

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ REGULAR MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING

AGENDA - REVISED

September 1, 2022, 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 June 2, 2022
 - B. EMS Council June 15, 2022 & July 20, 2022 - (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. Surplus Medic Units	Miller-Todd	Approve
B. Ambulance Ordinance – Semi-Annual Review	VanCamp	Review
- VII. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM	PRESENTER	EXPECTED OUTCOME
A.		
- VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

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September 1, 2022, 2:00 (PDT)

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**THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID – ESC/VIRTUAL
June 2, 2022**

PRESENT: Steve Brooks, Ciaran Keogh, Tony Kuzma, Wendy Hill, Mindy Churchwell, Mark Gregory, Wendy Rife, Larry Fontanilla, Todd Carson, Jeff DeHan, Leonard Johnson, Brian VanCamp, Brian Hurley

ABSENT: Garth Wade

EXCUSED:

GUESTS: Chris Clem, Rian Winter, Jennifer Schmidt, Scott Jones, Shawn Crimmins, Mike Buchanan, Michael Hughes, Chris Patti

STAFF: Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Daphne Reaves, Rick Wilkinson

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

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

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Operations Committee – April 7, 2022 – (Johnson/DeHan) move to approve and this carried.
2. EMS Council – April 20, 2022 & May 18, 2022 (Informational only)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **West Region EMS Council** – Clem reported: WREMS 2022/2023 fiscal year budget was approved. There have been some additional expenses mainly due to the transition of Anne to Greg which forced them to dip into their surplus, however moving forward to 2022/2023, they should be back to a positive status.
- B. **Subcommittees**
 1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – Rian Winter reported: 1) There is a severe shortage of Epi 1:10,000, albuterol and all forms of saline. Medic One is working on other avenues to get these meds and contingencies if they don't become available. 2) PPE stocks are still robust. 3) As a follow-up to a previous discussion on an app that has a lot of cognitive off-loading resources for providers, the committee has looked at another app called Handtevy, and a quote has been requested. 3) The next meeting is July 21st at 0930.
 2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – Crimmins reported: The committee met on April 28th and has agreed to move forward on developing a stand-alone "hostile event". The committee will meet again on June 30th at 0900 for further discussion on moving this forward to Ops for review.
 3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – No report.
 4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – Brooks reported: The key area of discussions was the 90-day no divert trial and the lack of available BLS transport resources. The Operations Chiefs formed a subcommittee, which will provide a briefing later in this meeting.
 5. ePCR Committee – No report.
- C. **Staff Report** – Staff report is located on the website at – <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/m1/Pages/meetings.aspx>
Miller-Todd added - we are going through the paramedic hiring process, June 22nd and 23rd.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. EMS Council Action Report – VanCamp reported: 1) Miller-Todd provided an update on the vacancies at Medic One. 2) The council proposed changing the bylaws so the officer term will be 2 years rather than 1. 3) The council was updated on the 90-day no divert trial. 4) At the April meeting the council moved forward with hybrid meetings, however at the May meeting there was discussion about going back to virtual. There will be further discussion at the June meeting. 5) BLS 2022 funding was discussed.
- B. Special Projects Committee – Clem provided a report from the Special Project Committee and asked for an approval from Ops for a recommendation to the EMSC. The recommendation is to approve the requested amount from FD8 and FD17, with the remaining budget split between FD12 and FD9. (Hurley/Kuzma) move to approve the special project grants requested for 2022, and this carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Removing COVID screening questions from TCOMM's dispatch questionnaire – This has been approved by the MPD. (Gregory/Kuzma) move to approve a recommendation to make this change and further recommend it back to TCOMM.

B. Surplus Medic Units – Miller-Todd provided information on surplus medic units that are expected to be available in the next 18 months. Applications were emailed to each agency, with a submittal deadline of July 15th. VanCamp asked about question #7 on the application which asks if the surplus unit would be available to Medic One if needed. Miller-Todd believes this question was intended for asking if it would be available to respond to multi-jurisdictional calls.

C. BLS Transport Pilot – Chief Schmidt presented information on a Guideline to Interoperability Deliberate BLS Transport Unit Dispatching, which was emailed to the Ops committee prior to this meeting. The purpose of this guideline is to increase BLS transport unit availability. The implementation of this guideline is intended to be for a trial period of 90 days, with performance metrics evaluated every 30 days. VanCamp asked for this to be reviewed and approved by the TRU committee and then brought back to Ops in July.

D. OFD – BLS Transport Briefing – OFD addressed BLS transport needs in the City of Olympia and is asking for support from the Ops Committee: OFD has been experiencing decreasing availability by private ambulance services; decreased ability to handle concurrent emergency calls; and is facing increased call volume. OFD is proposing to add 2 aid units that can serve as BLS response and transport units, staffed with 2 BLS Fire Fighters, 24/7, and this would be funded by GEMT and private insurance companies. These units would be the primary BLS transport units for Olympia. OFD explained a proposed response model for mutual-aid, and they also predict that this would improve medic unit availability. (Hurley/Johnson) move to support Olympia's proposal, and as a committee, to move it forward as a recommendation to the EMS council in support. The motion carried, with one against.

E. Cancel July Ops meeting? – Due to items that need further discussion and/or action, the committee decided not to cancel the July Ops meeting.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Miller-Todd reminded the committee that Anna Lee Drewry retires July 15, 2022, and he introduced Rick Wilkinson as her replacement.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm.

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Hybrid (ESC/Virtual)
June 15, 2022**

PRESENT: Cindy Hambly, Sheila Fay, Stan Moon, John Ricks, Mark Gregory, Frank Kirkbride, Gary Edwards, Paul Perz, Angela Jefferson, Dontae Payne, Wayne Fournier, Lenny Greenstein,

ABSENT: Harry Miller

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Mark John, Mike Buchanan, Todd Carson, Dan Bivens, Shawn Crimmins, Steven Busz, Brian Hurley, Chris Clem, Steve Brooks, Liberty Hetzler, Tony Kuzma

STAFF: Ben Miller-Todd, Anna Lee Drewry, Daphne Reaves, Alan Provencher, Kurt Hardin, Sandra Bush

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

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC – New Business, Item A, Special Projects, was changed from ‘Approve’ to ‘Information’. (Hambly/Kirkbride) move to approve, and this carried.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. EMS COUNCIL – April 20, 2022 & May 18, 2022 – (Ricks/Hambly) approve of the April & May minutes, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – June 2, 2022 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** Chief Gregory reported: 1) The Ops Committee approved the special project requests which are on today’s agenda. 2) OFD provided a presentation on BLS transports, which is on today’s agenda. 3) Chief Schmidt with Lacey Fire provided a presentation on a BLS transport pilot. Chair VanCamp asked for this to be reviewed and approved by the TRU committee and brought back to Ops in July.
- B. **WEST REGION:** Perz reported: 1) Greg Perry distributed new guidelines for field triage, and these guidelines will be discussed at future meetings. 2) There will not be an EMS conference in 2023. The focus will be on regional training, such as the cadaver lab they had last year. 3) The Grays Harbor EMS training program needed funding and there was concern about whether they would be able to continue after May of 2022. They received a grant from the Quinault nation which will help them to continue operating through the end of this year. WREMS also gave them a \$7,000 grant. 4) Haley Thacker with DOH gave a presentation on HB1893 which authorizes EMTs to administer vaccines under certain conditions when there is a declaration of a state or local emergency. 5) LFD3 and Danielle King with the Child Care Action Council provided a presentation on the prevention grant they received for Safe Kids. 6) Perz thanked Ben Miller-Todd for the multi-county dashboard presentation he gave on multi-county divers.
- C. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff report is available on the website. [Thurston County | Medic One | Committee Meeting Information \(thurstoncountywa.gov\)](https://thurstoncountywa.gov/committees/medic-one). Miller-Todd highlighted on the following: 1) Paramedic hiring process will take place in June and we are looking at 8. 2) The ALS Training Coordinator, BLS Program Manager, and SEI Coordinator, are all posted on the County website. 3) EMT graduation is June 20th at 5pm at SPSCC. 4) As of June 6th, 1,377 citizens have been trained in hands-only CPR.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. BLS OTEP Funding – At the May EMS council meeting, the council was presented with a revised BLS funding worksheet. The revision includes a reallocation of funding, which will result in additional financial support funding to agencies who will be providing OTEP classes. Staff is asking the council for action on this funding. (Hambly/Ricks) move to approve the reallocation of funding, and this carried.
- B. BLS Funding Agreement - Amendment – Staff is asking the council for approval on an amendment to the

BLS Funding Agreement, which is companion to the BLS OTEP funding. The amendment will increase the contract amount greater than 10% so it must go before the BoCC. (Kirkbride/Greenstein) move to suspend rules to be able to consider the intergovernmental agreement, and this carried. (Kirkbride/Perz) move to recommend to the BoCC that they accept Amendment No. 2 to the Basic Life Support intergovernmental EMS contract, and this carried.

- C. Hybrid EMSC Meetings – Chair Moon said the council will remain hybrid, however he encourages those that can attend in-person, to do so.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Special Projects – Chief Gregory provided the council with a summary of the special project applications. Applications were received from FD8, FD12, FD17 and FD9. The Ops committee approved the agency's match request for FD8 and FD17, and a portion of the request from FD12 and FD9. Action is not needed from the council as the \$10,000 budget for special projects was previously approved.
- B. Response Times – Miller-Todd reported: At the last EMSC meeting, staff was asked for a refresher on average response times and what the applicable pieces are. Miller-Todd presented the 2021 ALS response times which showed the urban, suburban and rural response areas and a 2021 aggregate of 07:43. Miller-Todd explained a slower response time is due to an increase in population, which increases call volume, while the number of responding units have not increased. Councilmember Jefferson asked if staff could produce reports that show the trend in response times over a period of time.
- C. OFD – BLS Transport Briefing – OFD provided the BLS transport briefing that was provided to the Ops committee in June. The briefing outlines OFD's need due to decreasing availability by private ambulance services, decreased availability to handle concurrent emergency calls, and how this problem is compounded by increased call volume. OFD proposes to add 2 aid units that can serve as BLS transport units and is planning on GEMT and private insurance funding for this service. The aid units will be the primary source for BLS transport, and if those units are not available then AMR will be dispatched and if AMR is not available, Olympic Ambulance will be dispatched.

- VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Tony Kuzma with AMR spoke regarding the OFD briefing and informed the council of their aggressive measures to improve staffing.

- VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – 1) Chair Moon reminded the council that this meeting is Paul Perz's last attendance as a council member, and thanked Paul for his 6 years on the council. 2) Anna Lee Drewry's last day with Medic One is July 15th. 3) Chief John with OFD is retiring July 1st.

- IX. ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 4:48.

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Virtual
July 20, 2022**

PRESENT: Cindy Hambly, Stan Moon, John Ricks, Brian VanCamp, Angela Jefferson, Dontae Payne, Lenny Greenstein, Harry Miller, Liberty Hetzler

ABSENT: Wayne Fournier

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla, Sheila Fay, Gary Edwards, Margaret McPhee

GUESTS: Dan Bivens, Shawn Crimmins, Brian Hurley, Chris Clem, Steve Brooks, Tony Kuzma, Corey Rux, Steven Slater, Chris Patti

STAFF: Ben Miller-Todd, Daphne Reaves, Joy Miller, Sandra Bush

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

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC – Removed New Business, Item A. Citizen At Large Position. (Ricks/Miller) move to approve the agenda as amended, and this carried.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. EMS COUNCIL – June 15, 2022 – (Greenstein/Ricks) approve of the minutes, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – No July meeting

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** No meeting, no report.
- B. **WEST REGION:** No meeting, no report.
- 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) We had an excellent paramedic hiring round with 5-6 new medics on-board within 6-8 weeks. This will bring us to 98-99% staffed. 2) There will be a fall EMT class, however it will start slightly later than normal.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **2023 Budget Amendments** – Miller-Todd presented: Medic One has come to a tentative agreement with the ALS agencies, for their contract renewal. Budget amendments for 2023 are needed prior to the ability to pass the contract in front of the council and the board. Miller-Todd presented the anticipated budgetary changes based on a tentative agreement for the ALS contracts, going into 2023.

For the ALS contracts there will be a net increase in 2023 of \$595,000, which is about a 5.7% increase in the contract value. This includes a cost savings of \$175,000 in disability clarification, and a cost increase of \$770,000 for paramedic staffing and operational augmentation.

Miller-Todd presented the potential 2023 Medic One Budget Amendment requests for both ALS & BLS. ALS Contracts: \$650,000 which includes the \$595,000 mentioned earlier + 0.5% for unexpected operating increases associated with negotiations; AED's: \$45,000; BLS: \$25,000, which includes an increase in the SafeKids contract, increase in testing/protocol, chromebooks, classmarker on-line platform, and a 5% increase in wages for instructors and evaluators; I.T.: \$75,000 for an increase in contracts/equipment; \$144,410 increase in the cost for (2) new medic units. The total budget amendment requests = \$939,410.

(Greenstein/Ricks) move to suspend the normal process of review and approval, and this carried.

(Ricks/Greenstein) move to approve the proposed budget amendments, and this carried.

- B. Ambulance Transport – FD9 Operations Chief Chris Patti, Chair of the Operations Chiefs Committee, provided information to the council on ambulance transport delays. A sub-committee of the Operations Chiefs Committee was created to evaluate long wait times in the field, and at this time they are working to start a “deliberate ambulance dispatch trial”, August 1st. The intent of the trial is to try and eliminate multiple times a day/week when ambulances are dispatched on BLS calls and there is no ambulance available. Beginning August 1st, ambulances will not be dispatched on the initial BLS call, except for motor vehicle accidents. All other transport requests will be made by the responding agency.

Chris Clem with Olympic Ambulance said over the past 6 months they have gone from being in possibly the most challenging staffing situation to being on the verge of the best staffing situation they’ve ever been in. In 2022 they have hired 52 EMTs and EMT interns, in Thurston County. Chris said prior to COVID, things were good with 6-9 ambulances running. They are now at a consistent 7–8 during the week days, and after 4–8 weeks when the new hires have completed their training, they expect to be up to 9 rigs. Tony Kuzma with AMR provided an update on their staffing levels as well which indicate an improvement. Pre-COVID they had 20 full-time positions, and right now they have 22 full-time positions. In 3 weeks, they expect to have 24 full-time EMTs to fill 22 positions. Pre-COVID they were running 4 ambulances and they expect to be at 5 in 3-4 weeks, with 2 critical care shifts.

Miller-Todd provided an update from Chief Carson with OFD. The 60-day notices were issued to AMR and Olympic in June. OFD will re-address and update Olympia city council regarding the 60-day time once it has expired. Likely steps going forward will be a September OFD presentation regarding BLS transport and the CARES (Community Assistance, Referrals and Education Services) proposal for the EMSC and city council. The CARES program is designed to serve a community’s most vulnerable populations that may have low acuity, but high-volume needs. OFD has traditionally utilized the system to help with social services referrals, but may be expanding the program to address those patients that may need help with daily medications, diabetes management, chronic disease management, etc. It is to help address the overutilization of the 911 by addressing the needs of these vulnerable populations.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. FD13 BLS Transport – FD13 submitted an EMS Service Verification and Vehicle License application for BLS transport, as well as an amendment to the application. The amendment removes Mason County Fire District #4 from their mutual aid plan. A recommendation is needed today because of the tight window of opportunity DOH provides for receiving all necessary approvals before submitting to DOH. (Greenstein/Ricks) move to suspend the normal process of review and approval, and this carried. (Greenstein/Ricks) move to approve the application, as well as the application amendment, and this carried.
- B. Hospital Diversion Update – Miller-Todd provided a presentation on hospital diversions he gave to the County Commissioners. There was an article written in the Olympian over this presentation and Miller-Todd wanted to clarify and give the same presentation to the council. Thurston County was recently under a 90-day no-divert trial. Providence St. Peter, Capital Medical Center, and Providence Centralia all agree to stay with the no-divert policy because it improves patient flow throughout the system, reduces redundancy with EMS providers calling multiple facilities trying to figure out where to take a patient, and it basically smooths out the waxing and waning of call volumes in the system.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

- VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – Chair Moon said we typically cancel a council meeting in the summer, and based on the council approving the budget amendment today, there is nothing critical on the agenda for August, therefore the August EMSC meeting has been cancelled.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:36.

Chapter 6.16 - AMBULANCES

Sections:

6.16.010 - Definitions.

- A. "Ambulance" means any private vehicle that is especially designed, constructed, equipped, maintained or used for the transportation of patients which is operated as part of an ambulance service for hire.
- B. "Ambulance service" means any business involving ownership, operation, management or maintenance of any ambulance within Thurston County.
- C. "Medic One personnel" means any person who is acting on behalf of a fire department, regional fire authority, or a fire district and who has been certified as a paramedic, emergency medical technician, first responder, or advanced first aider.
- D. "Medical transport officer" means emergency response person who is responsible for patient transports.
- E. "Operations committee" means the operations committee of the emergency medical services council.
- F. "Patient" means an individual who is sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated or helpless.
- G. "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, group of individuals acting together for a common purpose, or organization of any kind, including any governmental agency other than the United States.

(Ord. 10091 § 1, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

(Ord. No. [15505](#), 8-29-2017)

6.16.020 - License required.

- A. Except as provided in subsection C of this section, no person shall operate an ambulance or ambulance service within unincorporated Thurston County, unless licensed to do so by Thurston County.
- B. No such license shall be issued unless:
 - 1. The application has fulfilled all applicable requirements of the laws of the state of Washington, including but not limited to Chapters 18.73 and 70.168 RCW and Chapter 246-976 WAC, as those chapters currently exist or are hereafter amended;
 - 2. The applicant has met all the requirements of this chapter, including standards and regulations recommended by the EMS Council and approved by the board of commissioners pursuant to this chapter.
- C. A license is not required for ambulances entering Thurston County solely for the purpose of transporting patients from Thurston County to a medical facility outside of Thurston County, or for ambulance service rendered during a disaster when determined by the Medical Transport Officer to be necessary to a specific incident.
- D. Each license shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.
- E. This chapter shall not be construed to preclude any city's requirement for a business license.

(Ord. 11941 § 1, 1999: Ord. 10091 § 2, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.030 - License application and reapplication.

All applications to operate an ambulance or ambulance service shall be submitted with a one hundred dollar application fee to the Medic One office, 2703 Pacific Avenue SE, Suite C, Olympia, Washington, on forms provided by the Medic One office. If all requirements of this chapter and all standards and regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter have been met, the license application shall be approved by the board of county commissioners upon recommendation of the ~~EMSC operations committee~~ and the auditor shall issue the license. The application shall, at a minimum, contain the following information:

- A. Name, home address and telephone number of the applicant;
- B. Business name under which the ambulance service will be operated within the county, together with business address and telephone number;
- C. If the ambulance service is a corporation, the name and address of the officers and directors of such corporation, and in case of a partnership, the name and address of each general or limited partner;
- D. A description of each ambulance, including the make, model, year of manufacture, VIN number, together with current state license number; and the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram or other distinguishing characteristics to be used to designate applicant's ambulance;
- E. The location(s) from which the ambulance service is intended to operate and the number of licensed medical attendants to be initially employed;
- F. List of current employees and evidence of emergency medical technician certification, for such employees, including the certification expiration date. The list shall be updated in writing quarterly and filed with the operations committee;
- G. Any changes in the information provided on the current application shall be submitted in writing to the Medic One office within ten working days of the changes;
- H. Application for renewal of licenses must be submitted with a fee of one hundred dollars by January 31st of each year;
- I. The operations committee shall have sixty days from the date of receipt to reject renewal applicants. Those applications not rejected within the sixty-day period shall be automatically renewed. The Operations Committee Chair shall ~~provide recommendations to the EMSC, inform the Emergency Medical Services Council (EMSC) on all applications for informational purposes.~~

(Ord. 11941 § 2, 1999; Ord. 10091 § 3, 1992; Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

(Ord. No. [15505](#), 8-29-2017)

6.16.040 - Insurance.

- A. No ambulance service shall be issued a license until the operator has submitted to the operations committee a certificate of insurance for automobile liability insurance in a minimum amount of two million dollars and professional insurance in a minimum amount of one million dollars issued by an insurance company approved by the county. The insurer shall be a company licensed to do business in the state.
- B. Said insurance certificate shall be submitted to the operations committee approval prior to the issuance of each ambulance license. Satisfactory evidence that such insurance is at all times in full force and effect shall be furnished to the operations committee, in such form as may be specified, by all licensees required to provide such insurance under the terms of this chapter.
- C. Every insurance policy required under this section shall contain a provision for continuing liability thereunder to the full amount thereof, notwithstanding any recovery thereon, that the liability of the

insurer shall not be affected by the insolvency or the bankruptcy of the insured, and that, until the policy is revoked, the insurance company will not be relieved from liability on account of nonpayment of premium, failure to renew license at the end of the year, or any other act or omission of the name insured.

- D. Every insurance policy required under this section shall extend for the period to be covered by the license applied for, and the insurer shall be obliged to give not less than thirty days' written notice to the operations committee and to the insured before any cancellation or termination of the policy earlier than its expiration date, and the cancellation or other termination of any such policy shall automatically revoke and terminate any license issued for the ambulances covered by such policy, unless a substitute insurance policy complying with the provisions of this section shall be provided and be in effect at or prior to the time of such cancellation or termination.

(Ord. 10091 § 4, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.050 - Filing of ambulance rates required.

- A. Each ambulance service licensed under this chapter shall, upon filing an application for licensure, file with the Medic One office its schedule of rates to be charged for its services, for the duration of the calendar year in which the license is to be issued. Thereafter, each ambulance service licensed under this chapter shall annually file with the Medic One office its schedule of rates to be charged for its services. Said annual rates schedule shall be filed on or before the first day of December of the year preceding the year for which the schedule is to be in effect. The schedules of rates shall be a matter of public record and open to public inspection in the Medic One office during normal business hours. Any revision during the calendar year shall be filed with the Medic One office at least thirty days prior to the rate change becoming effective. Any revisions filed with the Medic One office shall be open to public inspection.
- B. It is unlawful for any ambulance service, including any of its agents or employees, to charge, demand, collect or receive any greater rate of fare than those posted with the county Medic One office. It is unlawful for any ambulance service to charge for any service, equipment or supplies not provided by the ambulance service to the patient.
- C. It is unlawful for any ambulance service to transport a patient without advising the patient or person authorizing the transport, in advance of the transport, that they will be billed for transport services according to the rate schedule. A patient may be transported without said advisement only in circumstances when the delay in obtaining the authorization would be detrimental to the emergency care of the patient.
- D. In the rare circumstance where a Medic One Paramedic accompanies a patient on the private ambulance transport unit due to emergency circumstances, the private ambulance company shall bill Medic One according to their respective published rate schedules. Medic One will set their reimbursement rate schedule according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) rate schedule and shall publish this no later than January 1st of each year. No additional fee, charge, or other cost shall be submitted to the patient or their health care provider.

(Ord. 11941 § 3, 1999: Ord. 10091 § 5, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.055 - Ambulance color scheme restrictions.

- A. The color scheme used by ambulance vehicles must be a color or color combination different than the color schemes reserved for Thurston County Medic One vehicles. The color schemes reserved for the exclusive use by Thurston County Medic One vehicles shall be: red vehicle and/or patient compartment with white or any color stripes(s) and/or white or any color lettering/graphics. No

lettering with the words Medic One, medic, Thurston County or fire department are allowed. No Medic One unique markings or logos are allowed.

- B. No change in ambulance color scheme or company identifying features will be allowed for the duration of the license. A change in the color scheme or company identifying features will require Notification to the Operations Committee.

(Ord. 11941 § 4, 1999)

6.16.060 - License revocation.

- A. The Board of Thurston County commissioners may suspend or revoke any license issued under this chapter for failure of the licensee to comply with, or for the violation of, any provision, standard or requirement of this chapter or for any regulations promulgated hereunder. Prior to any such suspension or revocation, the board shall notify the licensee, in writing, of the intended action and of the opportunity to request a hearing concerning the proposed action within ten working days from the date of the notice. If a hearing is requested in writing by the licensee within said period, the proposed action shall not be taken, if at all, until after completion of the hearing.
- B. Any ambulance service may appeal to the board of county commissioners for review of the findings. Such appeal must be in writing and must be filed with the board of county commissioners within ten days of the license suspension or revocation shall be stayed until such time as the board has reviewed the findings and entered its decision. The stay shall not affect subsequent suspensions or revocations for subsequent violations.

(Ord. 10091 § 6, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.070 - Recordkeeping.

Each licensee shall maintain complete and accurate records, which shall include information regarding requests for services and transportation of each patient within the county by the licensee. All such records shall be available for inspection at the Medic One office at all reasonable times.

(Ord. 10091 § 7, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.080 - Availability of equipment and personnel.

Each licensee under this chapter shall maintain a minimum of two ambulances, at least one of which is staffed on a twenty-four hour basis.

(Ord. 10091 § 8, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.085 - Ambulance personnel uniforms and identification.

It is unlawful for ambulance personnel to wear public agency uniforms while on duty for private ambulance companies. It is unlawful for private ambulance personnel to wear uniforms lettered with the words Medic One, medic, Thurston County or fire department. Personnel will identify themselves to the patient or person authorizing transport as personnel of the ambulance company they represent.

(Ord. 11941 § 5, 1999)

6.16.090 - Inspections.

- A. An authorized representative of the county may conduct an inspection of a licensee upon the receipt of any complaint about said licensee. In addition to the inspections identified above, an authorized representative of the county may, during normal business hours, inspect the records, equipment and accessories of any licensee hereunder.
- B. Each licensee shall pay an inspection fee in the amount specified annually by the board of county commissioners for each inspection prompted by a complaint; provided, however, that no such inspection fee shall be paid if the board of county commissioners determines that the complaint was unwarranted or without substantial merit. All inspection fees shall be due and payable within ten days of the date of the inspection.

(Ord. 10091 § 9, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.100 - Medic One—Ambulance dispatch.

- A. In order to provide optimum patient care in Thurston County and release Medic One aid cars to respond to other emergency calls, when needed, the ambulance service whose base station or branch office is located nearest the incident may be called by Thurston County central dispatch as determined by Medic One personnel at the scene. If central dispatch is unable to contact an ambulance service or an ambulance service cannot respond immediately, then the next nearest ambulance service may be contacted. This referral service does not preclude a patient from requesting that a specific ambulance service be dispatched.
- B. This referral service does not prevent a fire district or city from contracting with a private ambulance service from transportation exclusively in their jurisdiction.
- C. No effort shall be made by the licensee to assume the custody of a patient before release of custody has been made by Medic One personnel in charge at the scene.

(Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.110 - Operations committee.

- A. The operations committee shall act as an advisory committee to the Thurston County Emergency Medical Services council and Board of County Commissioners regarding the administration of this chapter.
- B. The operations committee shall meet ~~at least semi~~annually to review and recommend amendments to this chapter to the board of county commissioners. The operations committee will meet with all Thurston County licensed ambulance companies regarding any proposed amendments. The committee may recommend new or different equipment to be required of ambulance services.

(Ord. 10091 § 10, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

(Ord. No. [15505](#), 8-29-2017)

6.16.120 - Violation—Penalty.

- A. It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to operate or attempt to operate an ambulance or ambulance service without first complying with the provisions of this chapter, including all standards and regulations adopted by Thurston County pursuant to this chapter. Any person, firm or corporation convicted of violating any provisions of this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in an amount not exceeding five hundred dollars. Each day during which any person, firm or corporation is in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a separate violation.

- B. According to established administrative procedures, the operations committee, who has solicited a quorum vote, may issue a cease and desist order prohibiting an ambulance service from operation within Thurston County, or such other order as deemed appropriate, determined by the circumstances of the violation(s).

(Ord. 10091 § 11, 1992: Ord. 7928 § 1 (part), 1984)

6.16.130 - Variances.

- A. The operations committee shall have the authority to grant variances from the provisions of these rules and regulations, when in the opinion of the operations committee, the criteria set forth in subsection B of this section have been found to exist. In such cases, a variance may be granted which is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the ambulance ordinance and the public health, safety and welfare is secured. Variances may be granted for a period of no more than one year.
- B. Before any variance may be granted, it shall be shown:
 - 1. There are special circumstances applicable to the provider or the geographic area served that do not apply generally to other providers or geographic areas;
 - 2. That the literal interpretation of the ambulance ordinance would be detrimental to the public health, safety, and/or welfare;
 - 3. That the proposed variance will not be inconsistent with the general purpose and intent of the ambulance ordinance;
 - 4. The applicant shall have the burden of proving the above specified criteria and the lack of opposition to the request shall not negate this requirement.
- C. Requests for variances shall be made to the operations committee in writing. Any appeals from decisions of the operations committee shall be made in writing to the board of county commissioners within ten days of the decision.

(Ord. 10091 § 12, 1992)