



**BREMS Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 14, 2021; 6:00 pm
Centra Sim Center & Virtual**

In Attendance

Mary Kathryn Allen
Tim McConville
Wendy Wilcoxson, MD
R. B. Stratton
Samuel A. Bryant, IV
Janet Blankenship
Jason Ferguson

BREMS
Industry
Regional OMD
Community
Amherst Co.
Bedford Co.
Education

Present via Conference Call:

Susan Walton
Leonard Cohen, MD
Chris Vernovai
Jeff Tanner
Peter O'Brien, MD

Appomattox Co.
OMD
OEMS
Centra
Community

Board Members Absent:

Michelle Turner
Holly Hogan
Robert Lipscomb

Campbell Co.
Community
LFD

President Janet Blankenship called the in person/virtual meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Blankenship welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The meeting minutes were reviewed from June 2021. Motion was made by R. B. Stratton, seconded by Samuel A. Bryant, to approve the June 2021 meeting minutes. Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Janet Blankenship presented the quarterly Treasurer's Report and asked the Regional Director to review the report with the Board. No questions were asked. Motion made by R. B. Stratton, seconded by Tim McConville, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Report

approved unanimously.

President Janet Blankenship gave the Chair Report

Chair Blankenship thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication. She is aware of the many staffing shortages in the region and thanks everyone for attending. Chair Blankenship stated the Regional Director's report would offer more information on the transition and any updates.

Regional Director's Report

- Discussed Ann Wilson's last day at the office is Monday, September 20th. Discussed the time frame for the visitor parade to the office.
- Discussed the new hire, Lori Meadows. Start date is September 27th. BREMS will work with locality EMS leadership for times/days that week for her to come out with BREMS staff and meet key leaders and providers in the region.
- RFP deadline is September 17th.
- Still need designation letters from a few localities. Designation deadline is October 8th. Please review the designation package placed on the group google BREMS BOD set up.
- Mary Kathryn is still attending the monthly virtual manager's meeting with OEMS staff. There are still weekly and bi-weekly meetings being attended at the local, regional, and state levels. BREMS has attended normal monthly meetings as well- most are being done virtually.
- The Performance Improvement Specialist, Jenn Kersey, has been working diligently on CQI protocols and benchmarks.
- Mary Kathryn reminded the Board on the ESO conference calls every Thursday at 2pm. We are still working with the hospital on receiving electronic PPCRs. BREMS is also in discussions with Centra hospital EDs, Pharmacies, and other facilities who hold BREMS drug boxes to receive PPCRs via fax from the ESO software program. Providers would still be responsible for filling out pharmacy administration form in the drug box.
- Discussed the BREMS outbuilding. BREMS will notify the Board when we begin the process of cleaning up the building and inventorying contents.
- Discussion of the Budget/Funding. BREMS reached out to OEMS/Adam Harrell and we are awaiting a replay on questions asked regarding the Lifeline and local match. Board approved draft budget for FY 22 and designation.
- Discussion on Board members not attending. It was agreed upon, BREMS will send a letter to those who have not attended via the bylaws to ask if they still have an interest in serving on the board.
- Strategic Planning Committee meets again September 28th. The Committee will share more information during our next quarterly meeting.

Update from Regional OMD

Dr. Wilcoxson gave updates on the Continuous Quality Improvement Program. They are working on rescheduling the protocol development for the region. She also updated the Board on:

- Protocol development. – Dr. Wilcoxson sent out an email to EMS leadership regarding protocol release. The email will be forwarded to the Regional OMD group as well.

*Over the last year, our community has worked to begin a renovation of our protocols, including a new format that will hopefully bring some additional advantages. Currently we have about a dozen completed, which we plan to begin to roll out with **education and preparations in October, and implementation in November.** Others will follow, most likely on a semi-annual basis.*

Some protocols have simply been revised to the new format, while a few involve practice changes. In terms of scope of practice, the biggest changes involve adding IO placement to AEMTs, and IM Epi and Glucagon administration to EMT-Bs.

We anticipate sharing a substantive educational package, including:

- Regional announcements of changes
- Updated posted protocols (both online and via the BREMS App)
- A PPT reviewing all changes, as well as a master list of changes
- A document reviewing the new format
- Hands on training resources for IO and IM med administration

In conjunction with EZ-IO, we plan to offer a train-the-trainer event in October, expecting that some providers will need refreshers. We are also working on IM training plans. Sean Regan will be contacting all of the localities working to arrange this as desired.

As always, I will be interested to hear about any gaps you see. I realize this is not a very substantive update, and expect to have an example of the new format to you in the next week, as well as other information as this evolves.

- AP projects and program.
- COVID mission- Infection rates are extremely high in the Lynchburg area. Some hospital systems across the state have gone on diversion. Continue to educate the public on importance to wear mask, social distance, and get vaccinated.
- BREMS is working with the Stroke Team on future education in FAST and large vessel occlusion given by the stroke physicians to EMS providers. Mary Kathryn mentioned the Stroke grant BREMS will be receiving and the grant should be able to hire a part time Stroke analyst with the grant and with additional funds in the State Contract.

New Business

- The Board reviewed the first quarterly items; to include:
 - Employee Qualifications
 - Organizational Information
 - Staff Information
 - Board of Directors and Subcommittee members
 - Regional PI Plan
 - Regional Awards Information
 - Quarterly Activity Report
 - 1st quarter CQI Report
 - 1st quarter Training Report
 - 1st quarter Financial Report
- There was a discussion among the Board members and guest regarding EMS staff shortages in the localities, the Education Coordinator state process, and recruitment and retention of EMS providers.

Motion made by R. B. Stratton, seconded by Jason Ferguson, to approve all quarterly materials reviewed and mentioned above. Materials approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 12, 2021; 6:00 pm for the BREMS Grant Review.

Dr. O'Brien mentioned the monthly CP Council Meetings/VHAC Regional Meetings are poorly attended by EMS and other stakeholders. Requesting more support from EMS/ER for our STEMI Program. These meetings are done via Teams so remote participation is an option. The VHAC/VCSQI Cardiogenic Shock Statewide Meeting will be 9/23/21. He stated he will get an invite out. This is also a remote option.

Motion made by R. B. Stratton, seconded by Samuel A Bryant, to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously at 8:05 pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by Mary Kathryn Allen