

Northwest Region EMS Council Retreat Minutes
September 10, 2009
The Lodge at Sherwood Village
Sequim, WA

REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:

Clallam

Karen Blore
Keith Bogues (absent)
Allen Knobbs (absent)
John Wright
Cliff Wilson

Mason

Terri Gushee (absent)
Kym Yates
Tim McKern
Terry Anderson (absent)
Richard Knight (absent)

West Olympic Peninsula

Tomi Gingell (absent)
Louise Smith
Rebecca Wilson
Patricia Hutson (absent)

Local Law Enforcement

Vacant

Local Elected Official

Leslie Scholfield

Naval Hospital Representative

Vacant

State EMS Administrator

Scott Hogan

Northwest Region EMS Staff

Anice Grant
April Borbon
René Williams

Jefferson

Jim DeCianne (absent)
Robert Moser (absent)
Colleen Rodrigues (absent)
Tim Manley (absent)
Gordon Pomeroy (absent)

Kitsap

Kim Doyle
Stan Plyler (absent)
Mary Flick
Steve Engle
Mike Wernet (absent)
Joe Repar

Medical Program Directors

Steve Churchley, MD (absent)
Joe Hoffman, MD
Sandra Smith-Poling, MD
Martin Bennett, MD (absent)

USDA Forest Service/Park Service

Vacant

Consumer Representative

Vacant

Coast Guard Representative

Vacant

Region 2 Public Health

Jessica Guidry (absent)

Visitors

Jeff Richey
Jeromy Hicks

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- I. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Tim McKern at 12:00pm.
- II. Guest Speaker—Jean Rickerson “Concussion the Invisible Injury—Sports Concussions”

Jean Rickerson gave a presentation to the group on sports concussions. Her son suffered a concussion playing football at Sequim High School and the recovery process took a long time. The CDC reports that there are more than 4 million concussions suffered by sports players each year. In Washington, 47% of sports participants have had a concussion and more than 35% have suffered two or more concussions. An article in the Seattle Times entitled ‘Second Impact’ describes the seriousness of having more than one concussion. Mrs Rickerson has coordinated two concussion workshops, one will be held for the public on September 12th at Ridgetop Junior High School in Silverdale and another will be held for medical providers at Harrison Medical Center. Dr Herring, the neurological expert that she found to help her son at the University of Washington in Seattle will be the keynote speaker at these conferences. The CDC has a ‘concussion in youth sports’ information packet for players and coaches, including an acute concussion evaluation plan. It is important that someone who receives a concussion have physical and cognitive rest after the injury. Healing times after a concussion can take months and people should not play sports again where there is the possibility of head injury until their concussion has healed. Zachary’s Law went into effect on July 1st. This law ensures that sports players in Washington state are removed from play after a concussion or head injury until they are cleared by a doctor to play again. She added that it is important to find out how many previous concussions players have had as multiple concussions can lead to long term brain damage.

- III. Approval of April 9, 2009 Minutes

Mary Flick moved to approve the April 9, 2009 minutes as presented. Dr Sandra Smith-Poling seconded the motion. Motion was called with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as presented.
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- IV. Treasurers Report

- A. FY 2009 Final

The final FY2009 Treasurer’s Report was included in the meeting packet.
All 2009 financials have been closed out and there was \$3,379 left over.

B. FY 2010 YTD

The FY 2010 YTD budget was included in the meeting packet; this document is in a new format. The updated training budgets will be provided to each county council and contracts should be out in October.

V. Chair Report

Tim McKern thanked the Executive Board for meeting in July and for helping determine the 10% budget cuts which were required to be made due to a cut in funding from the state.

VI. MPD Report

Dr Smith-Poling reported that she will attend a five-day resuscitation academy for MPDs and MSOs in October. She attended the MPD Conference in July; cardiac and stroke were the topics. She added that Jefferson County has started using their thrombolitics and stroke protocol in the hospital.

Dr Hoffman reported that the state has requested a pandemic flu protocol for the region, he has drafted a copy of this protocol and will provide it to the region.

VII. DOH Report

Scott reported that WAC changes are ongoing. EMS language has now been sent to the L & C Committee to go through their internal process. This will be followed by an economic analysis of the changes, a business impact study, and public hearings. Comments are still being accepted on the changes. The hospital designation rules changes are now going through an internal process; a public hearing on these changes will take place October 9th. The Steering Committee made changes to the trauma fund spending plan which will affect UW physicians. Trauma fund revenue has been falling which may affect grant timelines. The Steering Committee is reviewing the state Strategic Plan and looking at modifications. Regions cut their plans by 10% to meet the 10% decrease in funding by the state; the DOH staff has reviewed these changes. The senior falls program has been cut completely, there have been cuts to rural programs, a section manager position has been eliminated, the WEMESIS position was cut to half time, and there have been cuts to administrative and operational support. The DOH is busy with the H1N1 flu. Dr Smith-Poling asked if the state will provide guidance on when to implement the H1N1 protocol and if the flu packets will be provided by the county health districts; Scott will check on these things.

VIII. Airlift Northwest Report

Jeff reported that beginning September 1st, nitric oxide will be available on the helicopters for neonates. All of their new helicopters have been received.

Airlift will host their annual fall conference in October. They have contracted with AMR to provide transport of the Airlift crew for critical care services when Airlift is unable to fly.

IX. Region 2 PHEPR Update

Anice reported that the Health District has been busy with flu preparations. The next Hospital Prep meeting will be held on October 1st.

X. Naval Hospital Report

Dr Smith-Poling is now the MPD for Navy Region Northwest. Tim added that the Council's bylaws will need to be changed to reflect this name change.

XI. Coast Guard Report

No report.

XII. Olympic National Park Report

No report.

XIII. Correspondence

A. DOH—Letters for Reappointment to NWREMS Council

1. Cliff Wilson
2. Tim Manley
3. Kim Doyle

Copies of DOH appointment/reappointment letters to the regional Council were included in the meeting packet for Cliff Wilson, Tim Manley, and Kim Doyle.

B. DOH—Letters of Expiration for Council Appointment

1. Joe Hoffman
2. Al Knobbs
3. Colleen Rodrigues
4. Kym Yates

Copies of DOH letters of expiration for council appointment were included in the meeting packet for Joe Hoffman, Al Knobbs, Colleen Rodrigues, and Kym Yates.

C. August and September What's Happening Newsletter

Copies of the August and September 'What's Happening' newsletters were included in the meeting packet as an FYI.

D. Region 2 Healthcare Coalition News and Events

A copy of the most recent Region 2 Healthcare Coalition Bulletin was included in the meeting packet as an FYI.

E. DOH—Appointment of Anice Grant to Outcomes TAC

A copy of a letter from the DOH appointing Anice Grant to the Outcomes TAC was included in the meeting packet.

F. DOT—Thank You from Department of Transportation

A letter from the DOT thanking the Northwest Region Council for assisting with the planning process for the Hood Canal Bridge closure was included in the meeting packet.

G. DOH—Approval of 2009-2012 Trauma Plan

A letter from the DOH approving the Northwest Region's 2009-2012 Trauma Plan was included in the meeting packet. The region still needs a letter of approval from the DOH for the 10% cuts that were made to the plan.

H. DOH—Changes in Initial Certification Application Process

A copy of a letter from the DOH outlining changes in the initial certification application process was included in the meeting packet. Cliff was concerned about the additional requirement of NIMS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses in order to become certified.

XIV. Unfinished Business

A. NREMT-B Update

This group has not met recently. Anice reported that a new initial certification test had been issued but a new re-take test has not been issued by the state. Beginning January 1st, the NREMT-B test will be required instead of the state issued test.

XV. New Business

A. FY 2010 Meeting Calendar

A copy of the FY 2010 Meeting Calendar was included in the meeting packet.

XVI. Staff Reports

A. Operations

1. Exhibit B

Anice provided copies of the 2009-2012 Exhibit B. Green shaded areas are parts of the report that the office is currently working on.

B. Prevention

April provided a written report of the prevention activities that had taken place over the summer. DUI Panels are ongoing and continue to have over 100 participants each month. The region now has to charge for bicycle helmets since funding is no longer available; the cost is \$5 per helmet.

C. Training Report

René reported that she is working with the state Pediatrics TAC and Steve Engle to establish pediatric guidelines. The L & C and Training and Education TAC meetings are coming up.

XVII. Committee Reports

A. Executive/Funding Committee

This group met in July to make a cut of 10% to the budget.

B. TED Committee

This group met today. This committee needs more participation including the training coordinators for each county and MSOs if possible. The Geriatrics Conference will be held on January 23 and 24 at the Clearwater Resort. Topics of the conference will be falls, stroke and other topics. There will be skills stations and a SEI Workshop will be held on Sunday after the conference. The Paramedic Refresher course will be held annually until it is no longer needed; the next class will be in October. The class will be held over two weekends at NKFR.

C. QI Committee

This group met today. They discussed falls data from the hospitals. They discussed conference dates and hope to hold the conference in April or May instead of June next year. More participation is requested.

D. IPPE Committee

As one of the region's deliverables, they need to have an active IPPE (Injury Prevention) Committee. Their first meeting was today. Tim asked

for more participation in this committee from the group, including fire prevention staff if possible.

XVIII. Local Council Reports

A. Clallam County

They did not meet in August. They are working on an ALS OTEP program, a draft will be available in September. They will hold an EMT class in October. Peninsula Community College will be a NREMT testing site. They are finalizing agency contracts for council support.

B. Jefferson County

They will hold an EMT course in January. A group goes from Jefferson County to participate in the Tuesday series and other training classes at Harborview.

C. Kitsap County

They are currently holding EMT, PALS, ACLS, and IV-Tech courses.

D. Mason County

They are revising their bylaws. The EMT class was cancelled due to low attendance; this course will be held in the spring. They will approve their budget soon. They will approve their stroke protocol soon. There will be a BLS Evaluators workshop with Kitsap County in October.

E. West Olympic Peninsula

Their Council will meet next month. There will be EMT-B and ILS courses held in Forks and Clallam Bay.

XIX. Other

The next meeting will be held on November 12, 2009. At this meeting the nominating committee and the bylaws committee will be activated.

XX. Adjourn

Jeremy Hicks moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:55pm. Mary Flick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
