

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
October 08, 2024, 9:00-11:00a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom D & Zoom Virtual Meeting

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

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

James Akramoff, Josh Ambach, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Ashley Christoff, Liz Ciais, Dr. Maika Dang, Tiarra Dreckman, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Chris Gibbar, Richard Johnson, Brad Kane, Dr. Jim Nania, Mike Nokes, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Adenea Sellars, Dan Williams, James Young

Guest Present

Jeff Anderson, Breanna Barger-Kamate, Dana Bosworth, Jill Collier, Jacob Grant, Chris Jones, Deanna Jones, Jason Mayfield, Beth Perkins, Treena Russel, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, Suzanne Smail, Kelly Sunagel, Kara Welchel

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of September 2024 Meeting Minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Anne Raven

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that most local hospitals are on command monitoring status and conservation mode for IV fluid usage, as there are anticipated supply shortages due to the recent hurricanes. There will be a mass decontamination tent set up on October 16th and an email was sent out with the information. MCI planning continues, and they hope to complete plans by the end of year.
- Multicare: nothing new to report.

➤ IV Fluid Supply

Anne reported that Hurricane Helene damaged the Baxter International plant in North Carolina, which is the largest manufacturer of IV and dialysis fluids in the nation. Shortages of IV fluids are anticipated, and Anne asked that agencies consider implementing strategies to conserve current supplies. Tom Chavez, the EMS Council Executive Chair, recommended looking at guidelines for IV usage for patients, and suggested an email from the County MPD, Dr. Nania, and Council Chair be sent to EMS agencies to consider conservation efforts. A letter was sent to all Spokane County EMS agencies following the meeting.

➤ Bylaws Review

The EMS Council Executive Committee met on October 4th to begin a review of the current EMS Council bylaws. Tom Chavez shared the suggested changes to the first portion of the bylaws and stated that the EMS Council will review suggested edits in sections, so the entire document does not need to be reviewed at one meeting. Following the review, Tom asked that anyone with questions, concerns, or comments to please email Berkley, and the Executive committee will consider all comments. There will be another review in the future to go over the second half of the document.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for September 2024

Jack shared the financial reports.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the reports.

REPORTS:

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks stated that the Protocol group is continuing to work on identifying and list BLS protocols in the protocol manual.
- EMS WAC Revision: no representative
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that the meeting got pushed back and there is no new report. Chief Wyrobek asked if there is an update regarding the backup DMCC, and to please reach out if you have the information as the Fire Chiefs are hoping to complete that chapter of the County FOG.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present. Brad Kane reported that they were approved for a new location and will be relocating in approximately 1-1.5 years.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that the alternative care trailers are no longer a capability of Spokane Regional Health District. A flyer was sent out for the upcoming dashboard, and Robin thanked the EMS Council for being proactive about getting information out.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff reported that last year's cohort is getting ready to test out. The next cohort of 21 paramedic students will begin on October 14th.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania stated that WSU Spokane will host an Airway Cadaver Lab on October 21st, and reminded agencies to submit their ACS data, which will be presented at the QI committee meeting in November. Dr. Nania shared a summary of the stroke KPI data that was presented at the September QI Committee meeting.
 - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
 - Follow up case review referred by Providence Sacred Heart

OLD BUSINESS:

- EMS Office Proposed Job Descriptions

Proposed Job descriptions for the two additional EMS Office positions were shared and emailed to the EMS Council group last month for review. Anne asked if anyone had any questions or concerns and there were none.
- RTF Fund Request

Jeff Anderson from Cheney FD shared a summary of last month's presentation for the Regional RTF program that is being created with the help of the Inland Empire Fire Chiefs. Eleven Spokane County EMS agencies are involved in this project and the RTF work group is requesting funding from the EMS Council for EMS equipment necessary to complete the program and training. It was requested at last month's meeting that the RTF work group share an itemized list of equipment that each involved agency would be receiving, and Chris Jones shared the information. The RTF workgroup requested a total of \$137,240.27. Questions regarding the timeline of when equipment would need to be replaced, and if agencies had agreed to budget their own equipment replacement were brought up, and Chris Jones explained that resupply won't be necessary for about 5 years, and that involved agencies understand that the EMS Council funding request is a one-time request. EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven asked if grant funding had been requested, and Chris stated that it was not due to the length of time that the grant funding would take to receive, and that requesting grant funding for a county wide program in the future would likely improve the chance of receiving grant funds. Chief Chris Wyrobek emphasized that the training and equipment required for this project is built as a county wide process, and that Spokane County EMS agencies that pay annual share fees to the EMS Office are in support of funding the project. Dave Baird included that Spokane Valley Fire Department plans to repurpose their trauma kits and use the MCI bags as trauma kits so that MCI bags are being used on a semi

regular basis. Dr. Joel Edminster asked if the proposal could be approved with the current budget, and EMS Council Treasurer, Jack Busch, stated that it is doable, but using a large sum of funds will likely reduce funds for items listed in the 3-year plan, and stated that commonly, Councils assist in funding trainings rather than equipment.

James Young made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Maika Dang seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed by a majority vote, with one vote against.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the request of \$137,240.27 for the RTF supply purchase.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Medical Clearance for Jail: Dr. Nania & Jack Busch
 - Jack stated that the County MPD, Dr. Jim Nania, Spokane Valley FD, and AMR met with law enforcement to discuss a request made for EMS to medically clear patients on scene for jail, as funding was denied for a provider at the jail who would be able to clear patients once they arrived by law enforcement. Extensive hospital wait times have left law enforcement officers unable to service the community while waiting for a patient to be cleared by a hospital provider. Jack shared that EMS agencies should be taking patients to the hospital via ambulance unless the patient refuses and emphasized having good documentation of refusals. The group discussed possible procedures for patients brought in by law enforcement, but ultimately agreed that triage shall continue to be done by hospitals based on acuity of all patients, and to follow the determination of general patient transport destination protocol to transport to the closest most appropriate hospital to avoid longer waiting times.
- Special needs patients with specialized care plans: Dave Baird SVFD

Chief Dave Baird from Spokane Valley Fire Dept. stated that individuals in the Valley with specialized care plans have a letter from SVFD MPDD, Dr. Cody Laverdiere with care instructions. Chief Baird shared that there was a situation where another agency had responded to a patient with a specialized care plan from SVFD, and wanted clarification if specialized care plan letters should come from the County MPD to be followed by all EMS agencies. The group discussed possible processes, and EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, requested that this topic be discussed by the Protocol committee and can be brought to the EMS Council for approval once a process has been determined.

Action: This topic will be moved to the Protocol Committee.
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
 - Providence Health Training Refresher ESE Evaluator Course (10/11/2024)
 - Providence Health Training Initial Paramedic Course (10/14/2024-12/31/2025)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The Protocol committee will meet during the QI Committee meeting. The regularly scheduled protocol meeting for October will be cancelled.
 - 11 Protocols have been updated and will be reviewed for approval by the EMS Council at the November EMS Council meeting. Once approved by the EMS Council, the protocols will be sent to the WA DOH for review and approval.
 - Tom shared an example of the new protocol format that was created by the protocol workgroup to clearly separate and list protocols by provider level. Each protocol will include a list of practices for each provider level, followed by the protocol with all considerations and guidelines. The workgroup will meet again on October 23rd and Tom will bring updated protocols to the EMS Council for review and approval as they are completed.
 - Handtevy update: Tom reminded the group that the Handtevy account is set up with the EMS Council as the main account, and all agencies listed as sub accounts under the EMS Council. Tom can make edits to the EMS Council account which get applied to all sub accounts. Agencies can make agency specific edits including edits to their personnel. Please contact Tom Chavez with any suggested changes for the entire county, and Tom

will submit a request.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for October
 - 10/24/2024 “Chest Trauma & Abdominal Trauma”
- Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes
 - 10/08/2024 at 6:30p.m Stroke/Neuro with Rebecca Berg, EMT-P
- Inland Northwest Trauma Conference. Oct. 11th, 2024, 7:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
- Providence Trauma Talks: October 10th at Providence Sacred Heart Auditorium
- Dr. Travis Dierks shared a new Ketamine clinic in Spokane called Illume Wellbeing

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:35AM.