

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

Director Meeting - Minutes

January 21, 2023

Transylvania Rescue, Brevard NC / WebEx / Teleconference

Call to Order

Welcome - Hervy Kornegay Jr

Invocation - Joel Faircloth

Adoption of order of business: Motion to adopt, Terry Foxx, second Jerry Cornelison, motion approved.

Recognition of guests -Davie Summey-OSFM, Tom Mitchell - OEMS, Allen Johnson -OEMS, Scott Zander-NCEM, David Starling - NC Treasurers Office, Fred Bone-Bone & Associates

Roll call of Directors; Joel Faircloth. 19 Area Directors, 1 Past Commander, Vice Commander, Commander, Executive Director were present.

Minutes of Directors Meeting September 9-10, 2022: Motion to approve, Mac Smith, second by Tim Pennell, motion approved.

Old Business

Agency Reports

OSFM: Davie Summey

The 50/50 Fire Grant is currently open until March 1st.

The 580G Firefighter Certification program has been approved by the Fire Commission and is in the process of being put into place later in 2023. This program allows for individuals to take classes under a non-certified or certified instructor and then challenge the test and all practical exercises.

The fire commission ruled that those under 18 if signed off by Parents, School and Fire Chief could take Fire Ops 9 after all others have been completed. But they could not participate in any other live fires until they were 18.

OSFM is currently moving from the Albemarle Building downtown to Rock Quarry Road as the State Auditors will be moving into Albemarle and taking floors 3, 4 and 5.

OSFM Promotion have occurred, Davie Summey is now over Inspections, Grants, AFF and GIS.

Tony Bailey is now the Inspections Supervisor; Bruce Hodges is now the Training Supervisor and Greg Palmer is now the Supervisor over Commission Staff.

This has created several openings that we are currently work to back fill.

OEMS: Tom Mitchell

Still allowing EMS agencies to request exemption of the minimum staffing statute 131E-158. Done under the Federal public health emergency, which currently expires April 12, 2023. Statute has been changed to allow us to make this exemption with emergency in place, at the discretion of OEMS.

Partnering with Emergency Mgmt and Public Health to conduct engagement visits with the 8 Healthcare Coalitions. Feb. 7th is Eastern HCC. Roundtable w/State, Regional and local partners to discuss ways to improve disaster response.

We are trying to create a Trauma System Plan to dictate trauma care in NC from the EMS dispatch to continue through the trauma center to rehabilitation. This has never been done in North Carolina, but was attempted approx. 5 years ago without success. We appreciate the Rescue Association having representation of Dave Cuddeback on the Prehospital Committee. This will be a year long process or longer to put together a useable document.

We will be working on changes for NC Administrative Code. As you have heard me mention in the past, this is a 12-18 month process. No major changes with most changes being clarification, updates and technical

changes. There is a change to add remounts to the current standard. If you recall, we did not include remounts initially due to it being a new standard, but feel that it is time to ensure that remounts are being built keeping the safety of the EMS professional and patient in mind.

We are also going to be undertaking some changes to the EMS Scope of Practice approved by the NC Medical Board. We will be sharing the proposed changes, but have worked with NCCEP and NC NAEMSP to come up with the proposed changes. If anyone has any thing they would like to see added as a medication or skill, feel free to let us know as quickly as possible, and we will look into it. No timeline for any of these changes at this point.

2023 OEMS Program Coordinators Workshops

Winter EMS Symposium (March 7 & 8)

EMS Expo (April 28 & 29)

Summer EMS Symposium (August 1 & 2)

We will also be having discussions with Joel & Dr. Kornegay once the details of the Rescue Convention are announced to see if there is an interest in having a class in conjunction with your conference.

Rob Glover retiring on February 28th. Robbie Amerson will be transitioning from Education to Compliance. We will be posting the ERO Education position as quickly as possible.

Transition to V3.5 Nemsis Dataset . Ready 3/15/23 w/ vendors transition from 3/16 to 6/1/23. 8/1 – Deadline for making transition.

New website (www.oems.nc.gov)

Expo Registration OPEN – April 28th – May 3rd

NCEM: Scott Zander

The Search and Rescue Administrative Rules

- A public comment period was held and concluded on October 14th, 2022. No comments were received
- A public hearing was held virtually on September 20, 2022. There were no participants from the public.
- The proposed rules have been submitted to the NC Rules Review Commission and are awaiting placement on the Commission's meeting agenda for February
- If approved and adopted, the rules will have an effective date of March 1, 2023.
- Administration rules for the Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team program are currently under development.

State Appropriated Search and Rescue Funding

- Swiftwater Rescue Equipment Funding
 - o Each Swiftwater Rescue Team was given the opportunity to pick equipment items from a list developed by NCEM Emergency Services Branch Staff. The list had several categories including
 - Communications
 - Logistics
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Other equipment
 - o Each team was allotted up to \$15,000.
 - o Quotes for the equipment are currently being obtained by NCEM staff.
- Urban Search and Rescue Equipment Funding
 - o Equipment purchasing continues for the USAR Task Forces including prime movers and Base of Operations enhancements and replacements
- o Training
- o Urban Search and Rescue

- The NCEM annual Structural Collapse Rescue Technician training was held at the Charlotte Fire Department Training Academy December 5th-14th, 2022. Seventy-nine students from the seven Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces attended.
 - o Swiftwater Rescue
 - Three Advanced Swiftwater / Flood Rescue Boat Operator (ASFRBO) courses are scheduled for delivery in January, February and March.
 - Three Swiftwater / Flood Rescue Boat Operator (SFRBO) courses are scheduled to be delivered March, April, and May.
 - o Mountain Rescue
 - Two Mountain Search and Rescue Awareness classes are scheduled for January
 - Two Mountain Search and Rescue Operations classes are scheduled for February
 - One Mountain Search and Rescue Technician class is scheduled for March
 - o Wilderness Search and Rescue
 - A wilderness Law Enforcement Operations course is being held in January
 - NCEM Is supporting the Swamp Stomp SAR exercise in Pender County, January 20-22
 - The State SAR exercise will be held in April. The location will be announced at a later date.
 - o North Carolina Helo-Aquatic Rescue Technician
 - NC-HART training continues monthly

Personnel Changes

- Todd Brown was promoted to Assist Director for Operations/ Operations Section Chief
- Brian Barnes was promoted to Deputy Operations Chief
- Scott Zander was hired as the Emergency Services Branch Manager in June 2022
- o Scott retired as a Battalion Chief from the Charlotte Fire Department in 2015
- o JR Griffin was hired as the Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team Coordinator JR was previously a member ofRRT-1

Treasurer’s Office: David Starling

Annual roster certification is underway and the associations are due to have those to the Treasurers office by January 31 which will give them the pension fund service credit. The money must be paid by March 31. Currently have 35% of all unit to participate in the online reporting. It is encouraged for all departments to use this new system.

Remember to designate beneficiaries for the Fire Rescue Pension Fund. If you have a local or state government account those are not the same you should those for each fund you may be in. It does not have to be the same beneficiary for every fund as well.

Communication efforts are improving through updates to the website.

Reminder of departments and members that benefits will not start automatically they must submit to start receiving benefit.

Boards & Commission Representative Reports

Fire & Rescue Commission: Robert Poe.

Fire and Rescue Commission 7/12/2022 Cancelled

Fire and Rescue Commission 1/10/23

Elections were held Harley Cook was reelected Chair Kevin Gordon was elected Vice Chair

Appointments or Reappointments

Certification Board Jason Edwards appointed Terry Foxx re-appointed

CFI Board Lee Newcomb re-appointed

Workers Comp Board Cloyce Anders, Richard Trexler, Jerry Brooks re-appointed

Fire and Rescue Commission

Steve Robertson appointed NC State Firemans Association

Harley Cook re-appointed NC Society of Fire Instructors

Andy Thomas re-appointed NC IAAI

Cloyce Anders re-appointed Member at large

Joshua Smith re-appointed Professional Firefighters and Paramedics
Certification Board Members
Jim Hanline NC Society of Fire Instructors
Doug Bissette NC Firemans Association
Workers Comp Board
Tim Bradley NC Firemans Association
Jerry Bradshaw NC Association of Rescue and EMS

Certification Board Report
Chief 101 Update. Chiefs can take requalification annually online or may wait until the end of 5 years. All recertifications can be online
All new persons must take the in-person class

Change to allow fire departments to run classes as they want to. Candidates can then challenge the written test and practicals. The instruction does not have to be a certified instructor. Candidates must have appropriate number of instruction hours.

Live Fire Members under 18 years of age may participate in live fire provided proper paperwork is signed.

Workers Comp update as of September 30 73 million in assets 19 million in liabilities
There are 4 claims with over 1 million liability each. One claim is 3.3 million
21 claims are in litigation
18929 claims since the program started.

Certified Fire Investigator test is being rewritten

OSFM office is moving to Rock Quarry Rd just off I40
There has been a TIMS committee assembled to look at the course and possibly do updates OSFM NC SHP
NCOEMS Looking to enhance the program and possibly hire a person to oversee it
SAFER Conference is August 9-12-2023

Search and Rescue Rules have been submitted.
Rules are being developed for regional response
Training is going on for Boat Ops, Mountain Rescue
Levels are Awareness, Operations and Technician

The State Fireman's Association has gotten a bill introduced to increase the pension by \$10.00

NC OEMS's EMS EXPO is May 28 – June 3

Fire & Rescue Commission Certification Brd: Terry Foxx
The Certification Board has met on December 01, 2022, at Forsyth Community College, Swisher Center at 10AM. Standing Committee reports were given, Chief 101 is being revised. Terry will serve on that committee with a initial discussion meeting to take place virtually on January 5, 2023. Live Fire training age limit was lowered to 18 years of age pending approval by the Parents, the Candidate's Department and the Community College. The candidate must also have completed ALL other firefighter class to be eligible for this process and cannot be at or participate in any other live burns until they reach the age of 18. Failure to comply would result in the candidate not being FF certified when they do turn 18. Fire Officer IV and the Volunteer Firefighter ISO 580G Certificate was discussed. The next meeting will be held on March 02, 2023, at Kernersville Fire Department.

EMS Advisory Council: Robert Poe
EMS Advisory Committee 8/9/2022 Cancelled

EMS Advisory Committee 11/8/22

Cone Health Greensboro
Level II Trauma Center Approved
Wake Med Raleigh
Level I Trauma Center Extension Granted
Novant Health New Hanover
Level II Trauma Center Extension Granted

Wake Med and Novant have deficiencies to correct

Trauma System Plan Development 9 Committees have been identified to begin the process

Compliance Report

Disciplinary Committee 2% are Patient Care Issues

Education

Measure Learning has purchased the current testing agency. Test fees will increase

January 1 to October 31

356 Medical Responders

3400 EMT

345 A-EMT

654 Paramedics

Instructor workshops in 2023 They are online and posted

Medical Director Update

The updated protocols are out and changes on these must be submitted

OEMS

The Office is looking at updating 24 Rules with possibly more to follow

Chief Mitchell

January 11, 2023 Ambulance Staffing Waiver expires

EMS Expo April 28, 2023 – May 3, 2023

2023 is Office of EMS 50th Anniversary

VSWCF Board: Joel Faircloth

Information given in Fire & Rescue Commission Report

Fire & Rescue Pension Advisory Brd: Debbie Poe / Gary Whitman

No Report. Next Meeting June 2023

Stroke Advisory Council: Dr. Hervy Kornegay Jr. / Tom Mitchell

No updates to report.

911 Board: Greg Foster

911 Board Updates ESINet Telephone System - As of January 12, 2023

- 126 PSAPS (911 Centers) are live on State ESINet

- 1 active Projects

i3 (North Carolina Next Generation 911 GIS Status Update) as of January 12th, 2023

- 115 PSAPs are Data i3 ready

NC 911 Financial Report as of June 24, 2022 Board Meeting

- NG 911 Financial Reporting (October 2022

Month End Balance \$ 80,760,233

Disbursement \$ 84,880

- CMRS Financial Reporting

Month End Balance \$ 2,372,521

Disbursement \$ 0.00

- PSAP Financial Reporting

Month End Balance \$ 5,023,175

Disbursement \$ 2,937,971

- PSAP Grant/Statewide Projects Account

Month End Balance \$ 37,101,562

Grant Fund Committed \$ 27,299,00

FY 2023 PSAP Grants:

- All "A" cycle Grants have been awarded

- All "B" Cycle Grant applications are in and being reviewed.

The January Board meeting scheduled for 27th has been cancelled therefore the next board meeting will be held February 24, 2023 via Microsoft Teams and is open to anyone who wishes to join @ <https://it.nc.gov/news/events/nc-911-board-meeting-february-24-2023>

Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee: Terry Foxx

The Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee met on November 14, 2022 at the JFHQ in Raleigh. Standing Program Chairpersons gave updates on all the disciplines. Brian Barnes gave an update on the budget process with the reoccurring funding having been approved for the various teams. Brian also updated all present on the rule and policy making process along with the development of an administrative manual. The meeting was adjourned and currently there is no scheduled meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Advisory: Bob Twomey
No Report

BLS Competition: William Mauney
No Report

Constitution : Donny Houston
Appreciated the opportunity to chair. Please contact him if anyone needs anything.

Credentials: Jerry Bradshaw / Joel Faircloth
Odd year Director Appointments and election for Commander and Vice Commander upcoming this year. Applications will be sent out to be returned to the Credentials Committee.

Finance: Joel Faircloth
Motion by Mac Smith to accept financial statements for 12-31-2023 Association, Brotherhood, Memorial Fund, Relief Fund, second Bob Twomey, motion passed.

Personnel: Jeff Hinshaw/Joel Faircloth
No Report

Rescue Competition: Mac Smith
No Report

Standards & Training: Terry Foxx

The current Association membership is 28,742 members. We all need to work toward getting more to enroll into the Brotherhood. To date we only have 4230 Brotherhood members. Joel has completed his review for accuracy on the standards revision to date. He will put them in a Dropbox to the committee for review. Three additional updates were approved at our last meeting to be added (they have not been yet) including our prussiks, water rescue rope and traffic direction lights/wands. Terry to work on those and get them added to the standards prior to implementation. Additionally, there has been an influx of questions regarding revisions to our rope standards. These will be looked at but due to our standards being directly tied to the grant process we will need to review and incorporate those into the Rescue & EMS Grant process. We will be setting up a meeting to review the grant equipment list with OSFM soon as it was 2017-2018 since the last revision to this. Our standards are also tied to the TR standards and those are about to be revised per the current NFPA 1006 standard which has to be put into place by NLT 2024. Those revision will take place over the course of 2023 and we may need to revise the standards once that is done; however the goal is to have all the current revisions to include the rope and hardware discussions ready to be voted on by NLT the May Directors meeting.

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

Scholarships are applications are on line and must be submitted by March 31, 2023.

Convention Committee: Josh Shumate

Working to get pricing back from Holiday in Biltmore West and Crown Plaza, Asheville, and Harrah's, Cherokee, NC. We will call a meeting when we have those and a recommendation.

Legislative Update: Fred Bone

On Wednesday, January 11 at high noon, the North Carolina General Assembly returned to the state capital to begin the 2023–2024 legislative session. It was a day filled with excitement, pomp and circumstance as Members were seated and sworn in to begin their legislative duties in both the North Carolina House and Senate chambers. On the House side, just as Supreme Court Justice Paul Newby began the swearing-in process, Representative William Brisson collapsed on the House floor. The ceremony was halted as emergency personnel rushed into the chambers to assist Representative Brisson off the chamber floor and into a nearby office to be evaluated by emergency personnel. Fortunately, two representatives that were seated near Representative Brisson have medical backgrounds and were immediately able to assist him. Newly-elected Representative Timothy Reeder is an emergency room doctor and was immediately by Representative Brisson's side. Representative Reeder was assisted by Representative Carla Cunningham, a long-term member of the House and a registered nurse. After it was determined that Representative Brisson was out of danger, he demonstrated his grit and determination by refusing to go to the hospital to be checked out until he had taken his oath of office. Representative Brisson was wheeled in a wheelchair back into the House chamber to take his oath with his colleagues with the NCGA nurse holding his Bible. Following the oath of office, Representative Brisson was carried to the hospital for evaluation. It is important to note that all the North Carolina House North Carolina Senate committees have been appointed.

2023 – 2024 legislative Session is slowly moving forward. Committees have been appointed are beginning to meet. Final floor votes will be occurring in the coming weeks. Now is the time to be preparing and promoting bills that the Association may wish to champion this legislative session. We have numerous friends in the right places, and the potential to make new friends with freshman members of both chambers. Each chamber is introducing 10 to 15 bills per day, at the present time. We will be tracking each of these bills. By working closely with Joel Faircloth will be able to determine what the most important bills for the Association will be. It is important to remember that the North Carolina Senate has a supermajority Republican 30 vote voting block. Bills that Governor Cooper chooses to veto will be easily overridden in the North Carolina Senate. Over in the House there is a 71 vote Republican voting block. This is one vote shy of the Republican supermajority enjoyed by the Senate. At this time, House leadership believes that enough Democrats will vote with Republicans to move substantive legislation forward in spite of a governor's veto. Although the session is beginning very slowly look for an increase pace in the coming weeks. Look for several bills to be introduced increasing the pension program, but a final resolution on this issue will most likely be found in the budget process.

As always, it is my pleasure to represent your interests here in Raleigh. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

New Business

Directors Meetings 2023

April 30, 2023 - EMS Expo Greensboro

TBD Western NC September 2023

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Joel Faircloth

Executive Director

(Not Official until approved by the Board of Directors)