

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ REGULAR MEETING
HYBRID MEETING

AGENDA

April 6, 2023, 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 – March 2, 2023
 - B. EMS Council - March 15, 2023 (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. EMSC Report	Gregory	Information
B. Stroke Transports	Clem	Information
C. ALS Workgroup	Miller-Todd/VanCamp	Information

VII. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM	PRESENTER	EXPECTED OUTCOME
A. Appoint Special Projects Committee	Gregory	Appointment
B. Semi-Annual Review of Ambulance Ordinance	Gregory	Discussion
C. Protocols	Miller-Todd	Information

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

IX. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting is hybrid. If you would like to attend in person, the meeting will be at 2703 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia. If you would like to attend this meeting virtually, please follow the instructions below:

April 6, 2023, 2:00 (PDT)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86297865054?pwd=RDZGUUVJYclRZbFpEaYmQ2OEFGHeUFTUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 9786 5054
Passcode: 634954

You can also dial in using your phone.

Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US
+1 646 558 8656 US
Meeting ID: 862 9786 5054
Passcode: 634954

Persons with hearing or speaking impairments can call Washington Relay Service at 711 or 1-800-833-6388

**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.).

Hardin also 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.

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.

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

PRESENT: Stan Moon, Cindy Hambly, John Ricks, Mark Gregory, Angela Jefferson, Harry Miller, Frank Kirkbride, Margaret McPhee, Lenny Greenstein, Gary Edwards, Sheila Fay, Tom Carroll

ABSENT: Wayne Fournier, Dontae Payne

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla

GUESTS: Dan Bivens, Brian Hurley, Derek Smith, Shawn Crimmins

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

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

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

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. EMS COUNCIL – February 15, 2023. Hambly pointed out a misspelling under WREMS committee reports – minutes show EMSC SCI and it should be EMSC SEI. (Greenstein/Ricks) move to approve the minutes with the noted correction, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – March 2, 2023 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** Gregory reported: 1) Medic One staff shared their new website. 2) Miller-Todd presented the Healthcare system overview to Ops. 3) Ops was briefed on the Medic One levy issue.
- B. **WEST REGION EMS COUNCIL:** Kirkbride reported: 1) There is a draft 2024-2025 strategic plan. 2) Periodically WREMS receives grant requests from agencies in need of financial help. A grant request has been received from Opago which helps with senior citizens mobility, strengthening of bones, etc. For more information visit www.villageconcepts.org. Another one that came in is from Safe Gun Storage and is through Mary Bridge Children's Hospital. Also heard from Rehab without Walls which deals with neurological rehabilitation. Kirkbride said there was one action item however Kurt Hardin asked to postpone it until the next meeting. Kurt suggested to Frank that actions items should be first on the agenda so there is time to discuss the item before asking for action.
- C. **STAFF REPORT:** Staff report is available on the website. [Thurston County | Medic One | Committee Meeting Information \(thurstoncountywa.gov\)](http://ThurstonCountyMedicOne.com). Miller-Todd highlighted on the following: 1) Paramedic testing is March 29th & 30th. 2) EMT class started a couple of weeks ago and 16 students are currently enrolled. 3) PSPH entry way staffing has now transitioned to Olympic Ambulance and the expense is no longer a part of the Medic One levy.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Medic One Fund and Future Revenue Projections Committee – Miller-Todd reported: There is no committee report as of today, however Ben and Kurt met with the County Manager, Assistant County Manager, and a County Attorney. The next step forward is to meet with the State. Miller-Todd emphasized that dealing with the levy issue will not be a fast process. The BLS Funding Committee meetings have been suspended until further notice on the levy issue.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Medic One Vacant Positions – Miller-Todd reported: Staff has worked with the County Manager and HR regarding the ALS Program Manager position. There has been one application received over the past

several weeks. The job description is being changed to Medic One Paramedic Program Manager and is being reclassified from an MTP position to an At-Will position. This will allow for a retention bonus and relocation fees to be paid for by the County. Staff pulled the SEI Instructor position posting while they work through some options.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – The council recognized Kurt Hardin’s retirement with a certificate of appreciation and council members thanked Kurt for his service with the County’s EMS system.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – None

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:07.

DRAFT

ORDINANCE NO. 15251

**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


Clerk of the Board



Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Vice-Chair

JON TUNHEIM
Prosecuting Attorney


Commissioner


BY: RICK PETERS
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney