

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ REGULAR MEETING
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

AGENDA

February 3, 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 January 6, 2022
 - B. EMS Council January 19, 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.	EMS Council Action Report	VanCamp	Information
B.	Nominations Committee	Kaleiwahea	Report
C.			
- VII. NEW BUSINESS

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

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February 3, 2022, 2:00 (PDT)

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**THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL
January 7, 2022**

PRESENT: Brian VanCamp, Larry Fontanilla, Steve Brooks, Alex Christiansen, Chris Clem, Keith Flewelling, Russ Kaleiwahea, Todd Carson (Alt for Mark John), Jeff DeHahn, Mindy Churchwell, Brian Hurley

ABSENT: LouAnn Morriss, Wendy Rife, Mark Gregory

EXCUSED:

GUESTS: Scott Jones, Matt Gantenbein, Shawn Crimmins, Karen Weiss

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

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – The meeting was called to order at 2:00.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –MSC – Old Business, Item A (EMSC Report) removed; New Business, Item C, Appoint Nominations Committee, Item D, Advisory Committee Recruitment, Item E, Medic One Staff Temporary Assignments, was added to the agenda. (Clem/DeHan) move to approve the agenda as amended, and this carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Karen Weiss announced Ciaran Keogh as the new rep on Ops for the Paramedic Association. Alternate name is pending.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Operations Committee – December 2, 2021 – (Kaleiwahea/Hurley) move to approve and this carried.
2. EMS Council – No December meeting

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **West Region EMS Council** – See December Ops meeting minutes for the December 1st WREMS meeting report.

B. **Subcommittees**

1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – No report.
2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – No report.
3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – Clem reported: 1) The final draft job description for the lead evaluator and individual agency lead evaluators will be reviewed at the next TAC meeting and then presented to Ops. 2) There is progress on scheduling the evaluator workshops and moving forward trying to plan out OTEP and evaluator status on the new model.
4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – Brooks reported: We are in the middle of a continued crisis level for both transport and receiving facility capacity. The HPU has been staffed this week because private ambulance companies are impacted by their own staffing challenges. There has been some level of success for HPU staffing but there continues to be challenges with overall BLS transport availability. There are also turnaround time challenges at the hospitals due to record high volumes through the emergency departments. Clem added that Olympic is being hit hard with COVID, however they are working at bringing some of the staff back over the next couple of days.
5. ePCR Committee – Miller-Todd reported: The committee will be discussing PCR/NO PCR at the February meeting. The committee meets every other even month on the third Wednesday. There will also be discussion on a couple of options going forward with what data points we want to collect in the ePCR because it was found that some of the changes made early on are actually lacking in some of the data questions.

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. EMS Council Action Report – Council did not meet in December.
- B. 2022 Ambulance License Applications – (Kaleiwahea/Hurley) move to recommend approval of the 2022 ambulance business license applications for AMR, Olympic, and Falck. This recommendation will be presented to the EMS council at their January 19th meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. OIQ Inventory Orders – Tracking Cost – Effective January 2022 Medic One will begin providing a report to agencies when supplies are picked up that will now include the cost of each item. This is an attempt to help agencies track their

BLS supply fund usage throughout the month/year. An email will go out to agencies explaining this change, and comments/feedback is welcome.

B. HPU Recommendation from TRU – Miller-Todd reported: The TRU committee did not feel it was necessary to continue to staff up the HPU beyond the emergency declaration stated by the State. There is a request to the State about whether we can continue to use the ambulance license for the HPU in the event a local disaster or emergency was declared. (Hurley/Carson) recommend the HPU to be discontinued outside of a declared emergency, whether its local, regional or state, and there will be no pursuing of an ambulance license for Thurston County Medic One, outside of a declared emergency, and this carried.

C. Appoint Nominations Committee – The committee will consist of Kaleiwahea, Crimmins, and Clem, and Kaleiwahea will Chair. The nominations committee will report back to Ops in February and elections will take place in March.

D. Advisory Committee Recruitment – Fontanilla is asking for volunteers from providers that can serve on an advisory committee to develop new protocols based on best practices and to look at existing protocols to make sure they are in line with actual in-the-field practice. He is looking for no more than 2 providers from each agency, and meetings would be on a Thursday, once a month, at Medic One. Meetings could start as early as February, and as late as May, with a two-year commitment to start with. This will be an ad-hoc committee and an advisory to the MPD, not to Ops. Fontanilla will email a letter to all providers

E. Medic One Staff Temporary Assignments – Hardin has been placed at Public Health as an Acting Director until the County fills the Director position. Drewry provided a list of responsibilities that will be shared between her and Miller-Todd, during Hardin's absence. The absence is expected to be 3 – 6 months. Two highlighted responsibilities - Drewry will staff the Ops meetings and Miller-Todd will staff the EMSC meetings.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Brooks stated that due to flooding concerns from the Chehalis river, the ECC is standing up at a level II activation and they are working on ESF4 support.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – (Brooks/Clem) move to adjourn at 2:29, and this carried.

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
January 19, 2022**

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

ABSENT: Harry Miller

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Chris Clem, Shawn Crimmins, Dan Bivens, Steve Purcell, Steve Brooks

STAFF: Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Daphne Reaves, 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 – Added Item D, BLS Funding Worksheet, to new Business. (Kirkbride/Ricks) move to approve the agenda as amended, and this carried.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. EMS COUNCIL – November 17, 2021 (December meeting was cancelled) (Greenstein/Hambly) move to approve the minutes, and this carried.

B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – December 1, 2021, January 6, 2021 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) Staff has implemented a new step in processing inventory orders from agencies. A new report will be provided with each order that provides the cost of each item. 2) HPU continued use was discussed – see Old Business, Item A. 3) A nominations committee was appointed for the 2022 election of Chair and Vice-Chair. 4) The MPD is starting an advisory committee to work on protocols. 5) Staff provided an overview of temporary work assignments while Kurt is serving as an interim Director at PHSS.

B. **WEST REGION:** Perz reported: 1) There was a report from DOH regarding the Health Info Exchange workgroup which looks at problems with electronic patient care reporting to the receiving agency from EMS services. They are exploring 3 options, one is EMS based, one is vendor based and the other is DOH based. They are looking for funding and a road map for implementation. 2) Membership was discussed which is on today's agenda under Old Business. 3) The Rehab Without Walls organization, which provides rehab services for brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and strokes has closed several facilities. There was no report as to why some of their facilities have closed. 4) Grays Harbor EMS requested \$7,000 from WREMS to support their EMS training class, and this was approved. The cost for the class is \$35,000, with an expected income of \$25,000, and the county will not support funding for this. 5) Catie Holstein with DOH talked about a workgroup that provides guidance to MPD's regarding law enforcement and EMS in unsecured scenes. 5) There was discussion on reciprocity and the lack of EMTs nationwide. The challenges are legislative hold-up, barriers from other states for providing information, as well as barriers with people providing information for background checks. DOH granted \$30,000 to Lewis County to address recruitment in rural areas. 6) DOH reported that George Washington Hospital published a document on best practices.

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) ePCR and TRU committees will be maintained on a regular basis. 2) Medic One needs signed MOUs from agencies that are billing, for us to get up and running on the entry way at PSPH emergency room. 3) The Public Health Director took another position so Kurt is the interim Director there until the County can fill that position. In the interim at Medic One Ben is Acting Assistant Director and is splitting duties with Anna Lee. Ben will be the staff POC for EMSC and Anna Lee will be helping on the operational side and with the Fire Commissioners.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. HPU – Miller-Todd reported: The Transport Resource Utilization (TRU) committee (a sub-committee of the Operations Committee), was tasked with the question about whether or not Medic One needed to continue to have an operational license in a manner that it had not historically had. TRU decided at the end of the emergency declaration that it would seem most reasonable to let it lapse and that Medic One really doesn't play an operational role in the EMS system. The TRU committee will re-evaluate what they want to do for transport resources in the absence of this license, once we anticipate the state removing the emergency declaration over the course of this year. Staff has reached out to DOH asking if we can keep the license in the event of a local declaration, instead of a state-wide declaration, i.e. a transport crisis in Thurston County. The HPU has been utilized approx., 3 times per shift, and it will remain operational Mondays and Fridays through February, and maybe March. Chris Clem with Olympic Ambulance provided a quick report on their staffing issues. The company has started a paid internship program. The intern will start as a full-time employee, with a full-time EMT wage, and the company will pay for them to attend school while working. This new hiring campaign has drawn a significant amount of interest from applicants.
- B. WREMS Committee Report – Kirkbride reported: There are 49 positions on the WREMS council. An example of these positions are hospital reps, pre-hospital, private ambulance, EMS council, and Fire Chiefs. 20 of the 49 positions are vacant and DOH is giving the WREMS Director a lot of pressure to fill these. An EMSC committee has been tasked to help fill these vacancies, and they identified the following four specific areas to represent Thurston County: Local elected representative, Law Enforcement representative, Local Emergency Management representative, and dispatch. The committee has identified three candidates and this information will be presented at the February EMSC meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Appoint Nominations Committee – The nominations committee will consist of Fay and Perz and they will report at the February meeting.
- B. Appoint ALS Contract Negotiation Committee – The committee will consist of Hambly, Ricks, Greenstein, and Moon.
- C. 2022 Ambulance License Applications (Falk, AMR & Olympic Ambulance) – Hambly asked if Falk will be operating as interfacility only and Miller-Todd confirmed this. Drewry said Falk is aware that they will need to be protocolized in Thurston County. Perz raised some concern about Falk's rates because they are significantly higher than AMR and Olympic. (Greenstein/Fournier) move to approve the 2022 applications for Falk, AMR, and Olympic Ambulance, and this carried, with one oppose.
- D. BLS Funding Worksheet – The 2022 BLS Funding worksheet was presented to the council, which showed a \$300,000 increase in BLS support. The \$300,000 includes an increase in the base amount for financial support and supplies/equipment support, as well as an increase in the supplies/equipment support based on call volume. Medic One will also begin paying for the agency's costs of cellular connection for the modems.
- E. MultiCare Emergency Medical Center – Greenstein recused himself from discussion on this item because it is likely to go before the Lacey City Council. MultiCare has applied with the City of Lacey to open a 15 – 20 bed standalone emergency department in the 4500 block of Pacific Ave and does the EMSC want to write a letter in support of this. The council has decided they need more information before they can support this.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

- VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – 1) Hambly asked when in-person meetings will occur, and Moon said this is up to the County. 2) Kirkbride welcomed Mayor Fournier to the council and thanked him for his input and participation. 3) Miller-Todd said Director Flewelling with TCOMM is retiring and at 3:00 on January 26th there is a virtual retirement party for him. 4) Edwards said the County is following the PHSS Physician's directives on in-person meetings.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:54.