

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ REGULAR MEETING
HYBRID MEETING

AGENDA

February 2, 2023, 2:00 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Operations Committee – January 5, 2023
 - B. EMS Council - January 18, 2023 (informational only)
- V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. West Region EMS Council
 - B. Subcommittees
 - 1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – Chair or Representative
 - 2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – Chair or Representative
 - 3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – Chair or Representative
 - 4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) – Chair or Representative
 - 5. ePCR Committee – Chair or Representative
 - C. Staff Report - <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/m1/Pages/meetings.aspx>
- VI. OLD BUSINESS

	ITEM	PRESENTER	EXPECTED OUTCOME
A.	EMSC Report	VanCamp	Information
B.	Nominations Committee	Hurley	Report/Nomination
C.	ALS Unit Utilization Workgroup	VanCamp	Information
D.	Medic One Staffing	Miller-Todd	Update
E.	EMT Entryway at PSPH	Miller-Todd/Clem	Update
F.	ePCR Policy	Miller-Todd	Update

VII. NEW BUSINESS

	ITEM	PRESENTER	EXPECTED OUTCOME
A.	BLS Funding Review Committee	VanCamp	Appointment
B.	Olympic Ambulance Home-Based Healthcare Svcs	Rodrigues	Briefing

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

IX. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting is hybrid. If you would like to attend in person, the meeting will be at 2703 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia. If you would like to attend this meeting virtually, please follow the instructions below:

February 2, 2023, 2:00 (PDT)

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**THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID - ESC
January 5, 2023**

PRESENT: Steve Brooks, Derek Smith, Mark Gregory, Brian VanCamp, Carla Carter, Wendy Rife, Ciaran Keogh, Todd Carson, Brian Hurley, Mindy Churchwell, Tammy Kallgren, Leonard Johnson

ABSENT: Ray Curtis

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Tony Kuzma, Mike Buchanan, Shawn Crimmins, Michael Hughes, Rian Winter, Karen Weiss, Jennifer Schmidt, Joey Rodriguez

STAFF: Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Jerett Latimer, Alan Provencher

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Chair VanCamp called the meeting to order at 2:00.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –MSC – (Carson/Brooks) move to approve the agenda as presented, and this carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Operations Committee – November 3, 2022 (No December meeting) – (Hurley/Carson) move to approve and this carried.
2. EMS Council – November 16, 2022 (No December meeting, Informational only)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **West Region EMS Council** – Miller-Todd reported on the December 7th meeting: 1) WREMS did very well on the State audit. 2) Discussion on investing some of the reserve in short-term CDs. 3) Discussion on hospital divert and long-term bed availability. DOH has been asked if they have people or resources dedicated to the analysis of this issue. 4) Chris Clem's application to be re-appointed to WREMS has been processed and he is once again serving in the Thurston County pre-hospital position. 5) Lewis County FD8 applied to upgrade their licensure to ALS verified, which was recommended for approval. Lewis County Medic One is dissolving so there is a need for ALS coverage in their district. 6) Olympic Ambulance applied to upgrade their licensure in Pierce County to ALS verified. This was recommended for approval.

B. **Subcommittees**

1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – Rian Winter reported: 1) Drug shortages on D50, D10, basically all forms of saline, lidocaine and OPA kits. 2) Medic One still has robust stocks of PPE. 3) Continuing to work on a "check the dose" app for ALS and potentially BLS providers. 4) Looking at video laryngoscopy options. Hope to have a couple of reps in within the next month or two. 5) Discussion on old/obsolete devices/equipment we continue to carry. Members will make a list of what items need to be considered for removal from units and/or protocol. 6) Expire/Don't expire list will be reviewed. Leyva will work on revision and consult with the MPDs. 7) Next meeting is January 19th at 0930.
2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – No meeting, no report.
3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – Miller-Todd reported: The last meeting was held on November 17th. The committee continues to process the review of certification procedure documents. There is an Evaluator workshop on January 15 – 18 and we are expecting around 70 evaluators. New candidates need to attend the 15th and one of the other 3 days, returning evaluators only need to attend one day on the 16th – 18th.
4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – Brooks reported: There has been a struggle with representation, particularly MultiCare, which undermines the facility capacity discussion, which is where the focus has shifted. It has been recommended to re-staff the breezeway at PSPH.
5. ePCR Committee – Miller-Todd reported: ePCR committee met in December. They will be discussing when and how reports are written in the patient care environment, and it's also on today's agenda under New Business.

C. **Staff Report** – Staff report is located on the website at – <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/m1/Pages/meetings.aspx>

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. EMSC Report – VanCamp reported: 1) Hospital staffing and ambulance wait times were discussed. 2) 2023 ambulance license applications were recommended to the BoCC. 3) The change to min/max was recommended to WREMS.
- B. ALS Unit Utilization Workgroup Committee – A charter was created, and a team was formed. The meetings will be January 10th at 1 pm and January 24th at 9 am at Medic One.
- C. Transport Pilot Update – Chief Schmidt provided an update: The pilot ran August – October 2022. Data was compiled and there was a lot of collaboration with different groups. In November and December, the “no-load” and “drop-calls” data was reviewed.

May – June of dropped calls were reviewed and it was found that both private partners had high numbers for when they were able to provide a unit. During that period there were 300 - 400 times when both ambulances were not able to provide service. July improved with the numbers between 150 – 250. Once the pilot was instituted drops were seen for both companies, in August, to 70 – 80 time range. During the last two months of the pilot, they both dropped down to the 30's and 40's, and it was very consistent.

May – July, both agencies had numbers as high as 40 – 60%. When the pilot started in August, the number went down to the high teens and low 30's. During the remaining time of the study the numbers hovered around the high 20's and low 30's.

After the study closed, the pilot committee tried to figure out what the best data was to use for addressing the first responder stressors and on-scene time seemed to be the most common. On-scene time data was pulled from all three ALS agencies. May – July OFD had a 00:30:21 on scene time, TFD had 00:28:27, and LFD had 00:28:31. During the pilot study OFD took 22 seconds off their on-scene time, and TFD took 48 seconds off their on-scene time. LFD went up by about 1.5 minutes.

There was a consistent approach among all Thurston County agencies, however data challenges still exist, and this is being worked on. Change of practice was also difficult, and the explanation to our citizens as crews were on-scene. The Fire Chiefs have been asked for a 6-month extension of this pilot, to prepare data and time and impacts, from January – June 2023. The committee asked for adjustments to the pilot – protocol and dispatch procedures (i.e., private ambulances to be removed from MVAs). It was also asked that private ambulances be removed from ALS calls for certain agencies, and adding noOLY and noAMR units for CAD to keep track of those when each agency is unavailable to help collect data. The final ask is a transparent share of data to responders. The committee meets again on January 12th.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Medic One Staffing – Miller-Todd reported: Kurt retires effective March 31st however is last day in the office is March 15th. Please be patient with Medic One as we will be at 40% staffing capacity once Kurt departs.
- B. Stroke Protocol Update – Miller-Todd reported: Effective December 15, 2022, positive stroke scores are transported to Tacoma. There have been 4 transports to date.
- C. ePCR Policy – Miller-Todd reported: Ops Committee members will receive a calendar invite for a January 19th meeting at 11am. We would like to hear from staff for input on this policy, which will illustrate when to write a patient care record.
- D. EMT Entryway Process – Miller-Todd reported: We are staffing the entryway at PSPH with 2 EMTs from 1300 to 2100, Monday – Friday, to help free up transport units from needing to wait for staff to take over care of a transported patient. This may run through February until we can find other alternatives.
- E. Appoint Nominations Committee – The committee will consist of Brian Hurley, Mike Buchanan, and Leonard Johnson. Chief Hurley will Chair the committee and nominations will take place at the February meeting.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – None

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 2:40.

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Hybrid – 3000 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia (Atrium Building)
January 18, 2023**

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

ABSENT:

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Dan Bivens, Shawn Crimmins, Steve Brooks, Greg Perry, Derek Smith

STAFF: Kurt Hardin, Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Chris Clem, Joy Miller, Jerett Latimer, Daphne Reaves

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Stan Moon called the meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Council (EMSC) to order at 3:30 PM. Chair Moon announced Kurt Hardin's retirement, effective March 31, 2023. There will be a celebration at the March EMSC meeting, as well as a celebration in March at Emergency Management. Sandra Bush will send out a notice about this.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC – (McPhee/Edwards) move to approve the agenda and this carried.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. EMS COUNCIL – November 16, 2022 – (Kirkbride/Ricks) move to approve the minutes, and this carried.

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – January 5, 2023 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) The Training Advisory Committee (TAC) provided a report and there will be a robust number of evaluators coming into the training arena (approx., 70 new and existing evaluators). 2) Transport Resource Utilization (TRU) provided a report on the lack of hospital representative attendance. 3) Chief Smith with LFD3 provided a report on the transport pilot update. The Transport Pilot committee has asked the Fire Chief's Association to extend the study for 6 months to help address some of the changing parameters that have happened during the previous 3-month study. 4) Ben provided a stroke protocol update that was issued by Dr. Fontanilla concerning treatment of stroke patients because of a change at PSPH where certain procedures are no longer available due to some staffing issues. 5) Ben also provided information on reactivation of the PSPH EMT entryway process, where patients can be boarded and relieved from transport units.

B. **WEST REGION EMS COUNCIL:** Kirkbride reported for the December 7th meeting: 1) There was an update on the strategic plan for WREMS and it's coming along well. The draft update to this is due to DOH by February 1st. 2) A variety of grants were discussed, the patient care system, and the hospital divert plan. 3) Next meeting is March 1st. Ben Miller-Todd added: The min/max configuration was approved this morning at the DOH steering committee.

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: The council will be notified of any paramedic testing that is coming up, as well as EMT trainings that are going forward, as well as evaluator trainings. The last evaluator workshop was very well run.

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Healthcare Constraints Overview – Miller-Todd provided a presentation on healthcare restraints, among all sectors, which created a very lengthy discussion with the council. Following are some highlights of information provided: 1) There was a 10.1% growth in population between 2015 and 2020 with an expected increase of 6-7% every 5 years, based on TRPC data. 2) The EMS call volume increased 52.0%

between 2013 and 2022. The increase in call volumes increases turn around times at the hospital. Medic One is once again staffing the ambulance entryway at PSPH with 2 EMTs to help relieve transport units, and this is expected to continue through February. Rural communities with 2 response units are hit exceptionally hard by extended hospital wait times because 1 unit waiting at the hospital drops their available response units by 50%. 3) Increasing community infrastructure is needed, there is a decrease in available workforce, and an increase in complexity of patients (people are living longer so there are more comorbidities seen). 4) Thurston County has 20-30 long term care facilities and adult family homes that are on “outbreak status” for COVID-19, on average. This limits the ability for a hospital to discharge patients from their beds to make room for the needs of the community. 5) Miller-Todd also provided initiatives that are helping to address the healthcare constraints: As mentioned above - staffing of EMTs at PSPH entryway; Providence South Puget Sound is working on infrastructure growth and staffing issues; MultiCare is building an outpatient emergency room in Lacey with the anticipated opening date of Summer 2023; Operations Chief’s transport pilot program; MPDs review of alternative destinations; Considerations of alternative methods of medical delivery. 6) Chief Brooks provided information on some legislative updates relating to hospital staffing standards.

- B. ALS MSO Deliverables – Miller-Todd asked the council for their approval of replacing the current ALS MSO deliverables. (Hambly/Edwards) move to approve the deliverables that have already been accepted by ALS Chiefs and MSOs, and this carried.
- C. Budget Committee – Chair Moon appointed Frank Kirkbride, John Ricks, Margaret McPhee, Lenny Greenstein, and himself to the budget committee.
- D. Nominations Committee - Chair moon appointed Sheila Fay, Harry Miller and Cindy Hambly to the nominations committee, and Sheila Fay will chair.
- E. BLS Funding Review Committee – Chair Moon appointed Frank Kirkbride, John Ricks, Cindy Hambly, and himself to this committee. Chair Moon purposely appointed some of the budget committee members to this committee as the 2024-2025 budget will run parallel to the BLS funding review. The Ops committee Chair will appoint 4 members from the Ops committee to sit on this review. Chair Moon would like to have this wrapped up by the end of April, so the budget committee has numbers to work with.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Edwards asked how the parking was and if people attending virtually could hear fine. There were some comments about the hearing being spotty.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:57.

Medic One BLS Funding Workgroup Charter

Purpose: Utilizing a task force of representatives, provide a recommendation to the Thurston County Emergency Medical Services Council for necessary changes to current methods of disbursement of Medic One BLS Direct Support Funding to Thurston County EMS provider agencies (“Agency”).

Problem Statement: Agency’s have requested that the current means by which BLS Direct Support Funds are distributed be evaluated and updated to better accommodate their needs. For many years, Medic One has annually provided BLS Direct Support Funding to each Agency apportioned through an agreed upon process and criteria matrix.

During the biennial budget process, the EMS Council agreed to increase the amount of BLS Direct Support Funds in 2023, 2024 and 2025. The workgroup will also consider how these funds are disbursed.

The budget-funding matrix also includes indirect contributions of value in training, ALS response, administrative support and technical management on behalf of each Agency; these funds are *not* included in the scope of this workgroup.

Workgroup Process: A three step process will be generally used:

Step 1: With assistance by Medic One staff, the workgroup will examine the current process by which BLS Direct Support Funds are budgeted, apportioned and disbursed.

Step 2: The workgroup will identify BLS operational needs and funding in general; a list of needs/functions will be created and prioritized. The results of this work will assist in developing apportioning criteria for Step 3.

Step 3: With assistance by Medic One staff, the workgroup will develop a recommendation for a budgeting plan for BLS Direct Support Funds including how the funds are apportioned and distributed to the various Agency’s:

- Either using an interim formula (2023 only) *or* using the recommended formula, the disbursement of the 2023 supplemental BLS Direct Support Funds (\$250,000) in 2023, and
- Implementing the recommended formula for BLS Direct Support Funds disbursement in 2024 and beyond.

Joint Workgroup Staffing:

- The EMS Council Chair and three appointees from the EMS Council;
- The Operations Committee Chair and three appointees from the Operations Committee;
- Appropriate Medic One staff to assist in logistical and administrative support to the workgroup; and
- The Chair of the Operations Committee shall chair this workgroup.

Product: A consensus-based document that will recommend (to the EMS Council) the method by which BLS Direct Support Funds are apportioned and distributed to Agency’s in future Medic One General Budgets.

Timeframe: The Workgroup should plan to meet on a schedule to be agreed upon in an effort to finalize the draft recommendation by the end of the **first quarter 2023** and present it to the EMS Council for their April 2023 regular meeting.