

STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
Trauma System Committee – Trauma Administrative and Governance (TAG) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Date: April 30, 2026
Location: Public Safety Training Center (PSTC), Hanover, VA

Attendees

James Reynolds, Chair
Dr. Stephen Varga (Virtual)
Linda Watkins (Virtual)
Chief Michael Watkins
Robert Hawkins
Dr. Kelley Rumsey
Dr. Lauren Webb (Virtual)
Tanya Trevilian (Virtual)
Beth Broering (Virtual)
Dr. Jessica Burgess (Virtual)
Dr. Terral Goode (Virtual)
Courtney Caton (Virtual)

Excused

Dr. Stefan Leichtle
Dr. Jeffrey Haynes

Non-Member Attendees

Dr. Joe Lang
Whitney Pierce
Gary Samuels
Debbie Akers

I. Call to Order

Chair James Reynolds called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

III. Workgroup Discussions

Systems Improvement

- Developing a multi-system, multi-hospital study on prehospital cervical collar use.

Injury & Violence Prevention

- Met with stakeholders regarding potential statewide project ideas.
- Awaiting guidance on workgroup purpose and expectations.
- Potential initiatives include:
 - Expansion of Stop the Bleed
 - Traffic safety and helmet initiatives
 - Teen driving safety
 - E-bike/micromobility emerging risks

Prehospital Workgroup

- Growing interest statewide in prehospital whole blood programs.
- Discussion focused on best practices and improving data flow back to trauma centers.
- Further progress depends on formal activation/organization of the workgroup.

Acute Care

- Discussed integration of the ACS manual into current processes and impacts on trauma centers.
- Workgroup plans to serve as a resource during implementation.

Emergency Preparedness

- Workgroup has not met formally due to membership limitations related to TAG bylaws.
- Updates provided on statewide emergency preparedness activities, including:
 - Monthly Emergency Managers Forum
 - Trauma Center Association of America webinar
 - VHA Annual Emergency Preparedness Summit

Trauma Program Managers

- TPM group meets monthly.
- Focus remains on ESO training and transition to the new state data repository (effective April 1).
- Continued discussion regarding registry transitions and data challenges.
- Updates provided regarding data dictionary approvals and education initiatives.

Healthcare Coalitions

- Summary provided of regional coalition activities.
- Recent and ongoing exercises include:
 - Pediatric Pandemic Network measles tabletop (120+ registrants)
 - Regional surge exercises in Central and Southwest Virginia
 - VDH Cardinal Exercise (Bio-200 scenario)
- Upcoming pediatric burn surge exercise scheduled for May 18.

Office of EMS (OEMS)

- Confirmed remote attendance for multiple members.
 - No additional updates beyond those in the agenda.
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IV. Trauma Center Fund Discussion

Mr. Reynolds led a discussion on the status and future direction of the Virginia Trauma Center Fund. Key points:

- Need to protect, stabilize, and increase the fund.
 - Funding levels have significantly decreased over the past decade despite increased system demands.
 - Concerns raised regarding the portion of funds allocated to support MedFlight (approximately 10%).
 - Legislative strategies and the need for strong advocacy were discussed.
 - Several attendees emphasized that protecting existing funds should remain the highest priority.
 - Workgroup formation postponed due to lack of quorum; members may still advocate within their organizations.
 - OEMS confirmed that the July 15 audit deadline will be adjusted due to delayed fund distribution.
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V. Virginia Trauma Triage Plan Update

- Last comprehensive update occurred in 2011; partial updates have been made by other committees in recent years.
 - TAG previously approved formation of a workgroup (February 2026).
 - Workgroup, led by Dr. Rumsey, will integrate approved field triage and interfacility components into the overarching plan.
 - No objections or additional concerns were raised.
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VI. Unfinished Business

- Guidance on workgroup structure and meeting format remains pending.
 - A task assignment form exists and will be distributed to TAG members.
 - Governor's Advisory Board is reviewing bylaw language related to committee/workgroup member limitations.
 - Legislative workgroup currently has 4–5 participants; additional members are welcome.
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VII. New Business

- Questions were raised regarding quorum requirements.
 - Clarified that remote attendees may participate but do not count toward quorum; physical presence is required for official actions.
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VIII. Public Comment

- No public comments were received.
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IX. Adjournment

Due to the absence of a quorum, no formal motion to adjourn was required. The meeting concluded, and Mr. Reynolds thanked all attendees for their participation.