

**City of Alexandria Emergency Medical Services Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 27, 2009 7:00 p.m.**  
**Inova Alexandria Hospital Board Room**

**Members Present:** Pamela Copley, Dr. Marty Brown, Dr. John Audett, Dr. Tom Clark, Paul Prevost, Asst. Chief Andrew Snead, Rob Rapanut, Brett Fitzgerald, Holly Heislup, Diane Dickerson  
**Excused:** Fire Chief Adam Thiel, Michele Evans, Dr. Jim Vafier, Pam Alesky  
**Guests:** Brian Hricik, Asst. Chief Denise Pouget  
**Absent:** Scooter Slade

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RESPONSIBILITIES TIMELINES
<b>Welcome, Announcements &amp; Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting was called to order by Chair, Pamela Copley at 7:00 p.m.</li> <li>• Pam announced that Burke Wilson is retiring from the Council.</li> <li>• Chief Thiel and Michele Evans are unable to attend due to the City budget meeting.</li> <li>• Dr. Vafier is working in the emergency department this evening.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcome to All</b></li> <li>• <b>Many thanks to Burke for his years of service and contributions to the Council.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minutes of the February 9, 2009 meeting were distributed and reviewed.</li> <li>• There were two changes to the minutes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Page 3: Call of the Quarter—1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Award is to be presented May 20<sup>th</sup> (not May 4<sup>th</sup>) at the EMS breakfast.</li> <li>• Page 4: 2009 EMS Week—events begin Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> (not May 11<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dr. Clark made a motion that the minutes be accepted with the changes as noted; the motion was seconded. There was no further discussion; the vote was unanimous.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The minutes of the 2/9/09 meeting were approved with the changes as noted.</b></li> </ul>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>		
<b>2009 EMS Breakfast</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam noted that all Council members are invited to attend the EMS Breakfast, hosted by Inova Alexandria Hospital on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 9am, at the hospital atrium.</li> <li>• Call of the Quarter awards to be given for Q4/08 and Q1/09.</li> <li>• Attendees will be invited to take a tour of the future Emergency Department which is part of the hospital's Project 2010.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Invitations were distributed to members.</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>Call of the Quarter Nominees for Quarter #1, 2009</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twelve cases were presented and discussed.</li> <li>• After much discussion and two rounds of voting to break tie votes, Case #4 that occurred on February 8, 2009 was selected for the Call of the Quarter award.</li> <li>• Twelve EMS/Fire personnel will be recognized at the EMS Breakfast on May 20, 2009 for two calls (4<sup>th</sup> Q 2008 and 1<sup>st</sup> Q 2009)</li> <li>• In addition to dinner, Dr. Brown suggested we consider some additional recognition for the awardees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Brian advised that all nominees are given certificates and these go into their personnel file</li> <li>○ An article in the Gazette was suggested</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Many dinner certificates are needed for the May 20 awards presentation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Congratulations to Paramedics Fredrick Koerner and Charles Curia, EMS Supervisor Bryan Meckes, Fire Captain Thurston McClain and Fire Fighters Jason Harrison and Tara Blunt for 1<sup>st</sup> Q 2009!</b></li> <li>• <b>Holly will speak with her contacts regarding other avenues of recognition.</b></li> <li>• <b>Pam will speak with her newspaper contact regarding a possible article or press release.</b></li> <li>• <b>Pam, Holly and Dr. Clark offered to assist in identifying additional restaurants to donate dinner certificates; Paul was asked to help.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Ride-Along</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam discussed the ride-along opportunities available for Council members; she also shared some of the great experiences she has had during her ride-alongs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tremendous teamwork observed</li> <li>○ Mutual aide experiences</li> <li>○ Advanced protocols</li> <li>○ Remote field transmission of EKGs (only in Alexandria at this time)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Council members are invited to ride-along!</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Articles of Interest</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam distributed articles of interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Alexandria Times</i> article honoring the City of Alexandria medics for the Call of the Quarter</li> <li>○ <i>Washington Times</i> article, April 24-25, which discussed some of the difficulties Washington, D.C. is having with cross-training; medic/fire fighters' training inconsistencies; and achieving acceptable test scores.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informational</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Pandemics</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam distributed an article of interest from <i>Scientific American</i>, April 2009 regarding "How to Prevent the Next Pandemic"</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=preventing-next-pandemic">http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?id=preventing-next-pandemic</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informational</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>EMS Update</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asst. Chief Andrew Snead provided an update.</li> <li>• Chief Snead thanked the EMS Council members for their interest and pride for the services provided by the department</li> <li>• He reported that there are several initiatives going on to insure a department that is united and sharing common goals and skills—system focus</li> <li>• He noted that in July, the department will be transferring medics to different stations to promote the sharing of experiences and support a diversity of calls, demographics and skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No shift changes</li> <li>○ Maximum assignment is 3 years per station</li> </ul> </li> <li>• He noted that a transfer of fire fighters to various stations has already occurred</li> <li>• In addition to case reviews by committees, there will also be peer reviews among the staff</li> <li>• Medics are now using CPAP—continuous positive airway pressure—masks as an airway option that can improve a patient’s oxygenation without intubation</li> <li>• Various activities are being planned for EMS Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Working with Florian Foundation—non profit organization with expertise in estate planning and living wills—to offer consultation to all interested department staff</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informational</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>OLD and/or ONGOING BUSINESS</b></p>		
<p><b>Website</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam Copley pointed out that it is still impossible to locate the EMS <b>Council</b> website through a general internet search or even a search within the City’s website. Rob will work with the City’s information technology planning group to improve this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Council membership list needs to be updated</li> <li>○ Call of the Quarter info and press releases, etc. need to be included</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EMS Week is the target date for the new placement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informational</b></li> </ul>

<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>		
<b>Mark Center DOD Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was some discussion regarding the impact of the Department of Defense construction project; completion target date 2011               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 6,400 additional personnel</li> <li>○ 100 contractors on site</li> <li>○ Estimated to add possibly 145 more calls to the City per year</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The City is currently exploring what resources will be needed to meet the additional needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informational</b></li> </ul>
<b>Paramedic Association</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asst. Chief Snead advised that a representative of the Paramedic Association would like to come and speak to the Council</li> <li>• Paramedics in the system have formed their own Association which is an Alliance of the Paramedics of the City</li> <li>• Don Scott is the current Association leader</li> <li>• Topic for discussion: Avenues to help with benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informational</b></li> </ul>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next meeting of the Council will be <b><u>Monday, September 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.</u></b></li> <li>• There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Location: Inova Alexandria Hospital Board Room.</b></li> </ul>

Respectfully submitted—Diane Dickerson, Secretary