

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2024, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, Josh Ambach, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Chris Gibbar, Tom Jenkins, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Anne Raven, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek

Guest Present

Liz Ciais, Jacob Grant, Treena Russel, Deanna Jones, Lindsey Payton, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Jaclyn Numata, Hailey Karnitz, Tim Loncon, Kara Welchel, Joey Rodriquez, Logan Sargent

EMS Officer Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of May 2024 Meeting Minutes

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

- Hospital Status Report:
  - Providence: Lindsay Payton introduced Liz Ciais, the new ED manager for Holy Family. Hospitals are preparing for busy summer months and Providence is working on an active shooter exercise and evacuation trainings. Outside agencies are welcome to join. Please contact Lindsay if interested.
  - Multicare: no report.
- BLS Report: Tom Chavez reported the protocol committee is continuing to work on finding interested BLS providers to be involved in protocol work, as the protocol committee will begin editing protocols to clearly identify provider level skills and interventions. The BLS report will be included under reports for future meetings to be included each month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

- Financial reports for May 2024

Jack shared the reports to the group.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the financial reports.
- Strategic Planning Update

The Executive committee met last month to discuss strategic planning options for the EMS Council which will be discussed at next month's meeting with the initial review of the 2025 budget.
- Funding Requests
  - Protocol Manual work group  
Dr. Travis Dierks submitted the request for \$10,000 for a protocol workgroup of 6 providers to receive a monthly stipend over a 12-month time frame to update all Spokane County EMS protocols to a new user-friendly template that clearly defines BLS, AEMT, and Paramedic skills and interventions. The Protocol committee chair, Tom Chavez, suggested that the workgroup report to the protocol committee who would then report to the EMS Council and the Medical Program Director. Tom also stated that protocol updates are currently being sent to the Dept. of Health for approval twice per year and

asked when these updates would be submitted in addition to other protocol updates, and the group agreed to follow the same process of submitting revised protocols in bulk every 6 months.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the Protocol Manual Work group funding request. A vote was taken and was unanimously approved. A link will be emailed for providers to sign up.

- **Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol Lucas Device**

The request was sent by Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol for the purchase of a LUCAS device for the ski resort due to the impossibility of rescuers delivering effective compressions inside a rescue toboggan during emergency transport, and for extended CPR times due to ALS delays to the mountain. Following discussion, the group agreed that this request does not meet the requirement to benefit all Spokane County agencies, and it was suggested to follow up with the sender to advise inquiring about grant funding for non-profit organizations.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to deny the funding request with the amendment to deny with recommendations and guidelines to request grant funding, as the EMS Council does not purchase individual agency devices. A vote was taken and was unanimous to deny the request.

## REPORTS:

- **EMS WAC Revision:** Dr. Jim Nania stated there have been no recent meetings. Jim Akramoff stated that the CR 102 was updated and that training centers were added back in for continued certification for providers that are working specifically at a training facility.
- **Inland Empire Fire Chiefs:** Chris Wyrobek reported that there is a communication revision in the County FOG that is out for discussion which includes changing helicopter ambulance ground coordination to red net as a practice during fire season. More details will be shared once the revision is finalized. The training group is continuing to work on a rescue task force training that will be available to everyone, and the group is preparing for wildland fire season.
- **SREC Board:** Cody Rohrbach spoke about the history of SREC which was created to form a regional dispatch center for the entire county and includes almost all agencies except for Spokane Police Department. SREC and City of Spokane are reaching a decision of whether City of Spokane will join the regional center or go on their own, which could result in another dispatch center being built. There has been a 3-month extension for a decision which will put them into August. City of Spokane has concerns regarding the regional center's board governance, service levels and finances and have requested 60% of board composition based on population and call volumes. Chief Rohrbach explained that the board composition is created by the Board of Commissioners, but that City of Spokane has requested that SREC board submit a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners if they are willing to adjust the composition. The remaining SREC board members do not desire any majority shareholders and Chief Rohrbach explained that he represents the EMS Council on the SREC Board and asked for input from the group relating to board composition and intends to bring input back to the board. The group discussed, and shared apprehensions of if two dispatch centers would provide the highest level of service, as call transfers would likely have to take place again, and that different dispatch centers would follow different practices. There was also concern that currently, agencies do not get SPD information because SPD has their own dispatch which has put providers at risk when arriving on scene without prior notice of a dangerous situation. Chief Rohrbach explained that that agency's service is based on the service level agreement that they have with SREC, and that there is a solution to concerns if agencies discuss their needs with SREC. The board is determined to reach a decision by August to plan for funding the new CAD system, building and relocating to a new facility, and to figure out the future regarding 911 excise tax dollars and where those funds will go. Chief Rohrbach will take back the recommendation that board composition should remain equitable with no majority shareholders.
- **East Region EMS & TCC:** Tamara Drapeau stated that the next meeting is June 12<sup>th</sup>, and they

will be reviewing the annual budget as June marks the end of their fiscal year. Also, will discuss trauma services analysis which will be required to be completed every 2 years.

- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that the MRC Coordinator position was filled by Ginifer Wallace.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff reported that all paramedic students are currently completing clinicals in hospitals, and AEMTs will also be doing clinicals as part of their accreditation which will require clinical hours. Applications for the next cohort beginning in October and will be accepted until the end of June, and testing will begin in July.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - CARES data report. Dr. Nania gave a summary of the 2023 CARES data and encouraged agencies to submit their data.

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS: None**

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez**

- Protocol Committee update: The Protocol Committee meeting was rescheduled to meet following the QI Committee. The SALT triage protocol was sent to the WA Department of Health for approval and was sent back with questions. Tom is addressing the questions and will resubmit. Tom reminded the group that Spokane County is switching to SALT Triage and that agencies will complete individual in house training this year, and a county wide drill will take place in 2025 to include all transport and hospital partners, and the DMCC. An update will be shared once the SALT triage protocol is approved by the DOH.
- Handtevy Update: Tom shared that Handtevy has finalized the EMS Council account as the parent account to allow Tom to update the account which then updates all sub accounts as well. Handtevy is now working on getting all individual agencies an agency level administrator to make agency specific edits.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for June
  - June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 1800 "Don't Be Wheezy: Strategies for Allergy and Anaphylaxis" With Dr. Ernest. The link to register AND join: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2880848447653434205>
- Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes for June
  - 06/11/2024 at 6:30p.m. "Patient Assessment and Differential Diagnosis" with Hailey Karnitz, Paramedic Instructor
- Providence Trauma Talks: July 11<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at the Sacred Heart auditorium open to all providers. A link to register will be sent out.
- Jim Akramoff introduced Providence Health Training instructor, Carrie Gigray, who is working on creating interprofessional healthcare simulation training opportunities for EMS providers.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**