

N.C. Association of Rescue & Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

Director Meeting - Minutes

May 15, 2021

WebEx / Office

Call to Order

Welcome - Hervy Kornegay Jr

Invocation - Bill Henderson

Adoption of order of business: Motion to adopt, Tim Pennell, second Bob Twomey, motion approved.

Recognition of guests -Tom Mitchell-OEMS, Allen Johnson -OEMS, Greg Foster, 911 Board Representative, Fred Bone-Bone & Associates, Gene Matthis, Steve Miller, Donnie Houston

Roll call of Directors; Joel Faircloth. 22 Area Directors, Past Commander, Vice Commander, Commander, Executive Director, and Executive Director Emeritus, were present.

Minutes of Directors Meeting January 23, 2021: Motion to approve, Terry Foxx, second by Jerry Bradshaw, motion approved.

Old Business

Agency Reports

OSFM: No Report

OEMS: Tom Mitchell

Thanks for the opportunity to provide an agency report for the Office of EMS. I will try to be very brief.

We are finally beginning to see some drastic reductions in our COVID response, like many other agencies, as the numbers continue to trend in the right direction.

We are still actively involved in several activities related to COVID, but not to previous levels. Our support still includes information sharing, stakeholder support, Medical Surge data coordination, vaccination distribution support and planning, and Mocksville Warehouse II to support PPE distribution.

The process is underway to renew the lease on the Mocksville II Warehouse to maintain a stockpile of PPE. This lease was initially done by NCEM and is going to be transitioned to DHHS for the upcoming lease. OEMS will remain the lead agency running the PPE Distribution Warehouse, for the foreseeable future. If any EMS agencies are experiencing a difficult time getting PPE, feel free to reach out to the office for assistance.

Several new and vacant positions within our Healthcare Preparedness Program have/are being filled. Some of the positions are temp. positions, while others are full-time positions. We have recently hired a full-time warehouse manager for the Mocksville II Warehouse, and are currently working to fill some other HPP full-time positions.

We are currently still allowing EMS Agencies to request an exemption to the minimum staffing statute 131E-158 for ambulances. This allows EMS agencies flexibility in who can operate the ambulance, due to staffing shortages related to COVID. We are working with the Attorney General's Office on allowing this exemption to sunset. We do not currently have a date for this change but feel that it is time to transition back to enforcing the General Statute. Agencies will be notified in advance of this change.

On the regulatory side, we are currently interviewing for our vacancy in the Trauma Program Manager within our office. We are conducting 2nd interviews on May 19th (next week), with plans to make an offer after those interviews. We have several trauma sites visits in the coming months, with the initial one being the re-

designation of WakeMed on June 10th & 11th. The American College of Surgeons (ACS) is changing their process from face-to-face site visits to virtual site visits. This will be the first time we have ever conducted a virtual trauma site visit in NC.

Since our last meeting, we have secured a multi-year contract for our state data system. This includes all databases that house EMS data. We are currently working with ESO to fix some bugs in the system and developing a long-term plan for the best utilization of our data system.

We are finalizing modifications to NC Administrative Code, preparing them to go to Rules Review Committee on June 17th. These rules have been through Medical Care Commission, public comment, and back to Medical Care Commission for approval yesterday. After public comment, we did make some adjustments to the effective dates on .0501,.0502,.0507 and .0508. We also decided to change the wording in the rules on .0512 and .0602. We pulled back the proposed language changes to .0904. All these changes were based on public comment. We have a good set of rules that should be approved by RCC in June. Thanks to all those that provided comments during the public comment period to make these rules better. Since our last meeting, we made the difficult decision to cancel EMS Expo '21 that was scheduled to start yesterday (May 14th). As you know, after having to cancel our EMS Expo in October '20, we decided to move our conference permanently to May of each year. We are currently working on preparation for EMS Expo '22 that will be held April 29th – May 4th '22. The “Call for Presentations” for EMS Expo '22 is currently open for anyone wishing to present. We apologize for having to cancel EMS Expo '21 but felt that it was the right decision for everyone involved. More information to come.

There has been a whirlwind of activity at the General Assembly with a large number of bills being introduced that would impact EMS. Most of these bills did not make Thursday's crossover deadline. Some of these, we would have liked to have seen them crossover, while others we were glad they did not crossover. I will not steal Fred's talk speaking about the specifics, as he does a phenomenal job keeping up with what is going on downtown Raleigh, and characterizes it in a much-better fashion than I. I do want to take the opportunity to say “Thanks Fred, for what you do for EMS in NC”.

NCEM: Terry Foxx

Did want to make everyone aware that EM Director Mike Sprayberry will be retiring and retirement celebration will be held July 28, 2021 from 10-4pm in Raleigh.

Treasurer's Office: No Report - Joel Faircloth

Boards & Commission Representative Reports

Fire & Rescue Commission: Robert Poe.

Fire and Rescue Commission 4/13/2021

NC Insurance Commissioner, Mike Causey visited the meeting and spoke to the Commission. He is very supportive of the commission and all Fire and Rescue members in North Carolina. Commissioner Causey is returning to normal travel across the state visiting departments

Re appointments to the commission:

Randy Thompson NC Association of County Commissioners
Ryan Cole NC Association of Fire Chiefs

Re appointments to the Certification Board:

Ken Hogue NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Josh Smith Professional Firefighters and Paramedics Association
David Bullins NCCCS Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee
Alex Collazo NC Fire Marshalls Association

Re appointments to NC Volunteer Safety and Workers Comp Board

Anthony Penland NC State Fire Fighters Association
Tim Bradley NC State Fire Fighters Association
Jerry Bradshaw NC Association of Rescue and EMS
Gordon Joyner NC Association of Rescue and EMS

Certification Board Update
HazMat Specialty Certification has been discontinued Doesn't meet NFPA 1072
Fire Officer is up for rewrite
Technical Rescue 1006 is forthcoming This is going to be a major task
Elections were held: Kevin Gordon Chair
Terry Foxx Vice Chair

Volunteer Safety Workers Comp Board
As of 12/31/2020 Fund balance is up 14 million. The last 12 months the retained earnings went up 11 million

Instructor Investigations were discussed.
Instructor had lost his credentials. Certification Board done a Consent Agreement. The instructor has already done everything on the order. Instructor was reinstated

Item on the agenda concerning persons applying for membership or employment that have a felony conviction was tabled to next meeting

Kim Williams gave an update on NFIRS. She keeps working on the very few departments that do not utilize this program.

Legislative Day is May 5

SAFER Conference is August 11 thru 15 2021

Next meeting: Kernersville Fire Dept July 13, 2021

Fire & Rescue Commission Certification Brd: Terry Foxx
The Certification Board has not met since our last meeting but will on June 10, 2021 at Kernersville Fire Department. The Board meeting on March 9, 2021 at Kernersville Fire Dept was cancelled.

EMS Advisory Council: Robert Poe
Mrs Carolyn Creech and Mr Donnie Loftis have retired from the Council

Elections were held, Dr Kim Askew was elected Chair and Dr Darrell Nelson was elected Vice chair

Injury Committee Report. No site visits planned. There is no timeline for in-person visits to resume.

Compliance Committee Report In November and December almost 1100 credentials were issued. Military credential became effective 12/1/20
The Disciplinary Committee is meeting remotely

Mr Chuck Lewis gave a presentation on the Mobile Disaster Hospital outlining its inception and deployments as well as the capabilities.

NC Medical Board has approved Basic EMT's to administer vaccines

EMS Expo for 2021 has been canceled

Dates for the Expo in 2022 are April 29 – May 4

The Revised rules are moving forward. Comment period is currently open. OEMS hosted a teleconference to obtain comments. The rules may become effective as soon as July 1, 2021

VSWCF Board: Joel Faircloth
Refer to the information in the Fire & Rescue Commission Report.

Fire & Rescue Pension Advisory Brd: Debbie Poe / Gary Whitman
No Report. Meeting Scheduled June 9, 2021

Stroke Advisory Council: Dr. Hervy Kornergay Jr. / Tom Mitchell
No updates to report.

911 Board: Greg Foster
911 Board Updates ESINet Telephone System

- As of today, 64 PSAPS (911 Centers) are live on State ESINet
- 59 active Projects
- 4 approved for Migration at this time.

i3 (North Carolina Next Generation 911 GIS Status Update) as of today

- 56 Counties are Data i3 ready
- 36 Counties Data Processed with ALI (Automatic Location Information).
- 10 Data Processed without without ALI (Automatic Location Information).
- 8 Data Uploaded, Not Processed.

911 Board Members and Staffing

- With the hiring of Financial Review Specialist Sarah Templeton, all board staff positions are finally filled.

911 Training Requirement Changes

- All Communications Centers that dispatch Medical (EMS) are now requirement to be an EMD center (Emergency Medical Dispatch)
- All Communications Centers who operator under a Police agency now must have certified tele communicators. These tele communicators must successfully complete an approved 40+ course through NC Sheriffs Standards or others.

NC 911 Financial Report as of December 4, 2020 Board Meeting

- NG 911 Financial Reporting
 - October 2020 Month End Balance \$ 80,821,454
 - October 2020 Disbursement \$ 2,797,496
- CMRS Financial Reporting
 - October 2020 Month End Balance \$ 5,494,254
 - October 2020 Disbursement \$ 90,502
- PSAP Financial Reporting
 - October 2020 Month End Balance \$ 1,931,475
 - October 2020 Disbursement \$ 9,954,416
- Grant Statewide/PSAP Financial Reporting
 - October 2020 Month End Balance \$ 14,875,910
 - Grant Fund Committed \$ 21,975,155

The next 911 Board meeting will be held on February 26, 2021 at 10:00 am and is open to anyone who wishes to attend. For more information:

<https://it.nc.gov/news/events/2021/02/26/february-2021-nc-911-board-meeting/february-2021-nc-911-board-meeting>

Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee: Terry Foxx

The Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee has not met since our January Director's meeting. No meeting is scheduled at this time.

Standing Committee Reports

Advisory: Bob Twomey
Nothing to report.

BLS Competition: William Mauney/Allen Johnson:
Working to get ready for competition and will be looking at minimum numbers of teams to compete.

Constitution : Glen Cowan
Nothing to Report.

Credentials: Jerry Bradshaw / Joel Faircloth

Odd year Director Appointments ballots were emailed to directors present. All Odd year current directors were reappointed and Area 5 even year was open but Gene Matthis was appointed to fill the remainder of that term.

Finance: Joel Faircloth

Motion from Finance: to approve financial statements, move salary obligation from the Brotherhood to the Association, approve the 21-22 budget with moving Joel to pay grade 13, approve recommended bonus for employees in this 20-21 budget year, and for the officers and staff further review the Brotherhood to create options for its future, motion approved.

Personnel: Jeff Hinshaw

Nothing to Report

Rescue Competition: Mac Smith

Planning on competition for this year.

Standards & Training: Terry Foxx

The current Association membership is 29,127 members. We all need to work toward getting more to enroll into the Brotherhood. The training and standards committee has not met since our January meeting but we will be meeting virtually soon. I have a couple of items for consideration to potentially add to our equipment list. Revisions to the standards approved at the January 2021 have been completed and sent forward.

Relief Fund Board of Trustees: Hervy Kornegay Jr/Joel Faircloth

Scholarships were announced today and the 10% of average wage per day payment increased slightly for any disability payments after today.

Convention Committee: Robert Poe

We are working to prepare for convention as restrictions are being lifted. Joel will send out competition team applications to be returned by June 15.

New Business

Legislative Update: Fred Bone

Directors Meetings 2021

September 9, 2021 - Convention Beaufort

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Joel Faircloth

Executive Director
(Not Official until approved by the Board of Directors)