

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

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

**ABSENT:**

**EXCUSED:** Larry Fontanilla

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

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

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

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

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None.

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. EMS COUNCIL – November 16, 2022 – (Kirkbride/Ricks) move to approve the minutes, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – January 5, 2023 (informational only)

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) The Training Advisory Committee (TAC) provided a report and there will be a robust number of evaluators coming into the training arena (approx., 70 new and existing evaluators). 2) Transport Resource Utilization (TRU) provided a report on the lack of hospital representative attendance. 3) Chief Schmidt with LFD3 provided a report on the transport pilot update. The Transport Pilot committee has asked the Fire Chief's Association to extend the study for 6 months to help address some of the changing parameters that have happened during the previous 3-month study. 4) Ben provided a stroke protocol update that was issued by Dr. Fontanilla concerning treatment of stroke patients because of a change at PSPH where certain procedures are no longer available due to some staffing issues. 5) Ben also provided information on reactivation of the PSPH EMT entryway process, where patients can be boarded and relieved from transport units.
- B. **WEST REGION EMS COUNCIL:** Kirkbride reported for the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting: 1) There was an update on the strategic plan for WREMS and it's coming along well. The draft update to this is due to DOH by February 1<sup>st</sup>. 2) A variety of grants were discussed, the patient care system, and the hospital divert plan. 3) Next meeting is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Ben Miller-Todd added: The min/max configuration was approved this morning at the DOH steering committee.
- C. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff report is available on the website. [Thurston County | Medic One | Committee Meeting Information \(thurstoncountywa.gov\)](https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/committees/medic-one). Miller Todd highlighted on the following: The council will be notified of any paramedic testing that is coming up, as well as EMT trainings that are going forward, as well as evaluator trainings. The last evaluator workshop was very well run.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

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

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

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

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None**

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

**IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:57.**