

**Thurston County Medic One  
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting  
Medic One Office  
September 18, 2019**

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**PRESENT:** Margaret McPhee, John Wood, Cindy Hambly, Frank Kirkbride, Meredith Hutchins, Tom Oliva, Stan Moon, Harry Miller, Cheryl Selby, Gary Edwards, Lenny Greenstein, Paul Perz

**ABSENT:** Larry Fontanilla

**EXCUSED:** Cody Colt, Sheila Fay

**GUESTS:** Chris Clem, Steve Brooks, Jennifer Schmidt, Anne Benoist, Shawn Crimmins

**STAFF:** Kurt Hardin, Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Anna Lee Drewry

**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** – (Moon/Kirkbride) move to approve and this carried.

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. EMS COUNCIL – August 21, 2019 (Moon/Greenstein) move to approve, and this carried. Paul Perz, Frank Kirkbride, and Cheryl Selby abstain.

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – September 5, 2019 (informational only)

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** Wood reported: 1) There is a BLS contract meeting tomorrow at 9 am, here at Medic One. 2) TAC Committee is going to continue to evaluate and compare on-line OTEP platforms. 3) EMS night is October 29<sup>th</sup> at SPSCC, Lacey campus, beginning at 5:00.

B. **WEST REGION:** Anne Benoist reported: 1) West Region Council meeting was held on September 4<sup>th</sup> and Dolly Fernandez, Department of Health Director, reported on the American College of Surgeons assessment of the EMS and trauma system that was done last spring. Final report came out this summer with 90 recommendations and 19 highlights. Department of Health Secretary Weisman announced there will be public forums for participation and input regarding the assessment. Anne is happy to send out the assessment results and the invitations for the forums. There will be 4 forums, the one in Tumwater will be October 14<sup>th</sup>. 2) The WREMS training contract is in the EMSC packet. This contract is for 2 years, with new deliverables; to report quarterly on lessons learned in the quality improvement case reviews. Anne will send an email to Ops (most likely) informing that the State wants WREMS to conduct an assessment of all local quality improvement programs. 3) NW Ambulance has submitted an application to upgrade from BLS to ALS on interfacility transports. 4) Tacoma Fire Department has started a new pilot program where they are taking walk-ins at one, or maybe more, of their stations.

C. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff report is included in the packet. Staff had a hard time filling the Information Quality Coordinator (IQC) position due to finding the right fit based on the needs of the position. The BoCC has approved moving this position to a BAT II (Business Applications Tech II) position to support Scott Brownell. In addition, EMT students are down from 31 to 27 for self-pull reasons.

D. **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:** The committee will wrap up before the end of this week, and a report will be sent to the full Comprehensive Plan Committee for review and comments. A meeting of the full Committee will be held on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 and all EMSC members are invited. There will be a follow-up meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> and a presentation to the EMS Council on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

A. ALS Cardiac Monitor Replacement – (Kirkbride/Greenstein) recommend the purchase of Stryker/Physio cardiac monitors to replace the existing equipment.

B. Reimbursement for Fire Agency Transport with Paramedic – As information only, included in the EMSC packet is a memo sent out by staff regarding the reimbursement process.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Medic One Support – providing financial information on the website – Medic One would like to add financial information to the website, showing the cost for BLS support to each fire agency, as well as the cost for ALS support, by fire district. Citizens would be prompted to enter their address which would then provide them with financial information specific to their fire district. More information will come, as staff is working with the County IT department.
- B. Paramedic Hiring Challenges – Ben Miller-Todd talked about recent successes with the paramedic hiring process. During the last hiring period, 4 more candidates passed the oral board, 2 of those were internal candidates. Current vacancies are 1 at OFD, 1 at TFD, and 1 at LFD3. Staff is looking at different outreach options as PST (Public Service Testing) has not been good in terms of blanket coverage on those who are coming in and understanding how Thurston County works.
- C. Appointment of ALS Contract negotiations Committee – ALS contracts expire December 31, 2020 and because the negotiation process can be lengthy, staff has recommended forming a contract negotiation committee as soon as possible. Margaret will Chair the committee but needs a couple of individuals from the Council to assist with this process. Council members were asked to email Margaret if they are interested. If Margaret doesn't receive any volunteers, she will appoint members at the next EMSC meeting.
- D. WREMS Service Agreement – The WREMS Service Agreement for FY20 & FY21 is included in the EMSC meeting packet. Anne Benoist explained the changes in the contract during her WREMS report. (Hambly/Kirkbride) move to approve the FY20 & FY21 WREMS Service Agreement with Thurston County, and this carried. This agreement does not need to go to the BoCC.

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None**

- VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – 1) Harry Miller shared sad news about Patti Frost passing away. Patti was an EMT, and Volunteer Coordinator at Bald Hills. A moment of silence was given. 2) Cheryl Selby said Steve Hall, Olympia City Manager, is retiring the end of November. An interim will be appointed this week. 3) Paul mentioned an article he read on line ranking the States with the highest pay for firefighter and paramedics, and Washington State came in at #1.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:31.