**Meeting Minutes – VEMA Board of Directors**

**Monday, February 15, 2022**

In attendance were the following members:

***VEMA Board of Directors Members:***

**Voting Members:**

Bobby Gelormine

Robert Foresman

Will Flagler

Danielle Progen

Jessica Robison

Joseph Dame

Michael Guditus (Region 2)

Paul Helmuth (Region 3)

Maribel Street (Region 3)

Stephen Owen (Region 4)

Sara Snowden (Region 5)

Willie Love (Region 5)

Matt Tatum (Region 6)

Jeff Fletcher (Region 7)

Diane Hansen (Region 7)

Nicholas Drauschak (Federal Government)

Matt Combee (VOAD)

Alexander Hanna (Student Rep.)

Bo Keeney (Executive Director – Ex. Officio)

**Non-Voting Members:**

Donna Pletch

Mark Stone

Gene Stewart

Harrison Bresee

Michael Guzo

**Additional Committee Chairs**:

Bill Lawson

Todd Hubbard

Danielle Spach

Sherri Laffoon

Kelly Myers

Walter English

Michael Whiteaker

Matt Leicester

The meeting was called to order at 10:34 am by President Bobby Gelormine who presided.

All attendees were reminded about the VEMA anti-trust, conflict of interest, non-discrimination, document destruction policies as set forth as approved policy.

Under a special order of business VEMA received reports from VDEM (Erin Sutton and Dillon Taylor). In general they are busy helping the new administration get up to speed on the organization. They commented on VDEM’s priorities of building a strategic plan that allows them to build to capacity. There are a number of legislative items before the 2022 general assembly; first and foremost significant budget requests that will help VDEM build to capacity. There is also a Hampton roads assessment underway. There is also a new DSS commissioner, Dr. Danny Avula who’s working on a sheltering app.

Motion Helmuth/Foresman to accept the consent agenda as presented.

* **Reports**
* President (Gelormine)
  + Monthly VDEM Meeting Update
  + Lobby Day (discuss in New Business)
  + Emergency Management Week (discuss in New Business)
* 1st Vice President (Flagler)
* Secretary (Dame)
* Treasurer (Robison)
* Past President’s Report (Foresman)
* Symposium (Flagler)
* Constitution & Bylaws (Fletcher)
* Certification (Hubbard)
* Faith Based Caucus\* (Whiteaker)
* Membership & Marketing (Spach)
* Region 3 (Stewart)
* Region 5 (Snowden)
* Region 7 (Fletcher)
* Student Rep (Hanna)

**Motions**

* + to approve the VEMA Financial Summary of Accounts as December 31, 2021 as distributed.
  + to approve the VEMA Financial Statement as December 31, 2021 as distributed.
  + to accept the VEMA Executive Board of Directors minutes from the November 22, 2021 meeting as previously distributed
  + to approve and incorporate the VEMA Faith Based Caucus as presented
  + to accept the following as members of VEMA since November 22, 2021 as listed below
* **INDIVIDUAL**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Member Name** | **City** | **Company Name / Organizational Members / Notes** |
| Brett E. Johnson | Virginia Beach, VA | Virginia Beach EMS |
| Russell McGuire | Richmond, VA | reinstated from 9/2021 drop |
| Cari Kelson | Williamsburg, VA | reinstated from 9/2021 drop |
| Hayley Holmes | Centreville, VA | reinstated from 9/2021 drop |
| Samuel Carr | Sumner, WA | REI Co-Op |
| Patrick L. Lam | Verona, VA | Augusta County |
| Amy Cornell-Titcomb | Woodbridge, VA | Prince William County Service Authority |
| Renee Allen-Stallings | Isle of Wight, VA | Isle of Wight County |
| Jennifer L. Whytlaw | Norfolk, VA | Old Dominion University |
| Colton R. Lotts | Staunton, VA | City of Staunton |
| Stephen P. Davis | Portsmouth, VA | City of Portsmouth |
| Austin Mostoller | Richmond, VA | Richmond Ambulance Authority |
| Christopher Crabtree | Washinton, DC | US DHHS ASPR |
| Caitlin Barbieri | *not provided* | IEM |
| Teresa Scott Hogard | Stafford, VA | USDA Food Safety and Inspection Services |
| Joshua Goyet | Virginia Beach, VA | Virginia Beach Fire Department |
| John Oprandy | Charlottesville, VA | Albemarle County Department of Fire Rescue |
| Vance Cooper | Virginia Beach, VA | Virginia Beach Fire Department |
| Wayne Hoover | Colonial Heights, VA | Colonial Heights Fire, EMS, and Emergency Management |
| Hans Olsen | *not provided* | Fail Safe Technologies LLC |
| Michael Bender | Richmond, Va | City of Richmond |
| Ashleigh Makuch | Oilville, VA | EM Partners |
| Kwong T. Hui | Herndon, VA | ATCS |
| Mihai Cristian Statie | Falls Church, VA | City of Falls Church |
| Kendra Mays | Oilville, VA | Emergency Management Partners, LLC |

* **ORGANIZATIONAL**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Member Name** | **City** |
| UVAMC EM | Charlottesville, VA |
| Rappahannock Emergency Management | Washington, VA |
| Roanoke County Fire & Rescue | Roanoke, VA |
| Virginia Beach Police Department | Virginia Beach, VA |
| City of Newport News (Justin Weston) | Newport News, VA |

* **STUDENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Member Name** | **City** |
| Mel Pearson | Lebanon, VA |
| Joshua Barnes | *not provided* |

* **AFFILIATE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Member Name** | **City** |
| Chef Minute Meals | Piney Flats, TN |

**Motions considered in consent agenda approved unanimously.**

Under the Executive Director’s Report Bo Keeney commented on the VEMS 2022 Sponsorships, exhibits, registrations and hotel room pickups. He noted that the exhibit hall is sold out and sponsorships are almost sold out. He additionally noted that the VEMA membership is over 711 members from the 664 this time last year. He additionally noted that the VEMS 2025 contract will be finalized within the next few weeks. Lastly he reminded all VEMA Board members that the 2022-2023 budget funding request will be out in the next few weeks. Please keep an eye out and fill out the forms as may be appropriate.

Under Committee Reports the following reports were presented (Reports not previously submitted as a part of the consent agenda).

1. Audit Committee (Progen) – Audit committee continues to find no issues with the VEMA books. Everything is in order. Waiting on December and January to be posted.
2. Membership & Marketing Committee (Spach) – VEMS presenters who were not selected are being contacted about possible lunch and learn opportunities. Hosting a table at the 2022 Fire Conference.
3. Awards & Citations Committee (Hockett) – 26+ nominations received. Committee actively looking at all nominees.
4. Certification Committee (Hubbard) – 4 of 8 applications were rejected. Committee plans on updating some guidance to clarify the process
5. Nominations Committee (Foresman) – reminder of March 4 deadline.
6. VEMA Representative for National Weather Services’ Storm Ready Board (Foresman)
7. Professional Development (Ad-Hoc) (Myers) – met in January, looking at webinar in March. Future webinars on grants, EMAP, etc.
8. Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (English) – updating member information in near future to start tracking DEI metrics.

Under the Regional Committee Reports the following were presented:

1. Region 1 (Pletch)
   1. Inauguration and lobby day exercises. April Nascar race, requested tribal planner representative.
2. Region 2 (Stone)
   1. Madison Co. New regional coordinator, Clark county still has a vacancy, North Anna Power plant siren replacement, apple blossom festival, Marine Corp. ½ marathon.
3. Region 3 (Stewart)
   1. Maribel Street taking position at VDEM as VEST IMT, need new region 3 rep.
4. Region 4 (Estes)
   1. Local EM planning committee working on exercise
5. Region 5 (Breese)
   1. No additional Report
6. Region 6 (Guzo)
   1. Scotty Castle, interim EM Patrick Co., Water outage in Rockbridge, Co.
7. Region 7 (John)
   1. No additional report

**Under Caucus/Other Reports the following were presented.**

1. Federal Government - (Drauschak)
   1. Updated shelter locator search feature

Under unfinished business the following items were presented.

1. VEMS Covid-19 Protocols – it was decided by general consensus that VEMA would wait until 5-10 days prior to the conference
2. Letter to CMO’s, CAO’s and Delegates – Will Discuss this with VDEM at our next Monthly Meeting and begin work on drafting a letter for review – President Gelormine is working on a letter to city officials about VEMA and the corresponding benefits.
3. Website Updates – Taskforce – No report at this time.

Under New Business the following were presented.

1. Lobby Day – February 23rd. Meet at HAK before heading to the General Assembly to educate Virginia legislators on the benefits and roles of Virginia’s EM’s
2. Emergency Management Week – 3rd week in March is EM week. VEMA is looking how to best approach this from a PR standpoint. Looking to build an ad-hoc group to determine how to best implement a strategy.
3. VEMA 2022 Annual Business Meeting – by general consensus it has been determined that VEMA will hold the 2022 VEMA annual business meeting virtually on March 25th at 10:00 am or 11:00 am for a period of 1 hour.

**There being no further business, motion to adjourn Helmuth/Gelormine. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Joseph Dame, Secretary**