

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Medic One Office
April 17, 2019**

PRESENT: Margaret McPhee, Brian VanCamp, Cindy Hambly, Liberty Ryder, John Ricks, Tom Oliva, Stan Moon, Harry Miller, Cody Colt, Cheryl Selby, Lenny Greenstein

ABSENT: Larry Fontanilla

EXCUSED: Gary Edwards, Paul Perz, Shelia Fay

GUESTS: Steve Brooks, Warren Peterson, Steven Slater, Chris Clem, Nathan Weed (DOH)

STAFF: Kurt Hardin, Sandra Bush, Joy Miller, Ben Miller-Todd

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Chair McPhee called the regular meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Council (EMSC) to order at 3:30 PM.

- I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC** – McPhee amended the agenda to add ‘Reconstitute Budget Committee’ under New Business. (Greenstein/Oliva) move to approve as amended, and this carried.
- II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None
- III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. EMS COUNCIL – March 20, 2019 – These were not approved and will be added to the May 15, 2019 agenda.
 - B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – April 4, 2019 (informational only)
- IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) Diversion discussion continues and has been assigned to the TRU committee. 2) A behavioral health facility will be opening soon in Lacey. 3) Special project applications have gone out to fire agencies. There was a waiver approved by Ops, waiving the requirement of obtaining signatures from all fire agencies who a part of the SORT team, for the SORT application. 4) Thurston County Fire District 6 license upgrade was approved and is on the EMSC agenda for today.
 - B. **WEST REGION:** No report.
 - C. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff report is included in the packet. Kurt said WREMS had a great conference at the end of March and was well attended. Ben talked about the paramedic hiring process. A traditional hiring process will take place April 24 – 26, 2019. However, back in January a group convened of approx., 30 stake holders addressing the paramedic hiring issues, and the option of starting the hiring process at the agency level, and then coming to Medic One for medical skills evaluation. Lacey trialed this and they had success. They have given 2 offers to 2 paramedics which will bring them to a full staff status.
 - D. **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** VanCamp reported: Committee met a couple of weeks ago and reviewed results of the Medic One survey. Also, sub-committees put together drafts of initial goals and objectives.
- V. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Thurston County Fire District #6 – Upgrade Application - District 6 does not plan on transporting unless a private ambulance is unavailable or has an extended arrival time of greater than 20 minutes (20 minutes being the point of when a private ambulance is notified of a call to the point a private ambulance gets on scene). (Hambly/Ricks) move to approve the upgrade application, and this passed. Stan Moon abstained and Margaret McPhee voted no.
 - B. Emergency Room Diversion Update – After meeting with providers a few times over the past month, an agreement was reached on how to deal with in-county transports. When PSPH and CMC are on divert simultaneously, responders will call PSPH and PSPH will make the determination on where the patient should be taken. A “round robin” process was deemed which means for every round of 5 BLS transports, PSPH will take 3, CMC will take 1, and Providence of Centralia will take a half, which means every 2 times through the cycle, Providence of Centralia will take one. This does not include STEMI, stroke and trauma patients. The next step is to have something in writing.

- C. PSPH Certificate of Need (CoN) Update – The EMSC sent a letter to John Wiesman, Secretary of Washington State DOH, urging DOH to expedite the CoN submitted by PSPH, requesting an additional 52 beds. The response received from DOH did not satisfy the council’s concern over the delay in approving the CoN application so Nathan Weed with DOH was invited to speak to the council. Mr. Weed explained that a CoN decision takes about 8 months and the fact that staffing is an issue in this program, the CoN application approval has been delayed. There was also a delay in the application approval due to comments made during the public comment period, however DOH cannot share what the comments were or who made the comments. Mr. Weed will let the council know as soon as he knows the CoN is open for public comment again. (Hambly/Ricks) move to approve staff making a public records request on behalf of the EMS council, regarding the CoN for PSPH, and this carried.
- D. Medic One Public Survey – A public survey went out in March and results will come to the EMS council in May.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2018 Fiscal Year Review – Joy presented the 2018 fiscal year review, and overall, Medic One spent 97% of their budget. ALS was overspent by 2.8% (\$286,360). There was a \$225,000 charge from 2017 that was received after the January 31, 2018 cutoff. The remaining over expenditure was for mandated paramedic overtime. Admin was underspent by 13.40% due to the Medic One public survey moving from 2018 to 2019 and underspending in supplies and professional services. BLS was underspent by 5.2% due to replacement of certain training equipment being deferred to 2019.
- B. Reconstitute Budget Committee – There will be a one-time budget committee meeting in the near future to discuss the option of turning the 1280 (reserve) account into an ER&R fund. There was an issue recently where funds were not transferred from the reserve into the operating fund which created a negative balance. At this time there is no known reason to have a reserve and an operating fund. A doodle poll will go out to the budget committee.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Steve Slater said on April 27th there is a fisherman’s breakfast at Clear Lake in the Singletree community, and April 28th is a fisherman’s breakfast at Station 64 off Old Hwy 99. Also, the home and garden show is the same weekend at Yelm High School.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 4:59.