

VT EMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES April 20, 2020

In attendance:

Drew Hazelton

Leonard Snell

Mark Podgwaite

Jim Finger

Alan Beebee

Mark Considine

Leslie Lindquist

Michael O'Keefe, VT EMS

Brad Reed

Adam Heuslein

Ray Walker, VT EMS

Dan Batsie

*EMS Education

- Planning for online education resources that districts could share
- Plan to contract with a vendor that would provide fully loaded online course that would provide all didactic and cognitive portions of EMT course
- Contract with districts to create lesson plan/standards to complete hands-on, psychomotor and practical portions after restrictions are lifted. Testing
- Similar to what the State of Maine is doing right now
- Grants may be possible for funding, but timing could be an issue
- Special fund unspent funding – approximately \$200,000 – portion of that be used in the meantime to avoid time issues with grants
- Could be low cost course for students – voucher program for students that will work with a Vermont service?
- This will be for EMT level for starts, possibly go to AEMT at later time
- RFP will be put out – money won't be spent until more distinct plan is in place (all in favor), target start date would be in June

*Dr Cooper from DHVA

Medicaid Retainer Program

- Application period 3/27/2020 – **4/21/2020 – close of business**
- Applications reviewed weekly to offer immediate funding relief to VT providers
- Recoupment plans or timeline have not been established, will be determined after state of emergency
- Does not interfere with other funding programs
- there is some uncertainty on how or if the funds will be recouped

Additional Funding Relief

- prospective monthly payments to respond to COVID-19 expenses
- more to come on that

Provider Tax

- Additional payment schedules are being considered if the request is submitted

*2020 Protocols

- Protocols are ready and training has been written
- Training can mostly be done online except EMR splinting and surgical airways at paramedic level
- State will move forward with rolling these updates out