

DRAFT- PIERCE COUNTY EMS COUNCIL MINUTES

GoToMeeting – 9:30am

July 23, 2020

Attendance:

Membership Attendance Roster on File

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am by Kelsey Petersen. Roll was called from the roster and guests were noted from the GTM attendee list. Previous meeting minutes were noted as being provided electronically; motion to accept, seconded and approved as written.

Treasurers Report, Karmela Palmer, Secretary-Treasurer:

Karmela Palmer presented the Treasurer reports from January through June 2020, they were approved as presented.

Program Reports:

A. MPD/Base Station, Dr. Waffle, MD, MPD

Discussion was held at the MPD Base Station/ALS Training Physician meeting this morning regarding EMS agencies possibly being able to transport psychiatric patients directly to Wellfound Behavioral Health hospital. It is not available as of yet, but discussion is happening around the transport details and criteria.

Madigan Army Medical Center is no longer a Base Station. Good Samaritan and St. Anthony hospitals are currently covering the area. St. Joseph Hospital has expressed interested in being a base station. A meeting will be scheduled, and a proposal will be brought to the EMS Council in the near future.

B. Committees:

Training & Development, Patsy Maloney – The committee met on May 27, 2020. The development of new protocol training packages were assigned. There is hope that the PAM curriculum update will be completed by next week's meeting. OTEP live trainings have resumed as long as social distancing is in place.

Operations – No representative present.

CQI, Ryan McGrady – Ryan gave a summary to Norma Pancake to report. The committee has been working with Gena Kreiner, Stroke Coordinator- MHS, who is saying that pre-arrival information is not being consistently/correctly reported. A brief report will be presented at next week's meeting. Falck will be presenting a case review at next week's meeting. Ryan also will be providing a report regarding a train incident where there was exposure to COVID-19.

Protocol, Sam Yount – Norma Pancake presented the Protocol update. There have been some changes to the protocols which are being fine tuned. We received the alternative medications list back from the state with approval and will be reported at next week's meeting. The mental health protocol was returned from the state with some suggestions

which have been reviewed and corrected by Mr. Quinn the FD legal advisor. The final protocol was reformatted and forwarded back to the state for approval.

Community Access to Care Committee, Dr. Waffle – Due to other priorities, there is no report at this time.

C. Tacoma-Pierce County Health, ~~Cindy Miron~~ Chelsey Bell

The health department has been focused on the COVID situation and testing. They have been working on building capacity. There has been big growth with contact tracing. A lot of their focus has been on guidance of when to release patients from quarantine. Nigel Turner of TPCHD responded to Russ McCallion's question about new concern that COVID is more airborne versus droplet; "A recent WHO report: <https://www.who.int/news-room/commentaries/detail/modes-of-transmission-of-virus-causing-covid-19-implications-for-ipc-precaution-recommendations> found that COVID19 was spread primarily through droplets and recommended standard and droplet precautions for those caring for COVID patients except for specific aerosol generating procedures. No need to change PPE for routine care."

D. West Region EMS Council, Norma Pancake, WR Council Chair

The WSEMSIS SWOT analysis done at previous PCEMS meetings was forwarded to the WREMS Council. One of this year's Strategic Plan strategies is a review of pre-hospital agencies min/max numbers. As in the past, there will be an ad-hoc Operations Cmte workgroup who will bring this to the PCEMS Council for review/approval.

E. Department of Emergency Management, Jody Ferguson

We have been enjoying our fifth month in the unified operation center in great partnership with TPCHD and other agencies. The health department has done a great job with community engagement and outreach. They are also staffing up their contact tracing. We are seeing more people visiting the temporary care centers for isolation and quarantine. There was a recent visit to the new PPE warehouse which is located in Fife. We are working on building a stockpile locally, so we have less of an impact on our EMS/Hospitals as time goes on. More testing supplies are being delivered today to the warehouse for the stockpile. An agreement was recently signed, as part of the CARES Act funding, so those at home can get what they need. The testing trailers have been active, providing the chance to the citizens in outlying areas to receive testing. Results from testing is coming back in 2 to 3 days. Translation services are also being provided at the testing sites. The testing schedule is available on the TPCHD website. Some events are closed (like the shelters or jail) but no one is turned away from the rest of the locations as it is free, and no appointments are necessary.

Fire season is here, there are also earthquakes in the news, and it is hurricane season as well. Our Washington State Task Force is ready to respond if needed. We are available to provide anything EMS/Fire agencies need.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

A. NW Ambulance Service ALS License Upgrade:

Jordan Stopsen gave an overview of the upgrade proposal for NW Ambulance. They are applying for a verified ALS license in addition to their current interfacility license. A motion was made and

seconded to approve this proposal. Discussion was held. A list of agencies identified as unserved or underserved was reviewed and is attached as a separate document. The WAC and WREMS Strategic Plan was reviewed relative to requirements to be met. In voting, both Kevin Heindel/AMR and Aaron Karejwa/Falck voted 'no', however, only Kevin Heindel's vote was counted representing Private Ambulance on the council. The motion carried and the recommendation will be forwarded to West Region. Norma will send NWA the list of underserved/unserved areas that need to have agreements/contracts/response plans established for.

B. Madigan Army Medical Center Base Station/DMCC Replacement:

As previously discussed, Madigan is no longer a Base Station. Good Samaritan and St. Anthony hospitals are currently covering Base Station. Madigan was also the Alternate DMCC for Pierce County. Future discussions will include recognizing an Alternate DMCC.

Unscheduled Business: None

Announcements: None

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned @ 10:22 am.