



VERMONT EMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
VEMSAC

REPRESENTATIVES (Key: P=Present, A=Absent, T=Teleconference, V=Vacant)					
EMS District 1	A	Leonard Stell	EMS District 12	P	Forest Weyen
EMS District 2	A P	Adam Heuslein Jen Piette	EMS District 13	P	Mark Considine
EMS District 3	A	Leslie Lindquist	Vermont Ambulance Association	P	Drew Hazelton
EMS District 4	A	Scott Brinkman	Initiative for Rural EMS @ UVM (IREMS)	P	Pat Malone
EMS District 5	A P T	Michael Wright Dan Martin Brad Reed	Professional Firefighters of Vermont	A P	David Danforth Roger Gosselin
EMS District 6	A	Mark Podgwaite	Vermont Career Fire Chiefs Association	A	Robert Plante
EMS District 7	P	Charlene Phelps	Vermont State Firefighters' Association	A	Brad Carriere
EMS District 8		Eric Hannel	Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (Nurse Manager or ED Director)	V	
EMS District 9	P	Scott Cooney	The Commissioner (or designee)	P	Dan Batsie
EMS District 10	T	Jim Finger	Vermont League of Cities and Towns (Non-Hospital or Public Safety)	A	Gwen Zakov
EMS District 11	A	Aaron Sylvester			

Guests:

William Camarda, Ray Walker, Chris Bell, Dan Wolfson

Minutes

VEMSAC was called to order at 4:05 PM in the Valhalla Room at Jay Peak Resort and Conference Center by Chairperson Hazelton.

Chairman Hazelton asked for the information requested by the VTOEMS. The information was reported out as follows by Dan Batsie, EMS Chief. The data presented below is from 7-1-2017 to June 30, 2018 as requested by the committee.

Total Call Volume:

This is all call types. It was clarified later in the discussion that the best data is to include all call types, because of the lack of definition and application of call types amongst Vermont EMS Agencies. (i.e. One agency might classify a call as mutual aid, where another agency might label it as a 9-1-1 call since they were dispatched by a 9-1-1 center.)

- 2014 Incomplete due to the transition to SIREN
- 2015 90,901
- 2016 89, 331
- 2017 91,586



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- 2018 97,364

Mutual Aid:

The next question the VTOEMS was asked to answer was How often 911 calls are not covered by the 1st due provider.

The state started out by stating that this is not super reliable data, as there is not a way to determine if the primary agency is already on a call or if they were unable to respond (out of service). They also discussed the issue above with data classification.

- 2015 2,595
- 2016 2,909
- 2017 2,606
- 2018 2,136

District Response Time Data:

The next question was for the District response time data. Chris Bell stated that the previous information was submitted in earlier reports to the legislature until 2016. He stated that they typically reported response time data using a Year to Date Model with the usual submission time as late November or Early December. Chris also stated that there might be some conflict in data as previously they were reviewing calendar year data and we have now switched to fiscal year.

A question was brought up about why we were using SIREN (State Incident Reporting Network) instead of 9-1-1 CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) data and the answer by Chris Bell was that the 9-1-1 data is not great. Chris continued to state that there is no current connection between the 9-1-1 CAD And SIREN, and doubts there will be any time soon.

Mr. Bell continued saying that the data previously presented excludes First Response Agencies. This was due to a couple of reasons. 1) First Response Agencies were not required to submit data and if they were included, there would be such low numbers that they would skew the data.

Discussion ensued on what times should VEMSAC be reviewing for consistency.

- **Motion that VEMSAC uses 'Unit Notified' to 'On Scene' for reviewing response time data. Motion was made by Scott Cooney, Seconded by Charlene Phelps. All voted in favor, none opposed.**

Data Reporting:

Chairperson Hazelton reported that he received data from District 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, & 13. We have a great deal of incomplete data, with only 46 agencies reporting. There was not a standard way to receive the data, some were submitted electronically, some were mailed, some were photographed, etc. The survey was anonymous, so we can not hold agencies accountable. We can hold Districts accountable for ensuring that they have complete data.



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Chairperson Hazelton talked about workforce age, certification levels, etc. He stated that if you want data, we can pull whatever. 14 Services had an increase in age.

Jen Piette asked if we included any questions about retention. Conversation ensued about this is helping to define that exact problem.

The conversation moved to Credentialing. 13 Services has lost staff because of credentialing.

- **Motion by Forest Weyen to extend the reporting deadline to Monday, November 5th. Seconded by Pat Malone. All in favor, none opposed.**

Brad Reed stated that he had not received any surveys to send out. Chairperson Hazelton stated he would send out questionnaires and it was the responsibility of all District Representatives to get the data submitted.

Conversation ensued on what to look at in the data. Some of the conversation discussed age of providers, shift in age, loss of people. It was discussed that we could also look at that information by District. It was also discussed that we could put that information in groups by call volume.

Good of the Order:

A question arose to state are we including in the report of any agencies that have ceased operation in the last year. It was discussed this was a good idea.

Scott Cooney stated there is underlying ask behind any data we give the legislature. We need to figure out the message we are sending them. Pat Malone stated that VEMSAC was established to answer those questions.

Drew stated all previous reports will be shared with the committee.

Details on the next meeting were shared with the committee. The meeting will be held on November 8th, 2018 at CVMC Conference Room #1.

There was a question if we should be updated by the VTOEMS. There general discussion agreed to this.

There was a question of Chris Bell about the possibility of a website. Drew asked if it should be a page on the VTOEMS Website or we should have our own. The committee wants to keep everything we are doing public and transparent. Chris stated VT OEMS website is locked down, and that changes take a bit. He did state that we would probably be able to have a 'page' that could be a documentation resource, but it would be delayed in updating. Drew stated he was going to check with the Vermont Secretary of State's office to see if we can have our own website to ensure that our information is available to the public. Chris Bell stated he would check on his end if it was possible to give VEMSAC a page.



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Since minutes were not available, minutes for this meeting and our first meeting will be approved at next meeting.

Request by Drew Hazelton for any other business to come before VEMSAC. There were no responses.

- **Motion to Adjourn the meeting by Scott Cooney. Seconded by Forest Weyen. All were in Favor, none opposed. Motion Carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 PM.

NEXT MEETING: November 8, 2018 1:00 PM

LOCATION: 130 Fisher Rd, Berlin, VT 05602, Conference Room #1 (Main Entrance, Bottom of the Stairs)