

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

67th Annual Meeting & Directors Meeting

September 8-9, 2023

Holiday Inn Biltmore West, Asheville NC

Call to Order

Welcome - Hervy Kornegay Jr

Invocation - Joel Faircloth

Adoption of order of business; Motion to approve Scott McCaskill, second Tom Billig, motion carried.

Recognition of guests - Hervy Kornegay Jr

Tom Mitchell Chief OEMS, Allen Johnson, OEMS, Bruce Hodges, NCOSFM, Brian Barnes NCEM, Dale Folwell, NC Treasurer - NC Fire Rescue Pension Fund, and Fred Bone of Bone & Associates.

Roll call of Voting Delegates; Jerry Bradshaw 38 voting delegates. A complete list is available in the office.

Roll call of Directors; Joel Faircloth. 26 Area Directors, Past Commander, Vice Commander, Executive Director, were present.

Minutes of Directors Meeting 04-30-2023: Motion to approve, Bob Twomey, second by Ronnie Warrick, motion approved.

Old Business

Agency Reports

OSFM: Bruce Hodges

-The new office is open and operational at 1429 Rock Quarry Road. All staff returned on July 5th.

Important Dates: Oct 10, Fire Rescue Commission Meeting – Location TBA

-Upcoming Classes: NFA Weekend Registration is live and on the website. Nov 17-19, 2023. Online registration and payment is required no later than September 30, 2023.

-Oct 20, NC Extrication School, Sandhills Community College

-Oct 24, Trench Qualification, Fayetteville Emergency Training Center

-Nov 3, Technical Rope Rescue, Rowan Cabarrus Community College

-TR Committee has been approved by the Fire Rescue Commission, TR update is moving forward.

OEMS: Tom Mitchell

I apologize that I was unable to attend the annual convention, due to a positive COVID test on Tuesday. However, I appreciate the partnership in allowing us to continue to conduct the BLS Competition tomorrow. We will have plenty of staff present, and if you have any questions, feel free to let them know or you can certainly email me.

I will try to keep my report this morning fairly brief, but there are a few items that we wanted to make you aware.

We have replaced the vacancy that was created by Rob Glover's retirement. We are really excited to have on our team with us in the Eastern Office in the Education role, Mick Stewart. Mick came to us from Johnston Community College, and we are glad to have him. Mick will be arriving today in Asheville, and will be helping with the competition tomorrow, so feel free to welcome him. He may be the guy with the camera, as Mick has a broad background with part of that being in the photography business, and is utilizing that to capture pictures of these events.

A process has been put into place to allow agencies to request an exemption to the minimum staffing statute (131E-158). As you recall, statute was changed to allow us to make this exemption without state of emergency being in place. As of today, there are 27 EMS Agencies out of 450 total agencies statewide that have requested the temporary waiver. If anyone is in need of the temporary waiver, please feel free to reach out to your respective regional office for assistance in applying. It has been rumored that the General

Assembly is looking at issuing another statewide waiver for 1 year, but that has not come to fruition at this point, unless it shows up in the budget bill or other legislation.

There is an effort underway to improve the VIPER network run by the SHP. Part of this change is to change the VIPER technology to TDMA (Time-Division Multiple Access). TDMA enables multiple users to share the same frequency by dividing each cellular channel into different time slots. This is not a mandate by OEMS, but is being mandated by State Highway Patrol. VIPER established a plan in 2019 to transition to a TDMA capable system by July 1, 2025. All VIPER radios will need to be programmed (touched) for TDMA operation prior to the deadline. Some legacy VIPER radios (typically 5 years or older) may require replacement. Why is it urgent now? Some agencies are being told by their radio suppliers that parts and radios are on backorder for 12 to 18 months from today. 18 months is currently April '25 (3 months from deadline). If you need any assistance, Dale Sutphin with our office will be glad to assist however he can. Feel free to reach him through your Regional EMS Office

The Trauma System Plan development is underway. Committees are meeting with Association of Rescue and EMS being represented by Dave Cuddeback (Wayne County EMS) on the Pre-Hospital Committee. This will be a long process to put together a statewide document on Trauma Care in North Carolina. It is estimated to take about a year, but realistically, some parts may take longer. We will keep you updated as this project evolves.

We have been working on changes to NC Administrative Code. As you have heard me mention in the past, this is a 12-18 month process. We received approval from the NC Medical Care Commission on August 11th to enter into rulemaking. These rules are scheduled to be published in the September Public Register for the 60-day public comment period. There should be no major changes for EMS agencies, with most being clarification, updates and technical changes. I have outlined the more significant changes below;

.0207 – Ground Ambulance: Vehicle and Equipment Requirements

Remove the requirement for two-way radio communications for ambulances that do not back-up the 911 EMS System.

.0224 – Ground ambulance Vehicle Manufacturing Standards

Proposing to require remounted vehicles to meet the CAAS or NFPA-1917 standards. Remounted trucks will be exempt from the standard if they are remounted prior to July 1, 2025.

.0403 – Responsibilities of the Medical Director for EMS Systems

Proposing to allow the System Medical Director to delegate physician oversight for a EMS provider at the EMT level that does not back 911.

.0502 – Initial Credentialing Requirements for EMR, EMT, AEMT, Paramedic and EMD

Proposing that students that take an educational course in NC be required to take the NC exam, rather than National Registry and apply for Legal Recognition.

.0503 – Term of Credentials for EMS Personnel

Proposing to change EMD credentials from a four year credential to a two year credential.

.0512 – Reinstatement of Lapsed EMS Credential

Proposing for lapsed credentials the ability to take a refresher class and the state exam, regardless of the length of expiration.

These proposed rules have a long way to go before being codified in rule, even after the public comment period. If you have any questions or concerns about these proposed changes, feel free to let us know.

We have met with the leadership at the NC Medical Board on some changes to the EMS Scope of Practice. If you recall, any changes that we make to the scope of practice for all levels has to be approved by the NC Medical Board. We are on the agenda to present to the Board on September 21st. Part of our time on the agenda will be spent trying to educate them on EMS, and the other part is "making the request". There is no member of the Medical Board with an EMS background, and they are governed by the Medical Practice Act, which doesn't mention EMS. The changes being requested are listed below;

Move Glucagon to EMT level (currently AEMT and Paramedic level)

Move Immunizations to EMT level (currently AEMT and Paramedic level)

Move Nitrous Oxide to EMT and AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Include Anti-psychotics for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic level (EMT via Oral route, if patient has a current prescription for medication)

Allow Calcium Paste for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic level

Move Antibiotics to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Antivirals to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Include Monoclonal Antibodies for AEMT and Paramedic level

Move Tranexamic Acid (TXA) to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Steroid preparations to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Anti-emetic preparations to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move Magnesium Sulfate to AEMT level (currently Paramedic level)

Move manual defibrillation to AEMT level for pulseless arrest only

Move needle chest decompression to AEMT level for traumatic arrest only

We are not sure how fast we will be able to get these approvals through the Medical Board. If you recall, we had to go back 4 times for the approval of Ketamine. We are preparing our presentation for the meeting on the 21st, and should know more after that meeting.

We are continuing our transition to V3.5 Data. These changes are not changes that the state controls, but more dictated by NHTSA and NEMSIS. We have made the transition at the state, and are now accepting 3.5 data. Every EMS Agency has to make the transition by December 31st, 2023. If you are not sure of how to do this transition, please reach out to us, if needed, but most importantly to your PCR vendor. They are the ones that need to be making changes to ensure you are compliant by the deadline. They are all aware of the deadlines, and this is a national change, not just NC. If you have any questions of us, please feel free to let us know.

While I am speaking about Data, if any of the agency leads are interested in working with your data in the state repository, feel free to reach out to us. We are able to do a lot with the data, whether it is through our data repository or our partnership with Biospatial. We have struggled, in my opinion, since we started requiring agencies to submit data to give you your data back in a format that you can utilize. We think we have finally solved that, and are able to give you back some useful data that could help you develop your agency. We have a full-time Data Improvement Coordinator, so data is important and powerful, and it will drive EMS into the future. Feel free to reach out to the Regional Office, if you are interested in getting your data better or ways you can use your data.

I know Allen is in the room. Unless he is aware of something that I have missed, I will let that conclude my report. Mr. Chairman, I will turn it back over to you. Thanks for the opportunity to present.

NCEM: Brian Barnes

-We are monitoring Hurricane Lee closely and while too early to have confidence in exact impacts the most likely scenario remains the storm passing between Bermuda and the Outer Banks. There are some uncertainties still as to just how close the system will get to NC but even if it stays well offshore there will be significant coastal erosion, rip currents, and over wash. This system remains something we need to monitor closely.

-We continue to work through implementation of the new Search and Rescue Administrative Rules. This includes awarding the 7 Urban Search and Rescue agreements as well as renewing MOAs with all of the specialty rescue teams across the balance of the search and rescue programs.

-NCGS 166A was updated this session to add a representative from each of the specialty rescue team programs to the NC SAR TAC to ensure the TAC is better representative of the entire SAR Program.

-NC Regional Response Team rules are currently out of public comment and that comment period closes November 1st.

-We are in the early stages of work with OEMS and OSFM to share certification and credential information across Continuum, OSFM 24, and TERMS. This should be a huge step for many responders and help improve streamlining processes agencies with personnel involved in various programs across the different organizations.

Treasurer's Office: Dale Folwell, NC State Treasurer

-Update on Fire & Rescue Pension Fund is over 100% funded. One of most secure in the US.

-Continue to monitor healthcare situations through out the state as the state is one of largest purchasers of health coverage.

-Thank you for what you do to help everyone.

-Reminder go to ncash.com to see if there is money owed to you or your department.

Thank you for advocating for the invisible and it is a pleasure to serve you.

Boards & Commission Representative Reports

Fire & Rescue Commission: Robert Poe

Elections were held Harley Cook Chair Freddy Johnson Vice – Chair

CFI Board Appointment Jason Hare

Certification Board Appointment Malcom Smith

CFI Board Appointment Buddy Thompson

SBI Appointment to CFI Board DR Burkett

Certification Board Report Kevin Gordon resigned Terry Foxx is committee Chair

VSWCF Report No premiums for 2023 – 2024 year

Office of State Fire Marshall Moved to 300 Rock Quarry RD

The Training Facility in Stanly County. Water Rescue is first to be completed

Rules review is to be sent out and discussed at the October meeting

September 11 is First Responders Day

Fire & Rescue Commission Certification Brd: Terry Foxx

The Certification Board meet on June 01, 2023, at Kernersville Fire Department and June 08, 2023, at GTCC, Jamestown Campus. The next meeting was held on September 7, 2023, at Kernersville Fire Department. At the June 1, 2023, meeting, the TR Rewrite committee was approved, and direction given on books and forward movement to rewrite the TR program. The June 8th meeting was held with committee reports given. Felony application and certification board policy 200.08 was discussed. The staff attorney was present and following her recommendations, verbiage was added regarding felonies. It was also stated that the certification board policies are being worked on to be put into Rule (NC Administrative Code). Discussion was held to separate the surface and swift water standards into 2 separate ones. The direction from the Board was to look at this during the rewrite of the TR standard as there is 2 separate NFPA chapters in the 2021 standard. Certification Board annual elections were held with Terry Foxx being elected to the Chair position and Derrick Clouston elected to the Vice Chairman's position. At the September 7, 2023, meeting committee reports were heard, the TR Rewrite committee presented a pathway forward to the 2021 standard. There was no old business to discuss. New business included one new delivery agency request, which was denied by the Board as there has been a moratorium on new delivery agencies for the past 3 years. New program updates for Fire Investigation Tech and Hazardous Materials Tech were presented by OSFM staff. Both are due to be completed by 2024. A program update moratorium was put in place until June 2025 on reworking any standards that are currently in place and not up for rewrite. Following a closed session for an investigation, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on December 7, 2023. The September 7, 2023, meeting is subject to the F/R Commission's approval at their October meeting.

EMS Advisory Council: Robert Poe

Redesignations of Trauma Centers

Wake Forest Baptist Level I 3 years

Duke Level I 1 year with ability to extend 2 years

Womack Army Hospital Level III 1 year with ability to extend 2 years

Trauma System Task Force Wayne Meredith is moving forward. Committees are meeting. There have been 2 surveys sent out to different stakeholders

This will be a 12-to-18-month process

Compliance Report

From May 1 to July 31

1903 Credentials sent out 271 were Paramedic

Testing for credentialing may increase in 2025

David Ezzell gave a report on Healthcare Preparedness

Medical Director Report

More counties are using blood in the field

More TXA is being used

Proposed Rules Change is going to the Medical Care Commission on August 8

VSWCF Board: Joel Faircloth

See Fire Rescue Commission Report.

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

Information covered NC Treasurer report.

Stroke Advisory Council: Hervy Kornegay Jr./Tom Mitchell

No Report.

911 Board: Greg Foster

No Report

Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee: Terry Foxx

The Technical Urban Search & Rescue Advisory Committee has not met since our last meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Advisory: Bob Twomey

No Report.

BLS Competition: William Mauney/Allen Johnson
Good group of teams competing this year. Please be on time Saturday morning with equipment ready.

Constitution: Donny Houston
No Report.

Credentials: David Stamey
38_Voting Delegates we called and voting was held by ballot for Commander. Terry Foxx and Josh Shumate submitted applications and there were no further nominations from the floor motion made and second to close nominations. Josh Shumate was declared the winner of the vote for Commander.

Vice Commander, Robert Poe submitted application for this position floor was open for nominations, motion made and second to close the nomination. Motion and second to accept by acclamation, approved.

Finance: Joel Faircloth
Motion to to approve all financial statements for Association, Brotherhood, Memorial Fund by Scott McCaskill, second by Tom Billig, motion approved.

Relief Fund financial statements presented for information.

Personnel: Jeff Hinshaw
New hires are working registration. Summerlyn Merritt and Holly Denning. Please go meet them.

Rescue Competition: Mac Smith
Ready for competition beginning the afternoon and Saturday morning. Rescue competitions will be out on the parking area.

Standards & Training: Terry Foxx
The current Association membership is 29,452 members. We have had 2 departments to close and have gained 6 new departments since our last meeting. We all need to work toward getting more to enroll into the Brotherhood. To date we only have 4351 Brotherhood members.

Standards – All the updates from the April 30 meeting have been completed. In reviewing and completing these, it was noted that the changes will also affect body cords, water rope (nomenclature and MBS-5000lbs is not readily available), and potentially webbing and throw bags as the verbiage in the toolkits listed in the NFPA 1006 & 2500 has changed. Additionally, request have come from our users to discontinue the requirement for a Porta-Power Rescue Kit.

Our standards are also tied to the TR standards and those are being revised per the current NFPA 1006 standard which must be put into place by December 31, 2024. Those revisions will take place over the course of 2023 and through the first half of 2024. The second half of 2024 will see both face-to-face and online upgrades. We will need to revise our standards once that is done for both training requirements and new equipment that has not already been discussed.

Recommended Standards Changes in addition to what has already been approved are to rewrite the Body cords, water rope and subsequent equipment to match and equal verbiage in NFPA 1006 & 2500, remove the Porta-Power from all referenced lists except Light Rescue (this is the only potential extrication equipment they would have other than hand tools).

Relief Fund Board of Trustees: Joel Faircloth
2022 applications were announced May 15, 2021.
All winners are posted on line and everyone who applied should have received an email. Please remind everyone to keep up their email and contact information on file in our office.

We are working to turn around benefits as quickly as possible. Please let us know if you know of anyone who could be eligible for a benefit so we can follow up.

Convention Committee: Josh Shumate

Rescue class open discussion forum with elder rescue folks to discuss various topics. Jennifer Smith will be doing the EMS class this afternoon. There are approx 200 registered this year including vendors. Tomorrow rescue class will be on extrication hand tools out in the parking lot.

New Business

Legislative Update: Fred Bone

Updates were given on various bills of interests and outlook on the upcoming election.

State of the Association Report: Hervy Kornegay Jr.

The state of the association is in great shape. We have great staff, great leadership in the office, and the office has changed two additional employees been short staffed since Stephens death and have been behind but adding these two employees will help. It is also allowing for succession as Becky and Lynette have been with us for quite some time. Membership is stable at 29,000, financially strong, and the Relief Fund has \$9 million. We are continuing with our partnerships with OEMS, EM, and OSFM which are all important for what we do and our existence. Thanks to Terry for asking him to run 8 years ago it has been a long 8 years. Thanks to Josh and Joel for their work in last few years. It has been a honor to serve as your commander the last four years. In medical you have all of these applications that look really good and the same but when he interviewed and pushed him over the top was his EMS and rescue experience and mentorship from the Gordon Joyners, and Buddy Shaws. He trained and served with a lot of those in the room Foxx, Pennell, McCaskill, Hinshaw, etc. been on a rappelling tower with Allen Johnson and others. He has heard Jerry Bradshaw named called countless times year after year for director of the year so I have been here for many years. So, it has been and honor to serve as your commander. Thank you to the directors for all that they do and most of all for the people who answer the calls they are the heroes.

Directors Meetings 2024

Recommendation for January @ TBD, April @ Greensboro EMS Expo, September @ convention annual meeting.

Appointment of Committee Chairpersons:

Meeting will be held once chairs have been selected.

Appointments of Personnel Committee: Hervy Kornegay Jr.

Motion to re-appoint Kim Haddock and Jeff Hinshaw, and appoint Gary Whitman by Tim Pennell, second Mac Smith, motion approved

Lifetime Appointment: Hervy Kornegay Jr.

Paul Nowell and Josh Shumate were submitted to the directors via email for approval by the Commander. A majority vote of approval was received.

Recessed until Awards Presentation Ceremony

Presentation Ceremony September 09, 2023

Welcome	Hervy Kornegay Jr
Invocation	Joel Faircloth
Supper	
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag	Josh Shumate
Memorial Service	Joel Faircloth
Introduction of Special Guests	Hervy Kornegay Jr

Hiram Brinson (#1) Edward Parker, Tabor City Emergency Services	Hervy Kornegay Jr
AB Parker Rescue of the Year Hiwassee Dam Fire Department	Hervy Kornegay Jr
Lifetime Membership Paul Nowell Josh Shumate	Hervy Kornegay Jr
Director of the Year (#2) Tim Pennell	Josh Shumate
Installation of Officers Josh Shumate, Commander Robert Poe, Vice Commander	Bob Twomey
Hervy Kornegay Jr - Presented Past Commander Plaque	
Craig A. Helms Rescue Challenge Awards 1st Place Alamance County Rescue Team #1 2nd Place Alamance County Rescue Team #3 3rd Place Alamance County Rescue Team #2	Mac Smith
Chad Smith Memorial Spirit Award Alamance County Rescue Team #2 (Helms Challenge Team)	Mac Smith
Technical Rescue Competition Awards Alamance County Rescue	Mac Smith
Senior BLS Competition Awards 3rd Place Whiteville Rescue Team #2 2nd Place Forsyth County EMS 1st Place Tabor City Emergency Services Team #1	William Mauney
Junior BLS Competition Awards 3rd Place Tabor City Emergency Services Team #1 2nd Place Gaston Vol Fire Team #3 1st Place Tabor City Emergency Services Team #11	William Mauney
Benediction	Joel Faircloth

Adjourn

There being no further business the convention / annual meeting was adjourned.

Joel Faircloth

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