

**Provider Health and Safety Committee Meeting
February 3, 2017
Richmond Marriott, Henrico, Virginia**

Members Present:	OEMS Staff:	Guests:	Absent:
Daniel Wildman, Chair	Karen Owens	Mary Kathryn Allen	Wayne Perry
Dennis Page		Jennifer Kersey	
Jack Sullivan		Marilyn McLeod	
Bryan McRay			
Steve Elliott			
Brian Hricik			
Wayne Myers			
Lori Knowles			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to order:	Meeting called to order at 09:03 a.m.	
Approval of Meeting Minutes	Meeting minutes from the August meeting approved after adding Wayne Perry to the list of members present. Motion from Brian Hricik; second by Dennis Page. All present in favor.	
Introductions of Members:	Committee members introduced themselves.	
Committee Chair Report	No report	
Old Business	<p>Safety Bulletin – Karen provided an update on the current topics that are prepared as safety bulletins. She stated that there is a need for topics for the coming months to ensure that the bulletins continue with minimal interruptions. Suggested topics included Fentanyl exposure (promoting the NIOSH document), suicide awareness, and Rest and Sleep (work/rest cycle)</p> <p>Safety Officer Survey – Karen presented the data collected from the Safety Officer program survey given to every Symposium attendee. With a small return (29 participants), the committee discussed a better way to receive more data. Lori suggested utilizing Survey Monkey or another online method and e-mailing the link to all EMS providers. Dan inquired the true purpose of the survey and whether it was a necessity to conduct. Dennis brought up the concern that with only 29 surveys returned, the desire for a safety officer program may not be there. Additional conversation was held regarding the best method for collecting data including Wayne’s suggestion of handing it out at test sites. Dennis suggested developing a bulletin on the Safety Officer program and then following it up with the survey link. Dan suggested targeting agencies that we know have the program and see what they utilize a safety officer for (i.e. accidents, provider health, etc.).</p> <p>Critical Incident Stress Management – Karen provided an update on various bills put forth in the current General Assembly and the status of them. Additionally she talked about the regional council CISM team accreditation process.</p>	Karen will develop safety bulletin and provide to the committee for review.

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New Business	<p>Dan posed to those present a question regarding the purpose of the committee.</p> <p>Lori – maintain the safety bulletins including mental health and suicide awareness and work with Symposium committee to secure speakers for the health and safety track. Dan recommended a speaker that recently spoke at Mary Washington on the impact of opioid addiction as an EMS provider. Dennis also recommended a speaker who had an addition issue and talks about the impact of addiction as a medical provider.</p> <p>Additional goals included aligning what we do to support EMS in regards to the opioid crisis with what other professions are doing.</p> <p>Dr. Marilyn McLeod introduced herself and asked if the committee would like to work with the Operational Medical Direction Committee to develop a program or other resources to help agencies help members that suffer from addiction problems. Her hope is that EMS providers would have the same access to help that medical providers and nurses have when they admit to addiction issues. The committee had discussion about the topic and various issues including what happens with certification if not convicted vs. convicted, how can employees help from admission to positive test to follow up and other issues facing EMS agencies related to providers with addition. Steve pointed out that the risk management personnel and county attorney play a big role in how the agency deals with the provider.</p> <p>Jack suggested that we form a workgroup to work with Dr. McLeod and the OMD committee. The following members were assigned:</p> <p>Jen Kersey – jkersey@vaems.org Karen Owens – Karen.Owens@vdh.virginia.gov Dennis Page – pag02@henrico.us Wayne Myers – wmyers@blacksburg.gov Mary Katherine Allen – mkallen@vaems.org</p> <p>Jack asked to bring the topic back to the goals and objectives of the committee. He suggested promoting the idea of a safety and health officer position in each agency and a safety training program. He would like to see the website develop to help provide support and resources for assistance/information/etc.</p>	
Next Scheduled Meeting:	Next scheduled meeting in May 5, 2017	
Adjournment:	Meeting adjourned at 10:04.	