



Minutes of the Virginia Emergency Management Association Board of Directors meeting held 2/12/2020 at the VDEM headquarters. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am by Robert Foresman who presided. In attendance were the following individuals: *Robert Foresman, Jennifer Maul, Sherri Laffoon, Will Flagler, Bobby Gelormine, Walter English, Benjamin Ruppert (Region 1), Paul Helmuth (Region 3), Stephen Owen (Region 4), Danielle Progen (Region 5), Tim Duffer (Region 6), Jeff Fletcher (Region 7), Kelly Myers (Region 7), Michelle Oblinsky (VDEM), Linda Lippa (Business/Industry), Matt Combee (VOAD), & Bo Keeney (Executive Director – Ex. Officio). Non-Voting Members: Gene Stewart, Bruce Sterling, Jared Hoernig Additional Committee Chairs not previous addressed: Bill Lawson, Jonathan Simmons.*

Bo Keeney, Executive Director, provided relevant updates to the agenda and reminded the members of VEMA’s conflict of interest, Anti-Trust, Whistleblower and other relevant policies before proceeding.

Motion Foresman/Maul to accept the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Under the President’s Report Robert Foresman thanked the Legislative Committee for their activities during the legislative session. He additionally thanked the VEMA staff and VEMS committee members for their efforts over the last few months. All other items he deferred until new business.

1st VP and 2nd VP provided no reports and rather deferred their items to new business.

Motion Flagler/ Fletcher to accept the following in a block:

- a) to approve the VEMA Financial Summary of Accounts as December 31, 2019 as distributed.
- b) to approve the VEMA Financial Statement as December 31, 2019 as distributed.

Motions considered in a block passed unanimously.

Motion Gelormine/Fletcher to accept the following in a block:

- a) to accept the VEMA Executive Board of Directors minutes from the November 13, 2019 meeting as previously distributed.
- b) to accept the following as members of VEMA since November 13, 2019:

- **Individual Members:**

Member Name	Member Type	Effective Date	City
Bradley S Muranko	Individual	11/18/2019	Richmond, VA
Michael T Marushia Sr., CPP	Individual	11/19/2019	Virginia Beach, VA
Lamar G Medlock	Individual	12/2/2019	Lorton, VA
Vickie Johnson-Scott	Individual	12/19/2019	Richmond, VA
Salvatore Luciano	Individual	12/30/2019	Chesterfield, VA
Lorenzo Christopher Randazzo	Individual	1/8/2020	Richmond, VA
Charles Werner	Individual	1/8/2020	Charlottesville, VA
Larry W Snyder Jr	Individual	1/10/2020	Williamsburg, VA
Christopher J Rusk	Individual	1/10/2020	Petersburg, VA
David G. Woods	Individual	1/14/2020	Chesterfield, VA

Linda Botts	Individual	1/14/2020	Virginia Beach, VA
Joseph Carter	Individual	1/14/2020	Stafford, VA
Matthew T Combee	Individual	1/16/2020	Richmond, VA
Sonny Saxton	Individual	1/16/2020	Charlottesville, VA
Yursa E. Kauppila	Individual	1/21/2020	San Diego, CA
Patrick Smith	Individual	1/21/2020	Suffolk, VA
Dennis Hale	Individual	1/22/2020	Dinwiddie, VA
Jeffrey Zupec	Individual	1/23/2020	Westchester, IL
Bryan L. Wade	Individual	1/28/2020	Richmond, VA
Aaron Miller	Individual	1/28/2020	Arlington, VA
Keith Chambers	Individual	1/28/2020	Chesterfield, VA
Bo Herndon	Individual	1/28/2020	Vinton, VA
Craig Bryant	Individual	2/7/2020	Buchanan, VA
Jordan Maddra	Individual	2/7/2020	Page, VA
Floyd C. Davis	Individual	2/10/2020	Denver, CO
Nicole Watson	Individual	2/4/2020	Gloucester, VA
Rachel Metz	Individual	2/6/2020	Arlington, VA
Michael Player	Individual	2/6/2020	Gloucester, VA
Robert Wagner	Individual	2/6/2020	Rockville, MD

- **Organizational:**

Member Name	Member Type	Effective Date	City
<i>City of Norfolk Office of Preparedness & Response</i>	Organizational	12/2/2019	Norfolk, VA
Custom Tree Care, Inc.	Organizational	1/23/2020	Topeka, KS
<i>City of Norfolk Office of Preparad. & Resp</i>	Organizational	1/24/2020	Norfolk, VA

- **Stage Agency**

Member Name	Member Type	Effective Date	City
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services	State Agency	11/1/2019	Richmond, VA

- **Student**

Member Name	Member Type	Effective Date	City
Brittany Ingram	Student	11/13/2019	Chesterfield, VA

Under the Executive Director's report Bo Keeney commented on various membership issues; including recruitment/retention efforts, membership numbers and the concept of formalizing a new member on-boarding process. He noted that the most recent membership recruitment campaign run by the VEMA office has netted 14 new members so far. Additionally he noted that the Hotel Roanoke has continued to present challenges related to hotel rooms, menus and general communications. He suggested that the VEMS committee meet with the hotel for a pre-conference meeting on Tuesday before VEMS officially starts. He additionally updated the board of sponsor/exhibitor activities; highlighting that VEMA obtains that most vendors of any other professional membership association for emergency managers. Lastly he reminded everyone about the next newsletter submission deadline.

Under Committee Reports various reports were provided:

- a) Conference Committee (Jennifer Maul)
 - a. Best program in years. Planning almost all done. Golf/Social sign-ups continue. Final details for event will be worked out by VEMA staff and hotel
- b) Legislative Committee (Brian Misner and Bill Lawson)
 - a. Great legislative hill day expanding the presence of Virginia's EM's. Committee will continue to look for ways to directly fund Emergency Managers
- c) Audit Committee (Sherri Laffoon)
 - a. All audits of VEMA books continue to come back soon. Staff doing a good job.
- d) Constitution / By-Laws Committee (Jeff Fletcher)
 - a. No report at this time
- e) Scholarship Committee (Benjamin Ruppert)
 - a. Tressler Scholarship – Committee will evaluate the need to change criteria and determine winners as may be appropriate. Other nominees will be reviewed by the committee soon.
- f) Membership & Marketing Committee (Danielle Progen)
 - a. Attending a few events/shows in the near future to promote VEMA and VEMS.
- g) Awards & Citations Committee (Jonathan Simmons)
 - a. Low number of applicants at this point. Will meet in the near future to review applications.
- h) Certification Committee (Michael Pruitt)
 - a. No report
- i) Nominations Committee (Walter English)
 - a. Nominations committee will meet soon to present a slate of nominees for the membership to review.
- j) VEMA Representative for National Weather Services' Storm Ready Board (Robert Foresman)
- k) Professional Development (Ad-Hoc) (Kelly Myers)
 - a. VEMA will soon begin to offer lunch and learn educational presentations
- l) Virginia Representative for EMS (Robert Foresman)

Various regional committee reports were presented:

- Items that you have been involved in as regional rep since last board meeting.
 - 1) Anthony McLean and Benjamin Ruppert - Region 1 (State EM)
 - a. Chesterfield is looking for a new coordinator. They finished conducting a table top exercise in recent months.
 - 2) Matt Embrey and Woody Brown - Region 2 (State EM)
 - 3) Maribel Street and Paul Helmuth - Region 3 (State EM)
 - a. Region 3 has been quiet in the last quarter; we have had the Sub Regional meetings on Jan 14 & 15, and the TEPW will be held on Feb 13. Paul or Maribel may have additional notes.
 - 4) Stephen Owen-Region 4 (State EM)
 - 5) Danielle Progen and William Love- Region 5 (State EM)
 - a. Name Willie Love
 - b. Any Items to note from your Region (EM's, Localities, Agencies, Etc)
 - c. "Grid Down" exercise with Va. Dept. of Health and HAM radio volunteers on January 18. Mathews and Middlesex EM's will participate with HAM volunteers.
 - d. Did you spend any VEMA money and if so, how was it utilized? NO
 - 6) Neal Turner and Tim Duffer - Region 6 (State EM)
 - 7) Jeff Fletcher and Kelly Myers - Region 7 (State EM)

Caucus/Other Reports

- 1) Institutions of Higher Education (Jared Hoernig)
 - a. Annual meeting coming soon. IHE wants to be added to legislative activities.
- 2) Student Representative (Johnathan Wheeler)
 - a. No report at this time

- 3) VOAD (Matt Comby)
 - a. No report at this time
- 4) Linda Lippa- Business/Industry
 - a. Wants to be included in legislative activities as may be appropriate.
- 5) Nicholas Drauschak- Federal Government
 - a. No report at this time
- 6) Ruth Reich- Military Affairs
 - a. No report at this time
- 7) Michelle Oblinsky- VDEM

Unfinished Business

- a) Recording of General Sessions at VEMS on a trial basis
 - a. Motion Maul/Flagler to move \$1000 from the VEMA awards dinner line item to a new line item for video recording. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- a) Motion Foresman/Fletcher to grant Ken Rudnicki and Neal Turner life membership in VEMA. Motion passed unanimously.
- b) A2Z Events made a presentation for a mobile app.
- c) The VEMA Board of Directors asked staff to look at locations in Richmond, Harrisonburg, Virginia Tech for VEMS 2023.
- d) Motion Maul/Lippa to move \$1000 from the awards dinner to the promotional item line. Motion passed unanimously.
- e) Jennifer Maul and Bo Keeney presented a VEMS "flash sale" for sponsorship opportunities that should run through the end of the week at a 20% discount. The board agreed to proceed.
- f)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Gelormine