

**Thurston County Medic One
Emergency Medical Services Council – Regular Meeting
Hybrid – 2703 Pacific Ave SE, Olympia
May 17, 2023**

PRESENT: Stan Moon, Cindy Hambly, John Ricks, Brian VanCamp, Angela Jefferson, Frank Kirkbride, Lenny Greenstein, Gary Edwards, Sheila Fay, Tom Carroll, Harry Miller

ABSENT: Wayne Fournier, Dontae Payne

EXCUSED: Larry Fontanilla, Margaret McPhee

GUESTS: Dan Bivens, Derek Smith, Brian Hurley, Eric Forsythe, Steve Brooks,

STAFF: Ben Miller-Todd, Sandra Bush, Chris Clem, Joy Keene, Jerett Latimer, Scott Brownell

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

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. EMS COUNCIL – April 19, 2023. (Kirkbride/Edwards) move to approve the minutes, and this carried.
- B. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – May 4, 2023 (informational only)

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:** VanCamp reported: 1) There were reports from the Equipment committee, MCI committee, and a final report back from the ALS Workgroup committee which is on the agenda for today. 2) Special Projects matrix was reviewed and approved and there is a recommendation to the EMSC on today's agenda. 3) Miller-Todd provided a report on Medic One revenue/equipment replacement status. 4) There was discussion on helping Thurston County Public Health surplus an ambulance. 5) There was discussion on the changing rules of CD (communicable disease) precautions in view of the state and federal government making those changes, as well as a requirement for documenting the types and amount of PPE used on incident responses.
- B. **WEST REGION EMS COUNCIL:** Kirkbride reported: The next meeting is June 7, 2023.
- 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) EMT class participants are down from 16 to 14, due to personal reasons. Graduation will happen in about a month. 2) There was a zoom interview process for the Paramedic Program Manager position. Four of the candidates were brought in for in-person interviews, which included 3 components (critical thinking, quality variance, panel interview). There was an individual who was felt to be quite successful, and staff is working with the county on a job offer component. Miller-Todd reminded the council that the position title was changed from ALS Program Manager to Paramedic Program Manager, and the position was changed from MTP to at-will, which brought in many more applicants.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. WREMS (filling additional positions) – Miller-Todd reported: Greg Perry, Executive Director of WREMS, sent out a roster which shows vacant positions. Miller-Todd will be reaching out to re-invigorate the committee that was working on this. Ben believes he has someone who might be a good fit for the law enforcement vacancy. There are some vacancies that are county specific and there are some individual positions that are specific to the entire region. A copy of the roster will be emailed to EMS council members.
- B. Medic One Levy and Budget Update – Miller-Todd reported: There is no update on the levy at this time; however, Ben updated the council on stipulations for the biennial budget development. Currently we are assuming a 7% increase from year to year, on the levy, so from 2024 – 2025 we are assuming there will be a 7% increase, as was in the ballot measure, and then another 7% for 2025 – 2026 and this will continue until it finishes out the stair step approach. We have also been allowed to build in a 1.8% average increase

for new construction, which hadn't been allowed previously. The budget committee will be working under an assumption of 8.8%. A levy subcommittee meeting will be scheduled.

- C. Hospital Entry Delays – Miller-Todd reported: In January & February of this year, Medic One staffed PSPH entryway with 2 EMTs to help offset 4 transport units and return them back out to the field. An assessment was performed on 7 of the 8 weeks it was staffed, and we were able to return 130 hours of ambulance availability back out to the community. This has been handed over to Olympic Ambulance and PSPH to work out. Derek Smith with Olympic Ambulance said the contract is at the executive level and he hopes to see this pushed through in the next week or so. During the interim while the contract is being negotiated, Olympic Ambulance has been providing this staffing on an on-call basis without reimbursement. The staffing will take place during peak hours.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2023 1st Quarter Financial Report – Joy Miller presented budget vs. actuals for the 1st quarter of 2023. Overall, the total expended budget was 10% (20% admin; 9% ALS; 13% BLS; 26% IT, and 9% for ER&R). ALS expended amount seems low because ALS agencies have 30 days to submit invoices after the time of service. Joy highlighted on expended items over 25%.
- B. Special Project Applications – VanCamp reported: 7 applications were received by 6 different agencies. The Special Project budget is \$10,000 and the total amount requested was \$11,165. A Special Project committee was assigned to review the applications and determine eligibility. The committee's recommendation was to approve all 7 applications because they met the criteria for EMS related projects, with an alternative recommendation to allow only 1 of the 2 break apart stokes baskets requested by FD9, if desired by the EMSC to stay within the budgeted \$10,000. (Hambly/Edwards) move to approve the funding of \$11,165, and this carried.
- C. ALS Workgroup Response Metrics – Miller-Todd reported: The reason this is being brought back to the council is because it was originated by stipulations in the ALS contracts. The council asked the Operations committee to assess how we wanted to look at ALS response and ALS utilization in Thurston County, based on the parameters of the ALS contract and how the ALS units are being utilized in the system. The workgroup met 4 times to come up with the current recommendations. The charter was created by Chief VanCamp and metrics were subsequently formulated. Broadly, the metrics set up the expectations for BLS & ALS response percentages as well as looking at ALS unit utilization, in conjunction with the mandated WAC. At the end of each metric there is a stipulation and recommendation which will be reviewed annually. The metrics were reviewed by Ops in April, approved in May, and is being passed to the EMS council with a recommendation to approve. This will be brought back to the EMS council in June for action.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

- VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – Dr. Fay said PSPH has made a decision to not renew their contract with the local neurosurgery group, so as of August 30th we will no longer have neurosurgeons at their hospital. There is the potential that 2 of the neurosurgeons will work for a different group and contract back to PSPH. Miller-Todd will work on possibly getting a presentation about this to the Ops committee and the EMS council.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:37.