ridge EMS Council (BREMS). BREMS was awarded \$246,535.78 and have submitted a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to OEMS. The other councils will have to submit a MOA to BREMS.</p> <p>The State EMS Plan is being updated for the next cycle.</p> <p>OEMS has been experiencing issues with the CGAP upload for Windows 7 and Vista. Tracy Mason, OEMS Program Analyst, has made changes to the CGAP software, however the issue has not been resolved. Mrs. Mason edited the software back to the last grant cycle to eliminate most of the problems.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>OEMS recommends notifying the Grants Unit for assistance.</p>
<p>IV. Grants Unit: (A) Payments Processed August-October 2009</p>	<p>The grants unit processed over \$1.3 million for the last quarter.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p>
<p>V. Open Discussion</p>	<p>Wayne Peer was re-elected as the FARC chair.</p> <p>FARC members discussed the option of using Return to Localities funds (26%) to match RSAF funding for those awarded. Dennis Molnar, OEMS Business Manager, stated that this could not be an option due to state code language.</p> <p>The committee voted to change the agenda for the June 2010 awards meeting to start at 9:00am and then stating "awards meeting to follow." During the 2009 awards meeting the agenda stated that open discussion started at 9:00 am and the awards meeting would start at 9:30 am. This forced FARC to wait until 9:30 am to start the actual meeting.</p>	<p>No further action is required</p> <p>No further action is required</p> <p>This will be implemented at the June 2010 awards meeting.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Wayne Peer, FARC Chair, made a motion to adjourn.</p>	<p>Our next meeting is May 13, 2010 @ Tech Park. This meeting will start at 1:00 PM.</p>