

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup>.
    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 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot. 2) Budget committee provided a report. 3) Staff presented the 2021 1<sup>st</sup> quarter budget vs actual report. 4) Transport delays and concerns were discussed. 5) WREMS 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – 1) Spring EMT class graduation is June 13<sup>th</sup> 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.