

NORTHWEST REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Appvd, September 10, 2020



REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE via conference call:

CLALLAM

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

MASON

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

WEST OLYMPIC PENINSULA

¹⁰ Louise Smith absent
¹⁵ Timothy Wade, **At Large**

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

⁶⁵ Sky Sexton

OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

⁶⁰ Kristin Kirschner

CONSUMER REP

⁷⁰

VISITORS

Casey Schein, Life Flight
Stephen Lemay, ALNW

JEFFERSON

³ Brad Martin, **Past Chair** Excused
⁴ Tim Manly
¹² Tim McKern
²⁷ Sarah Schadler
^{27A} Cindy Kratochil
⁸⁶ Karl Hatton absent

KITSAP

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

MEDICAL PROGRAM DIRECTORS

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

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

Christy Camarata
Catie Holstein
Mary Whittington
Vince Hlavaty

NORTHWEST REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Appvd., September 10, 2020

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

Matt Million moved and Mary Flick seconded to approve the May 14, 2020, Regular Meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

REGULAR BUSINESS

Chair Report – Chair, Keith Bogues, reported that:

- He appreciates everyone attending as he recognizes that we are enduring challenges that are unprecedented; as he stated, it's been quite an interesting year!
- He welcomed Dr. Carlbom; Dr. Carlbom is replacing Sr. Sandra Smith-Poling.
- Unused training funds for the 2019-20 fiscal year are being rolled over to the 2020-2021 budget.
- Members of the Executive Board wrote a letter to Legislators requesting that funding not be cut the Poison Control Center in Washington; the letter stated that the proposed funding cuts will likely further burden already overwhelmed EMS systems in Washington by losing a critical link in the Healthcare System.

Treasurer's Report – René Ralston reported on: Profit and Loss Statements for May 2020 to August 2020, FY 20 & 21 YTD; Bank Balance as of 8/31/2020 was \$11,615.63. She reported that the low balance is due to the fact that the DOH is significantly delayed in paying out the contract payments at this time; she reported that the NWREMS Council has 5 weeks reserve at this time. The DOH reported that all contracts are delayed right now due to COVID, many employees are working reduced hours, from home and/or may be furloughed. Michael Sexton moved and Tim Manly seconded to approve the Profit and Loss statement as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MPD Report – Dr. Hoffman welcomed Dr. Carlbom as the new MPD for Jefferson County. Dr. Carlbom added that he is happy to be a part of this region and has an open door policy; he asks that anyone who wants to reach out to do so. Dr. Hoffman also reported that the Annual June MPD meeting will be held online in October.

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

- Rulemaking Meeting September 17th, 2022 at 0930; Webinar only.
- WEMSIS Rulemaking in in process for EMS reporting requirements signed into law in 20198; Stakeholder have an opportunity to weigh in on Washington Administration Code in October.
- They have updated their Washington State EMS Skills and procedures List based on recent Nation scope of practice models. Although local protocols have to be followed some revisions include EMS conducting COVID testing, respiratory evaluations for Farmers and using EMS at diversion facilities.

Airlift Medical –

Airlift Northwest reported that: are in the middle of a “flight Physicians” program; this is where new Physicians will be riding with them for experience.

Life Flight reported that they now have a new base in Walla Walla.

Region 2 PHEPR Update/Northwest Healthcare Response Network – Elya Baltazar reported that: her role with PHERP is as a planning sections Chief. She is responsible for pulling data from across the state. They are watching COVID very closely and assessing needs as they arise. They are working on surge plans and Long Term Care patients. She reported that they are doing all meeting remotely at this time. After researching it was identified that Clallam and Jefferson Counties have not had a designated DMCC. St. Michaels (formerly Harrison) has always been the DMCC for Kitsap County. She advised that Clallam and Jefferson need to pull together stakeholders and start the conversation about who they would like for their respective DMCC’s. Dr. Hoffman reported that he has been through this process and he gave an overview of what needs to occur to initiate this process. Dr, Carlbom encouraged counties to proactively acquire resource lists at a minimum. Elya has templates that she can share to help with tracking resources. The DOH reported that they do not have any DMCC support but that they are working on statewide standards for EMS Crisis Standards of Care. No report from PHEPR

Olympic Nation Park – Kristin Kirschner reported: she is new to her position and looks forward to being a part of this council. The park is coming off of their busy season; which she reported did not slow down due to COVID. She recognized that the park does not have mutual aid agreements with local agencies and she will work to get that rectified. She was very thankful or the EMS support received this year even without said agreements.

Law Enforcement – Sky Sexton reported that: LE is tracking overdoses, they have been on a decline for about 7 months; likely due to bystanders administering Naloxone. They have added two new social workers to their workforce and graduated new reserves.

Correspondence –

- A. **DOH** - René handed out and asked everyone to review the council list. Applications need to be turned in directly to René.
- B. **Poison Control Letter** – Keith briefed on this during Chair report.
- C. **Protocol Approval** – The protocols have been approved by the DOH, Keith is looking into ordering flip books; let him know how many your department needs if you want to order.
- D. **CCFD4 Approval for non-medically trained ambulance operators** letter received from DOH

Unfinished Business –

- A. **2021-2023 Region Plan** – SHB 1721 allows for alternative transport facilities; René and Dr. Hoffman has been working on draft agreements that would allow for this.

New Business –

- A. **2021-2023 Region Plan** – The plan needs to be updated; in the past this has been split among the counties. Members agreed to keep the same process. René will send out the sections to local region council chairs that their council will be in charge of reviewing. They will be reviewed at the next meeting and should be returned to René by November 1.
- B. **Fy21 Training Grant Requests** – René is working on this; they will likely be delayed due to DOH contractual payment delays.

Strategic Plan – (See New business)

Committee Reports –

- A. **Executive Funding** – No Report.
- B. **QI Committee** – Mary Flick reported that they met this morning for case reviews.
- C. **IPPE Committee** – No Report.
- D. **Protocol Committee** – No Report.
- E. **TED Committee** – No Report.
- F. **Nomination Committee** - Nominations will open in September.
- G. **State TAC/Steering Committee** – Meeting have all been held virtually. Keith reported having attended the Pre-Hospital TAC. Katie from the DOH reported that they are working on an EMS proposal for Diversion centers; these are for chemical and mental health facilities. She also advised that comments for rulemaking can be submitted through their website and that WEMIS reporting starts in October.
- H. **Local Council Reports/System Planning and Development Issues EMS & Hospital** –
 - a. **Clallam** – Spring EMT class was cancelled due to COVID; they are planning for a fall, winter and spring class now. There is no QI conference being planned at this time. Keith is working on ordering protocol flip books. The whole county is moving to ESO and have modified their training to the EMS Connect platform for monthly lectures and will fully transition at the first of the year. Olympic Ambulance has stood up a Spanish speaking translation group if anyone has needs, let them know; another resource for this is North Olympic Library Service and AT&T has a language assist program.
 - b. **Jefferson** – An EMT class will be held in January; this will be a hybrid class. Dr. Carlborn is their new MPD. They transitioned to ESO last February, he recommended contacting Cindy at Jefferson General if other entities want to prevent connection issues. They also transitioned to EMS connect. Port Ludlow Fire Rescue is hiring for a FF/PM position.
 - c. **Kitsap** – ST. Michaels had a COVID outbreak in their hospital; staff have been tested and will continue to be tested weekly in affected units. All patients are single occupancy at this time. The new campus is set to open on November 14th of 2020. EMT Class is postponed until January 4th at this time. They will be hosting an IV Tech class in the spring. 2 evaluator courses will be held in Mason County. ALS and PALS have been put on hold Tamara Hoffman is their Kitsap County Training Officer. They reported that Kitsap, Mason and Thurston counties have been collaborating very well.
 - d. **Mason** – They have the BioFire testing at their hospital which allows for fast test results. Their training calendar has been published; their BLS OTEP program is going well and they are almost ready to publish 4th quarter with the 2021 courses being developed. Their EMT Class in December will be a hybrid class as well as their EMR class. They just finished an EMS evaluator class. Protocol testing is nearing completion
 - e. **West Olympic** – They reported that they have been experiencing ambulance issues with a few major breakdowns. They have also transitioned to EMS Connect and will transition to ESO as well. They reported that their volunteers are suffering from burnout. They voiced concerns they have been having with Pearson VUE Testing and not being able to get new EMT's tested.
 - f. **Communications** – Keith reported that Karl Hatton is only with Clallam PenCom now and that Ted Krynski is the interim director for JeffCom.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Dr. Carlbom asked about ST. Michaels being on divert and if that happens again if more than one patient can be transported in a vehicle at one time. She stated that there are no policies that prevent this, however one would have to make a good argument that there was a clear necessity for doing so. She also recommended that workgroup be formed to create a policy that would guide this type of decision making. She reported that the DOH does not have any regulatory framework or policy on diversions; Matt Million recommended that each entity seek guidance from their legal counsel on this.
- Next meeting is November 12th, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Joseph Rodrigues moved and Tim Wade seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:23.