

NORTHWEST REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Appvd. March 11, 2021



REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE via conference call:

CLALLAM

¹ Keith Bogues, *Chair*
^{1A} Daniel Montana absent
² Trisha Duerr absent
^{2A} Jake Patterson
¹¹ Joseph Rodrigues, *At Large*
²⁶ Branton Byers absent
⁸⁵ Derrell Sharp absent
^{85A} Karl Hatton absent

MASON

⁸⁷ Brandon Searles, *Secretary/Treasurer*
^{5A} Matthew Welander absent
⁵ Michael Sexton
⁶ Tamarah Hoffman absent
¹³ Greg Yates
²⁸ Sabrina Nelson
^{28A} Kristyn Criss absent

WEST OLYMPIC PENINSULA

¹⁰ Louise Smith
¹⁵ Timothy Wade, *At Large*

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

⁶⁵ Sky Sexton absent

OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

⁶⁰ Kristin Kirschner

CONSUMER REP

⁷⁰

VISITORS

Andrew Clemens, Life Flight
Greg Waters

JEFFERSON

³ Brad Martin, *Past Chair*
⁴ Tim Manly absent
¹² Tim McKern
²⁷ Sarah Schadler
^{3A} Tammy Ridgway absent

KITSAP

⁷ Eric Chamberlian absent
⁸ Matt Million
²⁹ Mary Flick
⁸⁸ Kim Petersen absent

MEDICAL PROGRAM DIRECTORS

⁴⁷ Dr. David Carlbom absent
⁴⁸ Dr. Joe Hoffman, *Vice Chair*
⁴⁹
⁴⁶ Dr. Danielle Whitley absent

NAVY REGION NW

⁶²

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL

⁵⁵

COAST GUARD

⁶¹

PUBLIC HEALTH/PREPAREDNESS

⁷⁵ Elya Baltazar

NWREMS STAFF

René Ralston
Lori Coleman, minute taker

STATE EMS ADMINISTRATOR

Hailey Thacker
Jason Norris

NORTHWEST REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Approved March 11, 2021

Chair Keith Bogues called the Northwest Regional EMS Council meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. via the Google Meet Virtual Platform.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tim McKern moved and Matt Million seconded to approve the January 14, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

REGULAR BUSINESS

Chair Report – Chair, Keith Bogues, reported that: Nothing to report this meeting.

Treasurer's Report – René Ralston reported on: Profit and Loss Statements for January and February FY 21 YTD; Bank Balance as of 2/28/2021 was \$54,968.95. Joey Rodrigues moved and Chief Brad Martin seconded to approve the Profit and Loss statement as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MPD Report – Dr. Hoffman reported that they have held their quarterly MPD meeting; he does not have a date yet for the next one. And as many other agencies are doing, he is finding that Mason and Kitsap county EMS entities are heavily focused on vaccine delivery in their respective areas.

DOH Report – Report was attached to packet; DOH representative Hailey Green briefly went over highlights of that report:

- House Bill 1276, defining ESSO's, including diversion centers, that can employ EMT's passed.
- SSB 5074, Safe Station Pilot Program and SB 5198, Personnel on Ambulances in Rural Areas are still being closely followed by the DOH.
- THE EMS Rulemaking has reviewed 33 sections of EMS rules and are drafting a proposed amendments document in formal format; this will be forwarded to stakeholders for their review.
- WEMSIS Rulemaking Webinar will be held on March 15th, 2021 from 2-4pm.

Airlift Medical –

Airlift Northwest reported that: No Report.

Life Flight: Andrew Clemens reported that the new aircraft is going smoothly. They are working on gathering data for their on-scene times to evaluate and see if there are areas that could be addressed to reduce on-scene times as much as possible; with that, they hope to do additional training with EMS agencies focusing on hot loading.

Region 2 PHEPR Update/Northwest Healthcare Response Network – Elya Baltazar reported that: she continues to work on helping counties understand what DMCC's are and are not, helping them identify what facilities could be DMCC's for their respective areas, and how to initiate the conversations with those hospitals for the inquiring parties. She has identified that the DOH does not have requirements that counties identify DMCC's. Chief Martin reported that the need that was trying to be met was for counties to identify receiving facilities for MCI preparations; EMS has been more focused on where to divert patients as related to actual processes. Elya reported that she has identified that facilities that are DMCC's are willing to share information to help other entities with their planning. Dr. Hoffman added that Kitsap has rolled out their MCI plans and this is sparking

interest with St. Michaels to collaborate so they have an understanding of what may occur during a local MCI.

Dr. Hoffman asked Elya if mental health facilities use WA Track? He stated that knowing where beds were available would help the whole HealthCare system. She reported that they have access to use WA Track, but it is up to the individual entity to do so. She also reported that she has heard that many LTC facilities do not want to use it; she does not know the reasoning. Joey Rodrigues added that it would be very helpful if they used WA Track for when EMS agencies have Ricky's Law and Substance Abuse patients they are caring for, he reported that currently EMS used the hospitals to make these arrangements, but that it would be nice for them to have this data for those patients as well.

Olympic Nation Park – Kristin Kirschner was present but has no Report.

Law Enforcement – No Report.

Correspondence –

- A. DOH** – Current Council list was included in the packet; Chair Bogues reported that he submitted Greg Waters application to be a Pre-Hospital Rep and asked René for a status update. She was unaware of this and will research her e-mail and forward on the application.
- B. West Mason Fire – ALS Transport, Min/Max changes** – René and Dr. Hoffman understand the path to get this approved and are working with West Mason to start the process.
- C. Jefferson County to use Non-Medically Trained Transport personnel** – Jefferson County FD #5 applied for and has been approved to use non-medically trained personnel as trained ambulance drivers and documentation was included in the packet today.
- D. Mason County Merger** – Paperwork has been submitted and approved by the DOH.

Unfinished Business –

- A. DMCC** – Addressed earlier under PHEPR report.
- B. 1721** – DOH continues to track progress on this bill.
- C. 2021-2023 Region Plan** – Was submitted to DOH, they have reviewed and send back comments and suggestions. René will go through the document and add in those suggestions and comments to forward to a review committee. The review committee will consist of one member from each county identified today as Chief Martin, Greg Yates, Dr. Hoffman and Derrell Sharp; subject to change upon availability. The committee will review and give final comments and suggestions to the Executive Board for final review. Tim McKern moved and Joey Rodrigues seconded to allow the executive Board to have the final review before submitting to the DOH. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- D. Pocket Version Completed and Formatted** – René finished this project and it is already in use.
- E. Identify Clinical Ride Sites** – Clallam, Mason and Kitsap have provided information thus far; Chair Bogues asked that all entities that are interested in either being an ALS or BLS ride site submit their intents for data collection; This information will be used by schools to facilitate student practicals.

New Business –

- A. Payables** – Chair Bogues reported that he would like this council to consider allowing René to process accounts payable on an “as needed basis”, not quarterly as it has been done in the past. He would like the council to be able to advance training grant funding to local councils in a timelier manner so they can budget more effectively when using their grant funds. Mary Flick moved and Tim Wade seconded to allow René to process payables on an “as needed basis”, while maintaining adequate funding in reserves, as funding allows.

MOTION CARRIED.

Strategic Plan -

- A.** By January 2021, the region will encourage and/or develop a Regional standard for clinical ride sites by developing a best practice to standardize field internship student participation. (unfinished business)
 - a. Many county entities have responded to René regarding this; those that haven’t are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.
- B.** By March 2021, the region council will request each county council review the verified prehospital services min/max numbers.
 - a. Clallam County has verified their; the other counties are still in progress.
- C.** By Annually, the Regional Council shall conduct a survey to identify all activities and programs provided by member agencies that impact the occurrence of and/or reduce the incidence of injuries, violence and illness within the region.
 - a. René has reported on this.
- D.** By May 2021, the region and county councils will develop summary report and written recommendations, which may increase prehospital data submission to the WEMISIS/CARES. *
 - a. The DOH provided data submission reports to MPD’s; many have shared this with providers. Almost all agencies are moving to ESO, so the group predicts that the reporting statistics will increase as this occurs.

Committee Reports –

- A. Executive Funding** – No Report.
- B. QI Committee** – Met today with the focus being on Pediatric Patients; a presentation was given by Steve Bowman. Pediatric volumes are low state wide with only Mason county increasing. The next meeting will be in May and will focus on mass transfusions. There will not be a QI Conference due to COVID.
- C. IPPE Committee** – No Report.
- D. Protocol Committee** – No Report.
- E. TED Committee** – No Report.
- F. Nomination Committee** - Nominations will open in September of 2021.
- G. State TAC/Steering Committee** – Chair Bogues reported that he has been unable to attend these meetings. René Reported that the RAC will meet next week, the last RAC meeting was regarding contract review and the upcoming one will focus on contract language review with the DOH. The Pre-Hospital TAC is meeting, they shared Grant funding presentations

and reported that Central Washington University has extended their pilot program for EMS education.

H. Local Council Reports/System Panning and Development Issues EMS & Hospital –

- a. Clallam – EMS** - Is finishing up an EMT Program now and will host another in the Spring; the county is all in transition to ESO; First Responder Vaccines for those who wanted to participate have occurred and Joey Rodrigues asked for help with setting up ESO and OMC's Date Health Extension (HDE) if anyone has insight, please contact him.
- b. Jefferson – Hospital** - Jefferson General is under the umbrella of Providence and they are working to get their HDE set up and they purchased the reporting component of ESO; the hospital has had low volumes overall with elective surgeries being resumed and the ED has seen an uptick in Mental Health patients. **EMS** - Chief Martin reported that the Jefferson ER director resigned and there is an interim director as of now; there has not been a real need for the CISM team; Dr. Carlom has done a great job with bringing up EMS morale across the county and is doing some in-person trainings as well; Jefferson County is holding some vaccine clinics and will likely hold some mass vaccination clinics too; a hybrid EMT class is underway now and they are working with the DOH on EMT-A and EMT-IV (with Supraglottic endorsements) applications for hosting these classes.
- c. Kitsap – Hospital** - CHI Franciscan has merged with Virginia Mason; they have reopened the Silverdale ER to care for overflow patients; they have vaccine clinics underway, and the Bremerton Helipad is operational. **EMS** – They are finishing an EMT class and will host another one in September; their website is under construction; they completed 2 Evaluator courses and will host another one in March; they will host a Difficult Airway class online with in-person practicals; IV Tech course coming up in May with applications being due by April 30th; they host ALS Podcasts on Spotify and they have seen an uptick in Mental Health Care patients in South Kitsap and are working with local agencies to tackle this issue; they believe this is about 15% of their overall call volume.
- d. Mason – Hospital** – Working on vaccine clinics, EMS is trying their best to fill standby for these events and the ED volume overall is down. **EMS** – Hosted a Supraglottic and Difficult Airway course; Have an Evaluator course coming up and Tamara Hoffman has resigned and is only with Kitsap now.
- e. West Olympic – EMS** – Tim Wade received his SEI certification; they have vaccine clinics underway and they are working on their ESO HDE program too.
- f. Communications** – Clallam and Jefferson are working on CAD upgrades that will be Cloud Based.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Zoom – Everyone agrees that they like Zoom as the new meeting platform.
- Tim McKern asks members who have been successful in receiving funding for COVID expense to share their resources with others; many agencies are struggling to keep up with PPE demand. Matt Million, from South Kitsap offered a few suggestions and encouraged interested parties to reach out to him, they have been very successful with receiving grant funding during the Pandemic.

Next meeting is May 13th, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Matt Million moved and Tim McKern seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:43.