

**Communications Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of EMS
Crowne Plaza Hotel
6531 W. Broad Street, Richmond, VA
August 10, 2012
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Gary Critzer, Richard Rubino, Vic Buisset

OEMS Staff: Ken Crumpler, Jim Nogle, Wanda Street, Amanda Davis, Karen Owens

Guests: Billy Altman, Bruce Edwards, Barbara Brown, Dan Norville

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order:	The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:05 a.m. There wasn't a quorum at the meeting today, so no motions will be made.	
Approval of the minutes dated May 18, 2012:	The minutes could not be approved because there wasn't a quorum.	The minutes will need to be motioned at the next meeting.
Committee Chair Report (Mr. Gary Critzer):	<p>a. EMD White Paper Update The EMD White Paper is complete and will go before the Advisory Board today for their approval. A copy of the paper is under Appendix F of the OEMS Quarterly Report. Gary Critzer received an email from Gary Brown in which Carrie Mitchell of the AG's (Attorney General) office had some concern about the Good Samaritan Act paragraph of the paper. Gary will speak with her today about this and clarify this for her. If she disagrees with it, a motion will not be made at the Advisory Board meeting. But if she's O.K. with it, it will be motioned.</p>	
OEMS Communications Coordinators Report (Ken Crumpler):	<p>a. Communications Directory Ken has received very good feedback through the APCO/NENA listservs. He will update the document next week with phone number and address changes. He thanked Wanda Street and Tracy Mason for their assistance in getting the directory in the correct format and posted online.</p> <p>b. EMD Map Update The EMD Map was updated in late May. It was emailed and posted on the OEMS website. Ken thanked Stefanie McGuffin for her assistance in updating the map.</p> <p>c. PSAP Accreditation Presentations Since the last meeting Ken made PSAP presentations at Stafford and Brunswick Counties. OEMS is continuing to move forward on the PSAPs.</p>	Ken will send out the updated Directory once changes have been made.
Unfinished Business:	<p>Financial Assistance Review Committee (FARC) discussion of P25 compliance and communications equipment request through Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) The topic of the discussion is a concern of whether the RSAF grant documents should say P25 compliant or P25 capable. The ultimate goal is for everyone to operate as a P25 compliant system. Amanda wants to</p>	

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	<p>ensure that the language on the grant is consistent with the SIEC language. Amanda asked if the State has developed a definition for P25 and what it actually involves. One of the committee members said that at the last Operations Coordination Committee meeting, a definition was sent up to the SIEC but not agreed upon and is still on the table. Amanda said that since the State doesn't have a definition, then "P25compatible" would be the best approach. Gary Critzer agrees that compatibility is fine with him. There is no Federal P25 compliance date.</p> <p>One of the committee members would like a statement in the grant that asks "What is your implementation plan to achieve P25 compliance". This could be a condition of the grant: Define your ideal plan to become P25 compliant.</p> <p>It was also suggested that a rescue squad provide a letter of intent to become P25 compliant and show the steps they are taking toward becoming compliant. Also provide a letter from the locality stating that they are making an effort to become compliant. Amanda agreed that this is a great idea.</p> <p>Bruce Edwards stated that the simpler the process, the better. He also stated that maybe an educational flyer should be sent out as well explaining P25, narrow banding and interoperability because some agencies/squads are getting them confused.</p> <p>The consensus of the group is that the grant documentation should say "P25 capable".</p> <p>Billy asked a question about the Repeaters and should there be some exception or should this be looked at on a case by case basis. Gary said that the Repeaters should support the existing infrastructure. The committee feels that the new Repeaters should also be P25 compatible also.</p> <p>Amanda & Ken will do a grant "flash" stating that the equipment should be P25 capable.</p> <p>Ken will have the State Contract Vendors provide a list of P25 capable equipment.</p>	<p>Amanda & Ken will do a grant "flash" stating that the equipment should be P25 capable.</p> <p>Ken will have the vendors provide a list of P25 capable equipment.</p>
New Business:	<p>a. PSAP Accreditation for City of Lynchburg, Arlington County and Greene County The three pending PSAP accreditations are in order and are compliant but could not be approved due to not having a quorum. A special called meeting will need to be held before the November meeting. Ken and Gary will coordinate the meeting.</p>	<p>A meeting will be held to approve the three pending accreditations. Ken and Gary will coordinate the meeting.</p>
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:56 a.m.	<p>The next meeting is November 8, 2012 at 11 a.m. in Norfolk during the EMS symposium.</p>