

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL
HYBRID MEETING

AGENDA

March 15, 2023, 3:30 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
 - II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 - III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
 - IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. EMS Council February 15, 2023
 - B. Ops Committee March 2, 2023 (informational only)
 - V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Operations Committee – Ops Chair or Representative
 - B. West Region EMS Council – WREMS Representative
 - C. Staff Report – <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/m1/Pages/meetings.aspx>
 - VI. OLD BUSINESS
- | | ITEM | PRESENTER | EXPECTED OUTCOME |
|----|---|------------|------------------|
| A. | Medic One Fund and Future Revenue Projections Committee | Greenstein | Report |
| B. | | | |
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
- | | ITEM | PRESENTER | EXPECTED OUTCOME |
|----|----------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| A. | Medic One Vacant Positions | Miller-Todd | Information |
| B. | | | |
| C. | | | |
- VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
 - IX. GOOD OF THE ORDER
 - X. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting is hybrid. To attend this meeting virtually, please follow the instructions below. To attend this meeting in person, it will be held at 2703 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia WA 98501.

March 15, 2023, 3:30 pm

Please join this meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88394707722?pwd=bUdTR1pyWDIuZ3owNjhTMGhWRm5lUT09>

Meeting ID: 883 9470 7722
Passcode: 199130

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**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Hybrid – 2703 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia
February 15, 2023**

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

ABSENT: Wayne Fournier

EXCUSED: Stan Moon, Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Dan Bivens, Tom Carroll, Brian Hurley, Greg Perry, Steve Brooks, Joey Rodriguez, Derek Smith

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

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

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC – Old Business, Item B. (Letters to State Agencies) was removed from the agenda. (Hambly/Edwards) move to approve the agenda as amended and this carried.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. EMS COUNCIL – January 18, 2023 – Hambly pointed out a miss-spelling of Chief Schmidt’s name in the Ops report, and this has been corrected. (Kirkbride/Edwards) move to approve the minutes, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – February 2, 2023 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) Nomination and election was held for the Chair and Vice-Chair position. VanCamp will remain as Chair and Gregory will remain as Vice-Chair. The term is for 2 years. 2) There was discussion on the ALS unit utilization workgroup. The workgroup is looking at the use of medic units for non-ALS related issues. There have been 2 meetings so far and it looks like the use has gone down. The benchmark of 80/20% will continue to be used. 3) Medic One staffing EMTs at PSPH entry way will remain through February. 3) Miller-Todd followed up on a recent meeting regarding a policy Dr. Fontanilla wrote with regards to completing the electronic patient care reports. There will be further discussion on this. 4) BLS Funding Committee will meet this month. 5) Joe Rodrigues with Olympic Ambulance provided information on a home-based health program they are working on.
- B. **WEST REGION EMS COUNCIL:** Kirkbride reported: The next meeting is March 8th. Greg Perry, Director of WREMS provided the following information from the executive meeting: 1) Finances were reviewed and the council took advantage of approval from the previous meeting to move some funds into investments to help bolster up the back log of cash. 2) A new Accountant has been hired. 3) The council is working on the Strategic Plan for FY 2023-2025. 4) An EMS SCI workshop will take place March 4th in Tacoma, at no charge for up to 40 SCIs, with a focus on pediatrics.
- 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) Please share the ALS Program Manager posting, which is on NeoGov and Indeed, as well as a few other platforms. 2) Paramedic testing is March 29th & 30th.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Nominations Committee – The only nominations made were for Stan Moon as Chair and Lenny Greenstein as Vice-Chair. Vice-Chair Greenstein opened the floor for additional nominations of Chair, and none were made. (McPhee/Edwards) move to close the nominations for Chair and elect Stan Moon by acclamation and this carried. Vice-Chair Greenstein opened the floor for additional nominations of Vice-Chair, and none were made. (McPhee/Edwards) move to close the nominations for Vice-Chair and elect Lenny Greenstein by acclamation, and this carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. EMSC Proposed Bylaw Change – Miller-Todd reported: The County voted to change the number of Thurston County Commissioners from 3 to 5. The current EMSC bylaws state a total of four Citizens-at-large positions, one from each of the county commission districts. Staff is asking the council for their recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners to change the bylaws so “four” is removed. (Kirkbride/Greenstein) move to suspend the EMSC rules, which requires an agenda item of this nature to be voted on at the meeting following discussion, and this carried. (Kirkbride/Edwards) move to modify the current bylaws to remove the word “four” in Article 4.1, paragraph C, leaving the wording as “Citizens-at-large consisting of one from each of the County Commission Districts, plus one whom shall be a physician from any County Commissioner District”, and this carried.
- B. EMSC Citizen-at-Large Application – (Greenstein/Kirkbride) move to approve the EMSC Citizen-at-large application for Tom Carroll, and tis carried.
- C. Medic One Fund and Future Revenue Projections – Hardin reported: In the spring of 2021 the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) adopted a resolution for language to be used in the Medic One levy. The Department of Revenue and the Assessor’s office expressed concern over the language that was adopted. There was a meeting held in April where the Department of Revenue (DOR) and the Assessor’s office both expressed concern about how the language was written. How it was originally written and the intent for the levy vote was to do a stair step approach to increase the millage up to \$0.50/\$1,000. It would start off in year 1 (2022) at \$0.35/\$1,000 and then increase \$0.03/\$1,000 for each year all the way through 2027, getting us back to our original levy rate of \$0.50/\$1,000. The reason for this was we needed the funds in the outlying years, but not the first year. The public mailing that was approved by the lawyers, stated what was mentioned above. In the April meeting, the DOR and the Assessor’s office said we needed to change the verbiage to a percentage instead of the cents increase, so it came out as 107%, which is approximately \$0.03/\$1,000 for the millage, moving forward. Hardin said he agreed to the change of language, provided it still gives us the stair step approach getting us back to \$0.50/\$1,000. In January of 2023 we expected the millage to come up to \$0.38/\$1,000, however the Assessor’s office came to us and said the millage is going to be \$0.30/\$1,000 because they applied the percentage against last years revenue and not against the millage. As a result, Medic One will receive \$4.5 million less in revenue this year which would have been used in the outlying years (replacing medic units, aging equipment, etc.).

Miller-Todd provided revenue comparisons through 2027, using the fixed 7% stair step, based on the current assessed value: The originally projected revenue at year 2027 would have been \$29,614,698. The newly projected revenue at year 2027 is \$23,594,328. 2023 shows a difference of \$4.5mil, 2024 is \$5.2mil, 2025 is \$5.45mil, 2026 is \$5.7mil, and 2027 is \$6mil, in less revenue Medic One will receive.

(Kirkbride/McPhee) move to form a committee to work with staff to seek out the legal opinion of our Prosecutor’s office to see what our options are, and this carried. The committee will consist of Hambly, McPhee, and Greenstein.

Miller-Todd discussed the cash flow needs from 2022 – 2027. Years 2024, 2025 and 2027 the ending funding balance drops below the 2-month mark requirement for covering expenses.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – None

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:29.

**THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID - ESC
March 2, 2023**

PRESENT: Steve Brooks, Derek Smith, Mark Gregory, Brian VanCamp, Wendy Rife, Ciaran Keogh, Todd Carson, Shawn Crimmins, Mindy Churchwell, Wendy Hill, Ray Curtis, Leonard Johnson, Larry Fontanilla

ABSENT:

EXCUSED: Carla Carter

GUESTS: Tony Kuzma, Mike Buchanan, Greg Perry, Kevin Heindel, Adam Golden

STAFF: Sandra Bush, Ben Miller-Todd, Chris Clem, Kurt Hardin

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

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC – Approved.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Operations Committee – February 2, 2023 – (Brooks/Johnson) move to approve and this carried.
2. EMS Council – February 15, 2023 (Informational only)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **West Region EMS Council** – Clem reported: The WREMS committee has not met since the last Ops committee meeting, however the executive board did meet. 1) The council will move some reserve funds into a certificate of deposit account. 2) They are working through updates to the strategic plan. 3) Chris was reappointed to his position of Secretary/Treasurer on the Executive Council. 4) There was an update on the SEI workshop in Pierce County. 29 people have signed up for the course. 5) An application has been received for a vacant Grays Harbor position on the board. 6) Effective July 1, 2023, a 2.5% cost of living increase has been approved for the Executive Director position. 7) There is a WREMS council meeting scheduled for March 8th at 10:00 am via zoom.

B. **Subcommittees**

1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – No report.
2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – No report.
3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – Clem reported: 1) TAC meetings were restructured, so the committee will meet Quarterly in person for 3 hours and will meet via zoom on the in-between months. 2) TAC is working on resiliency OTEP which is to be released in the second half of 2023. The goal is to have specific training tailored to give access to resources for Thurston County responders. 3) TAC also touched on MCI. 4) Next meeting is March 20th.
4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – Brooks reported: 1) Committee met via zoom last month and a large part of the discussion was hospital capacity and stroke transfers.
5. ePCR Committee – Deferred to next month.

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. EMSC Report – VanCamp reported on the February 15th meeting: 1) Chair Moon and Vice-Chair Greenstein were re-elected. 2) EMSC approved a proposed bylaw change, removing “Four” from citizens at large positions because the county is going to 5 commissioners. 3) EMSC recommended approval to appoint Tom Carroll as a Citizen-at-Large. 4) There was discussion on the Medic One tax levy (see New Business, Item C).

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Medic One Website/Social Media – Bush presented Medic One’s new website. Once Medic One has Facebook live, there will be a link to it on the website.

B. Healthcare in Thurston County – System Overview – Miller-Todd presented to Ops the healthcare constraints overview he presented to the EMSC in January: 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.

C. Medic One Levy Briefing – Hardin presented to Ops the Medic One levy briefing he presented to the EMSC in February: In the spring of 2021 the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) adopted a resolution for language to be used in the Medic One levy. The Department of Revenue and the Assessor's office expressed concern over the language that was adopted. There was a meeting held in April where the Department of Revenue (DOR) and the Assessor's office both expressed concern about how the language was written. How it was originally written and the intent for the levy vote was to do a stair step approach to increase the millage up to \$0.50/\$1,000. It would start off in year 1 (2022) at \$0.35/\$1,000 and then increase \$0.03/\$1,000 for each year all the way through 2027, getting us back to our original levy rate of \$0.50/\$1,000. The reason for this was we needed the funds in the outlying years, but not the first year. The public mailing that was approved by the lawyers, stated what was mentioned above. In the April meeting, the DOR and the Assessor's office said we needed to change the verbiage to a percentage instead of the cents increase, so it came out as 107%, which is approximately \$0.03/\$1,000 for the millage, moving forward. Hardin said he agreed to the change of language, provided it still gives us the stair step approach getting us back to \$0.50/\$1,000. In January of 2023 we expected the millage to come up to \$0.38/\$1,000, however the Assessor's office came to us and said the millage is going to be \$0.30/\$1,000 because they applied the percentage against last year's revenue and not against the millage. As a result, Medic One will receive \$4.5 million less in revenue this year which would have been used in the outlying years (replacing medic units, aging equipment, etc.).

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The EMSC has appointed a committee to collaborate on what steps need to be taken to address this.

D. BLS Funding Workgroup Update - As a result of the Medic One fund uncertainties, it has been decided to postpone conducting this workgroup.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – 1) Miller-Todd reminded the committee that tomorrow afternoon is Kurt's retirement party and is being held at Emergency Management. 2) Ray Curtis with CMC said the Cath lab failed its final testing, and GE is on site trying to fix the problem. In addition, later tonight CMC will have a major water and heat shut down so they can expand services for the OR and sterile processing area. This should last until about 4 am and they will be on divert during the shutdown.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 3:13.