

**Thurston County Medic One  
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting  
Virtual – Zoom Meeting  
March 16, 2022**

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**PRESENT:** Cindy Hambly, Stan Moon, Frank Kirkbride, John Ricks, Margaret McPhee, Brian VanCamp, Angela Jefferson, Sheila Fay, Lenny Greenstein, Gary Edwards, Harry Miller,

**ABSENT:** Wayne Fournier, Dontae Payne

**EXCUSED:** Larry Fontanilla, Paul Perz

**GUESTS:** Chris Clem, Brian Hurley, Dan Bivens, Shawn Crimmins

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

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

**I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC** – 2022 Budget Amendment was added to New Business, Item E. (Edwards/McPhee) move to approve the agenda as amended, and this carried.

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None.

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. EMS COUNCIL – February 16, 2022 (Edwards/McPhee) move to approve the minutes, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – March 3, 2022 (informational only)

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) The TRU committee provided an update on the HPU, which will continue through March 31<sup>st</sup>. The 90-day no divert was discussed which is on today's agenda under New Business. 2) The 2022 BLS Funding worksheet was presented. There are still tentative items on this. 3) Anna Lee Drewry provided a presentation on the OTEP Evaluation positions. This is on today's agenda under New Business. 4) The Ops committee performed their semi-annual review of the ambulance ordinance, and there were no recommended changes.
- B. **WEST REGION:** Kirkbride reported: All 3 of the WREMS applications approved at the February EMSC meeting, have been forwarded to DOH for their approval. Greenstein added that these have been approved.
- C. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff report is available on the website. [Thurston County | Medic One | Committee Meeting Information \(thurstoncountywa.gov\)](https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/committees/medic-one). Miller-Todd highlighted on the following: 1) Paramedic hiring process takes place March 23 - 24. There are 10 applicants. 2) The HPU will no longer be staffed as of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Drewry reported: EMT class started March 10<sup>th</sup> and there are 19 students. The classes will be a combination of online self-study and in-person at Station 95.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. EMSC Officer Election – At the February meeting, it was reported that Moon and Greenstein were nominated to remain as Chair and Vice-chair. With no further nominations, (Kirkbride/Ricks) move to close the nominations, and this carried. (Edwards/Hambly) move to approve the re-election of Stan Moon as Chair and Lenny Greenstein as Vice-Chair, and this carried.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Proposed Bylaws – Fay opened up discussion to change the term of the EMSC officers from 1 year to 2 years, or even greater. (Fay/Edwards) move to propose every 2 years, and this carried. Voting will take place at the April meeting.
- B. WREMS Application (Russ Wilhite, Emergency Dept. Nurse at PSPH) – Miller-Todd reached out to both hospitals for recommendation of an ER representative, and Wendy Rife with PSPH recommended Russ Wilhite. (Kirkbride/Hambly) move to approve the WREMS application for Russ Wilhite as an ER representative on the WREMS council, and this carried.

- C. OTEP Evaluator Process – Drewry provided a presentation on the 2022 OTEP Evaluator process. The new process will consist of agencies providing their own OTEP classes which will allow them to coordinate and offer as many classes as desired and allows for flexibility. Medic One will continue to provide financial support, online training, curriculum, and will train and maintain Evaluators. Drewry highlighted on deliverables that will be expected of the agencies.
- D. 90-day No Divert Trial – Miller-Todd reported: Capital Medical Center, PSPH, and Providence Centralia have agreed to do a trial for the next 90 days of no divert. All 3 hospitals realized that ‘round robin’ was redistributing the patient acuity and was not leveling the actual load that each hospital was experiencing. What this means on the EMS side, is operations will be as they were before all of the divert was happening. There will be rare occasions when a hospital will not be able to accept a patient because the condition is outside of the hospital’s scope of service.
- E. 2022 Budget Amendment – Miller-Todd reported: From January 2021 to February 2022, the inflation rate has increased approx. 7.9% which is 3-5% over the rate of inflation Medic One has in their budget for 2022. In the past, fuel was costing about \$0.75 per mile to operate a medic unit and it is now costing about \$1.25 per mile. In addition, ALS fire agencies labor negotiations have resulted in cost of living increases that are greater than Medic One had planned for. All of this combined has resulted in the need for a \$750,000 budget amendment, which is approx. a 4.4% increase. Miller-Todd said this increase in the budget will become maintenance level. Medic One has discussed the need of a 2022 budget amendment with executive staff at the County, as well as the budget committee, and they support this need, however Medic One needs a recommendation from the EMSC to move forward to the BoCC. Budget amendments are due by March 31<sup>st</sup> so staff is asking the council to suspend the council’s rule that voting must take place the month following discussion of a budget amendment. (Kirkbride/Jefferson) move to suspend the council’s rule to be able to vote on the budget amendment, and this carried. (Kirkbride/Jefferson) move to recommend to the BoCC a budget amendment totaling \$750,000 to the 2022 budget, and this carried.

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None**

**VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Kirkbride asked about in-person meetings now that the masking requirements have changed. (Greenstein/Hambly) move to approve changing the council meetings to hybrid, effective with the April meeting, and this carried.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:21.**