

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

AGENDA

August 5, 2021, 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 3, 2021
 - B. EMS Council June 16, 2021 & July 21, 2021 - (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.	Review Ambulance Ordinance	VanCamp	Discussion
C.	Transport Delays/Diversions	Hardin	Update

VII. NEW BUSINESS

	ITEM	PRESENTER	EXPECTED OUTCOME
A.	PSPH Clinical Agreement	Hardin/Drewry	Information
B.	Medic One budget submission on Aug 6	Hardin	Information
C.	Fall EMT Class	Hardin/Drewry	Discussion
D.	New LE Response/EMS Protocol	Hardin	Discussion

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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August 5, 2021, 2:00 pm (PDT)

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**THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL
June 3, 2021**

PRESENT: Brian VanCamp, Larry Fontanilla, Brian Hurley, Wendy Hill, Steve Brooks, Malloree Fontanilla, Alex Christiansen, Chris Clem, Mark Gregory

ABSENT: Jeff DeHan, LouAnn Morriss, Russ Kaleiwahea, Mindy Churchwell, Mark John

EXCUSED:

GUESTS: Shawn Crimmins, Tony Kuzma, Jennifer Schmidt, Karen Weiss, Leonard Johnson, Matt Gantenbein

STAFF: Sandra Bush, Anna Lee Drewry

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – The meeting was called to order at 2:03.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –MSC – New Business, Item E, OTEP Cancellations was added to the agenda. (Brooks/Hurley) move to approve the agenda as amended, and this carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Operations Committee – May 6, 2021 – (Brooks/Clem) move to approve and this carried.
2. EMS Council – May 19, 2021 (informational only)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **West Region EMS Council** – Clem reported: 1) Board elections took place at the June 2nd meeting. Norma Pancake was elected as Chair, Tony Kuzma was elected as Vice-Chair, and Chris Clem was elected as Secretary/Treasurer. 2) The 2021/2022 budget was approved. There will not be a 2021 conference but there will be some regional trainings, specifically bringing cadaver labs back in as well as hosting some PHTLS classes, and other similar classes, throughout the region. 3) There were 6 applicants for the Executive Director position. Once the applications have been reviewed, interviews will be scheduled for later this month.

B. **Subcommittees**

1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – Crimmins reported: 1) No drug shortages. 2) Good stock on PPE, however gloves are at an extremely high price. 3) The glucometer exchange program is ongoing through Medic One. 4) Next meeting is scheduled for July 29th at 0930.
2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – Crimmins reported: 1) Committee is looking at adding or changing some of the terminology in the plan, an example would be the casualty collection point, to be more in-line with law enforcement partners. Also, may be adding an ambulance exchange point. 2) Starting to build the new standalone hostile event plan. The goal over the next month or two is to have the plan developed, create some flip cards as an addendum to the job aids, or just a new standalone flip card, and have something to present to Ops in September. VanCamp reminded the committee that a Homeland Security grant was approved for the Active Shooter plan. 3) June 4th Crimmins will be participating in a train derailment exercise, which is being put on by Pierce County, as they are getting ready to start the line up again for Amtrak. Crimmins will bring back a report on this to the next Ops meeting.
3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – Clem reported: 1) There was an OTEP update which will be covered under New Business. 2) See staff report for EMT class update. 3) Policies and processes will be looked at for reciprocity. 4) Next meeting is scheduled for June 17th.
4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – There will be discussion under New Business, however Brooks did report the following: Tremendous volumes continue to go through both hospitals, so round robin continues to be the “go to” process for managing this, while agencies and private ambulance companies work on implementing processes to mitigate this.
5. ePCR Committee – No report.

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** – VanCamp reported – 1) The BoCC voted to place the levy lid lift on the August 3rd ballot. 2) Budget committee provided a report. 3) Staff presented the 2021 1st quarter budget vs actual report. 4) Transport delays and concerns were discussed. 5) VVREMS application was approved for Ann Kellogg, who will replace Kathy Pace.

B. Special Project Applications – Hurley presented the Special Project Committee recommendation. The total for all 5 applications fell below the \$10,000 budget allowance, and all 5 were approved except for one item for FD12. The committee did not approve the safety glasses on their application because this item does not fall under special projects criteria and should be purchased with BLS funds. Also, when the committee approved West Thurston's manikins, it is with the emphasis that the manikins can be used by other departments who provide CPR classes. (Hurley/Brooks) move to approve recommending the committee's approval to the EMSC, and this carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Transport Delays/Diversions – Clem reported: A couple of short-term plans are in motion to help bring some relief to the transport delay issue. First, PSPH has a plan to utilize the ambulance breezeway into the E.D. as a staffed waiting area with hospital beds, for lower acuity patients. June 21st is the target date to have this available for use. Second, there is discussion on having a surge plan in place where providers are communicating to the system that things are starting to go sideways, and additional staff may be needed.

B. Proposed Lacey Behavioral Health Facility – Drewry reported: City of Lacey has approved land use for the Lacey Behavioral Health Facility. This was endorsed by the EMSC last month.

C. Proposed Maple Lane Behavioral Health Facility – DSHS will be using part of this facility for involuntary holds.

D. In-Person Ops Meetings - VanCamp asked the committee for their input on going back to in-person meetings vs. staying with virtual meetings. Fully vaccinated attendees would not be required to wear a face covering, however if there are attendees who are not fully vaccinated, capacity continues to be limited to 50% of capacity and physical distancing must be maintained. Also, fully vaccinated attendees must attest to being vaccinated if they do not want to wear a mask. Only two committee members provided input, so VanCamp recommended staying with virtual meetings and discuss again at the September Ops meeting. (Gregory/Brooks) move to approve, and this carried.

E. OTEP Cancellations – Due to lack of instructor availability, there was a decrease in the number of a specific class, and VanCamp asked for discussion on this. VanCamp asked TAC to consider; 1) Identifying the primary reasons for cancellations of the OTEP session; 2) Evaluate what is needed to prevent cancellations in the future; 3) Develop plans to ensure that the 2022 OTEP plan is fully resourced in order to prevent this from re-occurring; and 4) Explore longer-term solutions to ensure adequate resources for training (including a greater reliance upon the agencies themselves if needed). Drewry explained that for departments with multiple sessions of the 'Affective' class, a percentage of the Medic One sponsored class was pulled back, leaving in-house instruction still available. There was further discussion on the need for OTEP instructors, which TAC will be addressing at their June 17th meeting.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – 1) Spring EMT class graduation is June 13th at 2:00 and will be held at SPSCC Olympia/Tumwater site. Capacity is limited to 400. 2) July Ops meeting will be cancelled due to Independence Day.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – (Clem/Johnson) move to adjourn at 3:08, and this carried.

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
June 16, 2021**

PRESENT: Cindy Hambly, Frank Kirkbride, John Ricks, Renata Rollins, Sheila Fay, Brian VanCamp, Harry Miller, Stan Moon, Paul Perz, Angela Jefferson, Lenny Greenstein

ABSENT: Wayne Fournier

EXCUSED: Margaret McPhee, Gary Edwards, Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Shawn Crimmins, Tony Kuzma, Steve Brooks, Brian Hurley, Daniel Bivens

STAFF: Kurt Hardin, Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Joy Miller

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 – (Kirkbride/Ricks) move to approve the agenda, and this carried.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. EMS COUNCIL – May 19, 2021 (Greenstein/Kirkbride) move to approve the minutes as written, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – June 3, 2021 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) The MCI committee is working on updating some terminology used on the plan. The committee also continues to work on the Stand-Alone Hostile event plan (formerly known as Active Shooter plan). Crimmins also reported at Ops that he would be attending training for extrication and management of passenger train derailments. 2) TRU provided a report on continued through-put problems with emergency patients in the system (see Old Business, Item B). 3) Special Project applications were approved, with one change (see New Business, Item A). 4) Ops committee will discuss at the September meeting if in-person meetings will resume, or if virtual meetings will remain. 5) There was discussion about OTEP cancellations and TAC will be working on this.
- B. **WEST REGION:** Perz reported: 1) An election was made for board officers. Norma Pancake is Chair, Tony Kuzma is Vice-Chair and Chris Clem is Secretary/Treasurer. Thurston County needs to have one more executive on the board, and there has been some difficulty filling this position. 2) Several months back the EMSC submitted their min/max for pre-hospital EMS resources, which was approved by WREMS, however DOH had concerns about the consistency of information and the need for a needs assessment if any county is going to submit a request for change. DOH is requesting additional information before they will make approval on this. 3) There was discussion at the WREMS meeting that PSPH is currently operating as a level II stroke center, down from a level I, due to staff shortages, and Capital Medical Center decided to delay applying for their stroke categorization. During the meeting Miller-Todd was able to get clarification that PSPH did not lower their certification for stroke, however there is continued staffing issues, but they are still able to provide the services they are certified to do. In the event that PSPH is not able to provide care, past immediate care, there are specific days and hours they are coordinating with partner hospitals north of us, which is about 7 shifts per month, and coverage has already been coordinated with Olympic Ambulance to transfer the patients. All Thurston County EMS stroke transports will continue transport to PSPH. If there is a need to transfer the patient, PSPH will coordinate directly with Olympic Ambulance. Perz will follow-up with Anne Benoist at WREMS. 4) Pierce County had an issue with an ambulance providing transport services before they received approval from DOH. This created discussion on what the process is before services can be provided. 5) 6 applications have been received for the Executive Director position. The goal is to have this position filled by July 1st.
- 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). Kurt also mentioned that during the last paramedic recruitment process, there were zero applicants. Since that time, Miller-Todd and the 3 ALS MSO's got on Linked-In,

they did a zoom video with prospective candidates, and as of today 7 applications have been received, with 2 more on the way, and 2 who have shown interest.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Levy Lid Lift Update – The levy lid lift ballot measure is on the August 3rd ballot – see Medic One website for an explanatory statement. The ballot title changed, by the Auditor, to Thurston County/Medic One Proposition No. 1 Levy Lid Lift.
- B. Transport Delays/Diversions – As a short-term solution to transport delays, PSPH has converted an area in the E.D. where patients who require someone to monitor them, can be off-loaded and monitored so response units can be freed up.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Special Project Applications – The council received a copy of the applications, as well as a matrix which shows the Ops Committee's recommendation. The following applications were received: South Thurston Fire & EMS (equipment enhancement); WTRFA (citizen adult CPR manikin enhancement); FD8 (rope rescue operations enhancement); FD17 (gas monitors); FD6 (ballistic vest program). The total cost for these requests came under the \$10,000 budget. Ops recommendation is to approve all these items, except for safety glasses, which were requested by South Thurston Fire & EMS. Ops did not feel these were a special project item, but rather should be paid for with BLS funds. There was also an emphasis from Ops that WTRFA manikins be made available for other agencies who provide CPR classes. (Kirkbride/Greenstein) move to approve the recommendation from Ops, and this carried.
- B. 2022/2023 Budget Presentation – Staff presented the 2022/2023 budget to the council. There is a Q&A session scheduled for July 13th at 10:00 am for budget questions. Also, questions can be sent to joy.miller@co.thurston.wa.us.

Two budgets were presented, one if the levy lid lift passes, and one if the levy lid lift does not pass.

Staff provided a table which showed where Medic One is currently at in 2021 and what is being proposed for 2022/2023 (Admin/ALS/BLS) if the levy passes. The total increase for 2022 is \$1.79 million and the total increase for 2023 is \$678,000. The increase in 2022 includes adding 3 new positions (Quality Improvement Coordinator, ALS Coordinator, and a full-time Senior EMS Instructor). The budget also includes a 5% increase in ALS support contracts, an increase in paid patient salaries (this has not been increased for years), the cost for resuming CPR classes, and additional costs for BLS support vaccinations. The 2023 budget includes a 5% increase in ALS support contracts, increased fuel and supply costs, and an increase to the BLS financial/supply support. In 2021 I.T. support is included in the ALS/BLS budgets, however with the 2022/2023 budget, I.T. will have a separate budget. 2022/2023 ER&R includes adding 14 ventilators, 1 radio, 140 tablet batteries, and a Medic One administrative vehicle (the current vehicle is 13 years old).

Revenue projections for 2022 – 2027 were provided, showing an increase from \$14.7 million to \$20.7 million.

If the levy lid lift does not pass, the following decrease in the budget will need to take place. A reduction in 2022 of \$643,611 and a reduction in 2023 of \$798,075. Included in this reduction would be a decrease in ALS support contracts and ALS support services, a reduction in BLS support, and a reduction in administrative supplies, travel, and education. In addition to the budget reductions, if the levy does not pass, the following equipment enhancements will need to be deferred: (2022) 14 ventilators, 1 radio, 140 tablet batteries and 1 Medic One administrative vehicle; (2023) 2 medic units, 10 dispatching terminals, 100 tablets, 5 gurneys, 2 radios and 60 AEDs. The 3 new positions proposed for in 2022 will also need to be deferred. For 2024 and future years, the following would need to be deferred – 6 medic units and adding an 8th medic unit in the county.

At the July EMSC meeting, staff will ask the council for a recommendation of this budget, to the Thurston County BoCC.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – During the meeting, Perz received an email from Anne Benoist, regarding the PSPH stroke certification discussed earlier and Anne will reach out to Matt Nelson with DOH for clarification.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:53.

DRAFT

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Virtual – Zoom Meeting
July 21, 2021**

PRESENT: Cindy Hambly, Liberty Hetzler, John Ricks, Margaret McPhee, Brian VanCamp, Harry Miller, Stan Moon, Paul Perz, Angela Jefferson, Lenny Greenstein

ABSENT: Wayne Fournier, Renata Rollins, Sheila Fay, Gary Edwards

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Greg Perry, Chris Clem, Shawn Crimmins, Tony Kuzma, Brian Hurley, Daniel Bivens

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

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** – New Business, Item E. Effects of Police Reforms on Medical Response was added to the agenda. (Greenstein/Ricks) move to approve the agenda as amended, and this carried.
- II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None
- III. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. EMS COUNCIL – June 16, 2021 (Hambly/Greenstein) move to approve the minutes with the following amendment, and this carried: West Region Committee Report; change Normal Pancake to Norma Pancake.
 - B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – No July meeting
- IV. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** No report
 - B. **WEST REGION:** Greg Perry, new Executive Director for WREMS, introduced himself and provided a briefing oversight and function of WREMS.
 - 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). Hambly asked why the Fall EMT course skills session is scheduled for one full week from 0800 – 1700, rather than evenings through-out the course. Miller-Todd said this new schedule is a result of staffing issues.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Levy Lid Lift Update – The levy lid lift ballot measure is on the August 3rd ballot. Hardin has provided a number of informational presentations across the county, with no additional presentations scheduled at this time.
 - B. 2022/2023 Budget – Hardin provided the following update: Prior to the last EMSC meeting, Medic One was not aware of what the interfund transfer costs would be. There is a 13% increase for 2022 and a 17% increase for 2023, and this increase is with or without a levy lid lift; a public outreach budget has been added so Medic One can continue to educate the public on what Medic One provides; a component has been added for another ballot measure if the current year's levy lid lift does not pass. (Greenstein/Hambly) move to recommend to the BoCC approval of the draft budget with the levy lid lift passing and the alternate budget if it does not pass, and this carried.
 - C. EMS Transport Capability – Hardin reported: There have been exceptionally long wait times in the field, from the EMS crew arriving on site to a transport unit being available to take a patient to the emergency department. The primary cause for this is EMS providers are unable to transfer patients from their unit to the hospital because the emergency rooms are full. EMS providers met to look at how they can mitigate this situation and increase transport unit availability.

One of the first steps in addressing this situation is to staff an area PSPH has created in the emergency room with EMS personnel (1 or 2 EMTs). PSPH has equipped this area with 4 hospital gurneys so EMS personnel can then turn their patients over to the EMTs for care and the transport unit is now freed up to take other EMS calls. This was implemented July 16th with Medic One staffing it, however fire agencies have been asked to help with this as Medic One cannot continue to staff this for the remainder of this month. The staffing hours are 1400 – 2200, Monday – Friday. Medic One will reimburse the agencies for their cost to staff this area. If volunteer fire fighters are going to staff this area, Medic One will employ them as extra help and pay them directly.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. WREMS membership application (Bill Kriegsman) – This is a new member application and was mailed directly to Medic One. The application has a Grays Harbor mailing address and it states he works at MultiCare. It is recommended that Mr. Kriegsman apply thru Grays Harbor. (Hambly/Hetzler) move to not approve Bill Kriegsman's application because he does not live in Thurston County and he cannot represent the public in his current position at CMC, and this carried.
- B. WREMS membership application (Sue Poyner) – Sue Poyner is an employee at Thurston County Public Health, and is currently a WREMS member, so this is a reappointment. (Hambly/Perz) move to recommend a reappointment, and this carried.
- C. In Person Meetings vs. Virtual Meetings – The county is following the state's requirements for open meetings, and meetings subject to OPMA. Staff shared the following requirements: Fully vaccinated attendees are not required to wear masks; fully vaccinated attendees must attest to being vaccinated if they do not want to wear a mask; if there are any attendees who are not fully vaccinated, masks and social distancing are required. Hardin mentioned that Health and Human Services has renewed the determination that a public health emergency exists, and this is effective for the next 90 days. (McPhee/Jefferson) move to recommend leaving the meetings as they are thru zoom for the next 90 days, and this carried, with one opposition.
- D. Effects of Police Reforms on Medical Response – HB1310, Effects of Police Reforms on Medical Response, goes into effect July 25, 2021, and changes the way law enforcement responds to certain situations in the field, however this does not change how EMS responds. One of the challenges of this is the State Attorney's office has not provided any guidance on implementation of this law, they have left it up to the local jurisdictions. The second challenge to this is State DOH has not provided any guidance on EMS response, and the conflicting criteria of EMS responders being able to perform their duties safely. The Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's office has been working diligently to come up with a process for the County Sheriff's department, as well as for Medic One, to help provide guidance.

The MPD has issued an interim protocol, which will go out July 22nd, that essentially says EMS personnel will not provide medical treatment in a situation which has been deemed as unsafe. This protocol has been approved by the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's office.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – McPhee received a spam email from EMSC member John Ricks. Ricks said he has been hacked so be careful when opening emails from him.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:40.

ORDINANCE NO. 15751

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AMENDING TITLE 6, CHAPTER 6.16, SECTIONS 6.16.010, 6.16.030, 6.16.040, 6.16.050,
6.16.055, 6.16.100 OF THE THURSTON COUNTY CODE**

WHEREAS, The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners adopted revisions to the original Thurston County Title 6, Ordinance No. 10091, on June 15, 1992, ordinance No. 7928, on November 6, 1984, Ordinance No. 11941 on May 24, 2009, and Ordinance No. 15505 on August 29, 2016, consistent with RCW 18.73; and

WHEREAS, Thurston County Medic One would like to correct the current Ordinance for any grammar and spelling errors, update fees and liability insurance requirements, and establish reimbursement rates for private ambulance transports with an accompanying paramedic.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THURSTON COUNTY DOES ORDAIN TO ADOPT REVISIONS AS FOLLOWS:

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 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 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 semiannually 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)

DATED: April 9, 2019

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Thurston County, Washington

Laborita J. Bertram
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Vice-Chair

JON TUNHEIM
Prosecuting Attorney

[Signature]
Commissioner

[Signature]
BY: RICK PETERS
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney