

WALLA WALLA COUNTY EMS & TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL

February 7, 2019 6:00 PM

WWPD CHUCK FULTON COMMUNITY ROOM

MINUTES OF MEETING

Kevin Kromm called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Fulton Room @ WWPD

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves and the agency represented.

PRESENT: Sharon Brooks, Patty Courson, Charlie Drury, Bill Dunham, Jodi Ferguson, Todd Kimball, Kevin Kromm, Susan Leathers, Heather Lee, Justin Lessard, Patti Loney, Dr. Lewis Neace, Rob Nelson, Casey Potts, Patrick Purcell, Todd Reiswig, Melissa Rodriguez, Jim Ruffcorn, Nancy McClenny-Walters, Erin Whitney

EXCUSED: Liz Jessee and Alyssa Wells

ABSENT: Kathy Adamski, Justin Destito, Jim Estep, Deb Fortner, Darren Goble, Don Grout, Randy Hinchliffe, Steve Hoffman, Brian Jones, Kris Kerr, Mitch King, Alysa Kyle, Brad Morris, Dennis Waters

GUEST: Douglas Venn, Adventists Community Services Disaster Response, Randy Charles, Waitsburg

MINUTES OF MEETING:

Minutes Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT:

\$19,212.89 all bills paid.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Heather Lee reported –

- A letter from Providence St. Mary Medical Center was received related to the recruitment process for the new Walla Walla County EMS Medical Director.

MPD REPORT:

Dr. Lewis Neace reported –

- Since starting as the MPD in November things have been running smoothly. There have been no protocol changes and as questions arise, we are addressing those. Patty Courson expressed appreciation for Dr. Neace for stepping up to cover another county when Dr. Underhill retired, she's heard only positive feedback related to Dr. Neace.
- I've appointed Dr. Gary Hurwitz as my Deputy MPD. Dr. Hurwitz and I have worked together for many years and he'll be a great asset.
- Columbia-Walla Walla County Fire District #2 (District 2) has decided to revert their trauma verified BLS transport license to a trauma verified Aid license effective 2/1/19. Columbia County Fire District #3 (District 3) and Walla Walla Fire Department (WWFD) will continue to transport the patients as they currently do. District 2 has agreed to position their ambulance in Dayton so that District 3 will have the ability to have another ambulance readily available if the other ambulances are on calls. Patti Loney asked

if WESCOM needed to make any changes related to this. Currently we aren't aware of any changes that need to be made as District 3 and WWFD have been covering District 2's transports for several months.

- Dr. Neace and Heather received a request from DOH to reach out to the Council and see their thoughts on appointing Dr. Neace as our permanent MPD, however after discussions with PSMMC staff and DOH the decision was made to post the Walla Walla County MPD position. Susan read the letter referenced in correspondence to the Council related to the MPD position and expressed that they'd like their physicians to have an opportunity to apply for the position. There was a lengthy discussion related to the status of the MPD posting in Walla Walla County and questions related to why PSMMC physician's have not attended QA sessions or Council meetings. It appears there may have been confusion on the physician's parts about being invited to these meetings so Heather will work to clarify their invitation. The MPD position will be posted on February 11th for 30 days and if there are multiple applicants Heather will work with DOH on the next steps. Dr. Neace did express that he will be applying for the position to continue as the Columbia-Walla Walla Counties MPD on a permanent basis.

EMS DIRECTOR:

Heather Lee reported –

- David Winter successfully obtained his Senior EMS Instructor (SEI) certification. Chief Winter was able to complete his SEI certification during the last EMT class because he attended almost every class whether he was scheduled or not.
- The BLS protocols have been through the final review process with Dr. Neace and are being submitted to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) for final approval. We're hoping to have final approval by the end of February and implement the protocols in early March.
- EMT class was completed in mid-December and of the 18 students, 14 have attempted their National Registry written examination. Of the 14 that have attempted the exam, 11 have passed and two are currently studying to retake the exam.
- Beginning in January we started offering the Special Needs Patients OTEP related to the Travis Alert legislation. This is required one-time only training that all certified EMS providers must take and is required to be completed by 12/31/19. In order to meet this deadline, we've added this training to our OTEP cycle and will be sending the DOH PowerPoint out to all agencies to provide to their personnel who miss the training during the OTEP cycle.
- The 2019 EMS Levy Distribution contracts have been sent to all EMS agencies. We've estimated that we'll be distributing \$2,771,734.00 in 2019. Unfortunately, some agencies will see a decrease this year as their areas Assessed Valuation decreased due to State Utility Values related to railroad cars. The agencies that were impacted the most by these changes is District 1 (a decrease of \$13,089,177.00) and District 5 (a decrease of \$5,575.958).

REGIONAL:

Heather Lee reported –

- The Min/Max changed was approved by the Washington State Department of Health and Walla Walla County Fire District #4 has upgraded to a trauma verified ALS transport license.
- The Regional Council is in the process of updating the Regional Plan, Patient Care Procedures, and Trauma Response Area Maps. Heather informed the Council that as the process of updating the maps moves

forward, we'll need to look at changes. When the maps were created Walla Walla County only had one trauma verified ALS transporting agency and now, we have three.

LIFEFLIGHT:

NONE

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Patrick Purcell reported –

- We are looking for volunteers to participate in a Mass Casualty Incident at the Walla Walla Airport on May 21st. If you know of anyone or any group that may be interested in participating, please have them contact Patrick. Dr. Neace expressed that he's willing to help in any way that he can.

TRAINING:

Melissa Rodriguez reported –

- Melissa provided information to the Council related to the change in tuition for the EMT course. There was an error in the amount that WWCC was charging for tuition and that has been corrected, however the tuition has now increased \$667.75. Melissa also handed out her business cards and encourages anyone that needs assistance in finding funding for this course to please reach out to her. She's been very successful in finding grant funding for several of the students. A question was raised by Rob Nelson as to whether there was an opportunity to identify funding for agencies to assist in paying the tuition. Melissa offered to work with the Foundation to see if there could be opportunity for fundraising related to Rob's question.
- We are currently accepting application for Spring EMT class, the deadline for applications is February 22nd and we currently only have four applications. As discussed above the cost of tuition has increased so that could be impacting our numbers. Heather expressed a potential option that may help affiliated individuals and agencies in absorbing this cost. Heather would like the Council to consider allowing her to request the Regional EMS Council allow us to change how we've requested to utilize our training grant dollars. Heather informed the Council there is approximately \$3,109.98 that we could redirect from the training grant and utilize those as scholarship funds for EMT students that are affiliated with agencies. After discussion a motion was made by Neosha Guse and seconded by Rob Nelson that they received enough applications to have the Spring quarter EMT course that Heather go back to the Regional Council and request to modify our training grant request to allow \$3,109.98 be utilized for scholarship funds towards EMT course. Motion passed.

TRAFFIC SAFETY:

Nancy McClenny-Walters reported –

- Tipsy Taxi transported 224 impaired individuals safely home this year.
- The Every 15 Minutes programs will be adding distracted driving this year. The programs are set to begin on February 11th and 12th at Wa-Hi, March 28th and 29th at DeSales, and April 17th and 18th at Touchet. They are interested in having mock crashes again so Nancy will be reaching out to the local agencies for assistance.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH:

Jodi Ferguson reported –

- They've been dealing with measles, flu, and the chickenpox's. There have been 52 confirmed cases of measles and 11 suspected cases, 262 Type A influenza and six positive Type B influenza cases, and one confirmed case of the chickenpox's.
- They are also having Communicable Disease conference calls the first and third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. If you are interested in more information on those calls, please contact Jodi.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Heather Lee reported –

- The Ted Berry Memorial Scholarship information has been received and there will be \$1,064.00 available this year. Scholarship recommendations are due to the Blue Mountain Community Foundation Board by May 1, 2019. Heather requested the Council but together a review committee for any scholarship applications that are received to review and make a recommendation to the Council by April 4, 2019. Rob Nelson, Melissa Rodriguez, Jodi Ferguson, and Todd Reiswig volunteered to be on this committee. Heather will collect all applications and submit them to the review committee by April 1st so they can review and make a recommendation to the Council at the April 4th meeting.
- We've received a request through WESCOM to assist in sending Patti Loney to a 911 Dispatcher Peer Support course on March 27-29, 2019. This course is offered through the Resilient 911 Professional and designed by 911 Dispatcher's for 911 Dispatcher's related to PTSD in communication centers. Heather told the Council that why we have an excellent CISM Team one of the areas we do lack training is for 911 Dispatcher's, dispatchers are the true first responders and often we forget about them and this is an opportunity to remedy that. Heather provided a little background information on the course, expressed her support for this request, and provided information related to the estimated total cost of this training being \$1,481.40. Neosha Guse made a motion and it was seconded by Rob Nelson to provide the estimated training cost to WESCOM for Patti Loney to attend this training. Motion passed.
- We've received a request through WWFD to assist in sending Cody Maine to a Mental Health First Aid Instructor course on April 28-May 3, 2019. This week-long course would enable Cody to instructor Mental Health First Aid courses and could be a large benefit to our agencies. Heather provided a little background information on this course and Cody, expressed support for this request, and provided information related to the estimated total cost of this training being \$2,987.11. Neosha Guse made a motion and it was seconded by Patty Courson to provide the estimated training cost to WWFD for Cody Maine to attend this training. Motion passed.
- Rob Nelson has brought information related to a request for assistance in funding related to Quick Clot Z packs. As everyone is aware PSMCM donated \$20,000 to purchase necessary equipment for our EMS personnel to respond into the "warm" zone during active shooter type situations. What WWFD would like to do know is outfit all agencies vests with the same supplies as well as make a quick grab bag that can be stored in BC 391 for everyone to utilize. The estimated cost for this is \$1,500 and the shelf life on the Quick Clot Z packs is five years. After discussion the Council believe this was a good idea but was

curious if there were grants that could be potentially utilized to purchase these supplies. Jodi Ferguson expressed she'd be willing to assist Rob with applying for a few grants that she believed the Council could apply for. A motion was made by Patty Courson and seconded by Neosha Guse to endorse Jodi and Rob pursuing potential grants on behalf of the Council for this purchase. Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rob Nelson reported –

- That WWFD and PSMCMC will be hosting a Mental Health First Aid class on March 29th here at WWPD. The class is limited to 30 students. If you are interested in attending, please let Rob know.

Susan Leathers reported –

- The Stop the Bleed training has been going very well and they are receiving very positive feedback from the groups they've training. Recently they trained approximately 70 law enforcement officers (WWPD, CPPD, WWSO, etc.) in Stop the Bleed. They've also got some Spanish speaking instructors and will be teaching this during the evening classes at Edison. They've also had Channel 21 out of the Tri-Cities reach out to them to film a training session.

Douglas Venn reported –

- His agency will be hosting an Emotional/Spiritual Care program on March 31st. The class has a minimum requirement of ten individuals and if anyone is interested in attending please let him know.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Kevin Kromm adjourned meeting at 7:45 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **Thursday, April 4, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.** @ WWPD Fulton Room

Respectfully submitted,

Heather M. Lee, EMS Director