

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ REGULAR MEETING  
**HYBRID MEETING**

**AGENDA**

February 1, 2024, 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 – January 4, 2024
  - B. EMS Council - No January Meeting (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.	EMT Class Workgroup	VanCamp/Clem	Recommendation
B.	MPD PCR Policy	Miller-Todd / Fontanilla	Follow-up Informational
C.	Establish Quality Improvement Committee	VanCamp/Miller-Todd	Appointment
D.	Behavioral Health	Miller-Todd/Fontanilla	Follow-up Discussion
E.	OCED Transports	Miller-Todd	Follow-up Discussion
F.			

VII. NEW BUSINESS

	ITEM	PRESENTER	EXPECTED OUTCOME
A.	Proposed Draft Rules for WAC 246-976	VanCamp	Information
B.			

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:**

**February 1, 2024 2:00 (PDT)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89658872302?pwd=TjdhM2wzRmVKR0lvc0puaEk2M0FYUT09>

[0puaEk2M0FYUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89658872302?pwd=TjdhM2wzRmVKR0lvc0puaEk2M0FYUT09)

Meeting ID: 896 5887 2302

Passcode: 135417

**You can also dial in using your phone.**

Dial by your location

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• +1 689 278 1000 US

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Meeting ID: 896 5887 2302

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**THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES  
HYBRID - ESC  
January 4, 2023**

**PRESENT**

**(In-Person):** Brian Hurley, Eric Forsythe, Larry Fontanilla, Wendy Hill, Brian VanCamp, Matthew Morris, Steve Brooks, Ciaran Keogh

**PRESENT**

**(Virtual):** Wendy Rife, Dave Johnson, Leonard Johnson, Mark Gregory

**ABSENT:** Mindy Churchwell

**EXCUSED:** Ray Curtis

**GUESTS:** Shawn Crimmins (I), Derek Smith (I), Liz Gore (V), Jennifer Schmidt (V), Shanon Watkins (V), Joey Rodriguez (V), Tammy Smith (V), Chris Patti (V), Greg Perry (V), Michael Hughes (V), Kevin Heindel (V)

**STAFF:** Ben Miller-Todd, Sandra Bush, Chris Clem, Clint Wathen, Daniel Ehlig

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

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –MSC** – (Fontanilla/Hurley) move to approve the agenda and this carried.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Operations Committee – December 7, 2023 – (Brooks/Keogh) move to approve the minutes and this carried.
2. EMS Council – December 20, 2023 (Informational only)

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. **West Region EMS Council** – Clem reported: 1) The council met on December 6, 2023, for a regular meeting, and on December 21, 2023, for a special meeting. 2) WREMS will send out a monthly staffing survey to EMS & hospitals to help quantify staffing shortages in healthcare, within the west region. Data will be aggregated and brought to the region, and DOH, to quantify the issue. 3) NW Ambulance applied for a BLS verified license in Thurston County and it was approved at the December 21<sup>st</sup> special meeting. 4) DOH provided a brief presentation on the new Trauma Triage Destination Tool. DOH has developed training for this and it will be provided to all EMS providers. The new tool was incorporated into the updated protocol set.
- B. **Subcommittees**
1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – No meeting.
  2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – Clem reported: The committee did not meet in December. Clem will send out calendar invites for monthly meetings as we begin planning for the MCI drills. MCI drill date for Olympia is June 26, 2024, Tumwater is July 8, 2024, and still working on the Lacey date.
  3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – Clem reported: 1) The 2024 Evaluator workshop is January 21 – 25. New evaluators will be attending the 21<sup>st</sup> and one of the subsequent days. Returning evaluators will only be attending one day. Confirmations went out to applicants this week and they are being asked to complete the online OTEP prior to the workshop. 2) OTEP 2024 is nearly finalized and will be assigned on EMS1 January 9<sup>th</sup>.
  4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – Miller-Todd reported: A large portion of the meeting consisted of OCED briefing.
  5. ePCR Committee – No report.
- C. **Staff Report** – Staff report is located on the website at – <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/m1/Pages/meetings.aspx> Miller-Todd highlighted on the following: 1) Paramedic testing is January 10 – 11. 2) Anything that you would send to Ben from an ALS perspective, please send to Juan Mejias, the new Paramedic Program Manager, and copy Ben. Ben will send something out regarding this. 3) Spring EMT class begins February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. EMSC Report – VanCamp reported on the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting: 1) The EMSC reviewed and approved recommendation for the NW Ambulance application, for both Thurston County and DOH. 2) EMSC appointed a committee to review the council Bylaws. 3) MultiCare OCED was discussed.
- B. EMT Class Workgroup – Clem reported: There are two components to the EMT class handbook, the clinical and educational component which is really for the purview of the MPD and SEI group, and then you have the administrative component, which is class rules, policies, etc. The intention of the workgroup was to focus on the administrative component and revisit the policies. The handbook was also reformatted so it should be easier to navigate through. A recommendation will be asked for at the February Ops meeting. Draft rules will be emailed to the committee, following this meeting.
- C. MCI Plan Updates – Miller-Todd / Clem reported: The committee was briefed on formatting changes that were incorporated into the plan and were approved by Ops last year. The current MCI plan on the website is what we are operating from. Miller-Todd also briefed the committee on potential structural changes, in terms of how operation subcommittee's function and work going forward (law enforcement was involved in the iteration of the plan). One of those components will be creating a charter for the MCI committee, developing a robust list of those involved, who should be invited in the committee moving forward, and look at how we engage in our partners throughout the county in 2024. Clem presented four substantive changes to the document: 1) The reformatted plan has been improved so it's easier to navigate through the document. 2) Good Sam has been removed from backup DMCC status, and there are several references to it through out the plan. 3) In line with the protocol updates, start triage and left SALT triage was removed. To simplify everything we are moving to one triage model, SALT triage. 4) C3 Pathways model was added in active threat scenarios. Training will be coming out this year on changes to the plan. Chief Gregory asked about respirations for children, as he did not see it in the plan. Miller-Todd noted this and said he will get back to the committee on this.
- D. MPD PCR Policy – Miller-Todd / Fontanilla reported: Comments on the policy should be sent to Miller-Todd, moving forward. The final informational briefing will be at the February 1<sup>st</sup> Ops meeting, and then we expect it go live April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- E. Protocol Updates – Miller-Todd reported: Protocols are available on the Medic One App, in draft format. The State has completed their first review, with no substantive changes. The executive summary was a little excessive so staff will craft an EMT specific excerpt and post that as well.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Ops Subcommittee Restructuring – Miller-Todd presented the Thurston County EMS Organizational chart. This will be emailed to the committee. The goal of the restructuring is to improve the efficiency of individual's time by combining some of the existing committees into the more high-level committees. Miller-Todd said we need to establish a quality improvement committee, which will report to the Ops committee. This committee will be appointed at the February Ops meeting.
- B. Behavioral Health – Miller-Todd / Fontanilla reported: Managing behavioral health patients in the field has become extremely difficult so staff is addressing ways to improve communication between law enforcement, South Sound Behavioral Health, ED's and field providers. Dr. Fontanilla said nearly everything funnels to St. Peters, which is overwhelming. He would like to see a meeting among the stakeholders to figure out a more even distribution of behavioral health patients. There will be follow-up discussion at the February Ops meeting.
- C. OCED Transports In/Out – Miller-Todd said staff is still working on messaging and utilization on the public side. It was anticipated to see a much larger amount of BLS transports to the OCED, however there have been more ALS than BLS. Derek Smith with Olympic Ambulance said they have delivered 69 patients as of this morning, and they have had a total of 56 requests (24 ALS & 32 BLS). Miller-Todd will have census numbers at the February meeting.
- D. Helicopter Rendezvous PSPH – Rendezvous' will no longer be allowed on PSPH helipad. One option that is being looked at is North Thurston football field.
- E. 8<sup>th</sup> Medic Unit Discussion – Miller-Todd provided a pre-emptive notification that discussions need to start happening for location of the 8<sup>th</sup> medic unit. Miller-Todd may present the location at the February Ops meeting.

**VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER** – Clem reported a delay in receiving the LP1000 trainers. He is looking at loaners or canceling the current order and considering Shock Link Systems.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT** – (Forsythe/Keogh) move to adjourn the meeting at 3:17, and this carried.



## Emergency Care System

### EMS Program

[www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)

Hello;

I am pleased to announce that the department has filed the CR102 for the proposed draft rules for WAC 246-976 ([WSR 17-24-013](#), updated May 16, 2022, to [WSR 22-11-065](#)). The [public notice](#) and [proposed rules](#) can be found on the DOH website [here](#).

The department is collecting comments on the proposed revisions and will consider adopting the rules following the public hearing on **March 7, 2024**. If you are unable to attend the hearing, all comments and questions are welcome from the public until 5pm on March 7, 2024. Please see the attached public announcement for more information about how to attend the public hearing.

If you would like to comment on the proposed rules you can do so by sending an email to [hsqa.ems@doh.wa.gov](mailto:hsqa.ems@doh.wa.gov).

The primary purpose of this rulemaking was to modernize rules to include the following:

- Align our state standards with current national standards.
- Clarify scope of practice for certified EMS providers and propose minimum standards for provisional certification of EMS providers (SHB 1893 EMTs and Public Health, 2021-22).
- Update education requirements for certified EMS providers (SHB 1258 Concerning EMS and persons with disabilities, 2017-18 and ESHB 1551 Modernizing control of certain communicable diseases HIV AIDS education repeal, 2019-20, and ESSB 5229 Health equity continuing education for healthcare professionals, 2021-22).
- Address barriers to initial and renewal application processes for pre-hospital services licenses and EMS provider certification.
- Reduce barriers to obtain recognition as a senior EMS instructor.
- Clarify staffing standards for EMS services authorized to use non-medically trained drivers (ESSB 5751 Concerning personnel requirements for municipal ambulance services, 2017-18).
- Clarify roles and responsibilities for medical program directors, and local and regional EMS & Trauma care councils.

- Clarify licensing standards for EMS services, roles and responsibilities for medical program directors, and regional councils (SSB 5380 Concerning opioid use disorder treatment, prevention, and related services, 2019-20).
- Propose minimum standards for emergency services supervisory organizations (ESSOs) to use certified EMS providers (SHB 1276 EMS in Diversion Centers, 2021-22).
- Make rules more clear, concise, and organized.
- Add new sections as required.

EMS rules were opened November 2017. Thirty-Three sections in WAC 246-976 were opened to consider updates to align with current national standards, make regulations clearer and concise, respond to statutory requirements, streamline initial and renewal application processes for pre-hospital agency license and EMS provider certification. EMS held forty stakeholder meetings between December 2017 and August 2022 which included review of the open sections, two new sections, and seven pieces of new legislation that passed during this timeframe which required updates in rules.

Our primary delay to rulemaking was the COVID-19 pandemic in which the EMS team was activated to the Department of Health's Incident Management Team and prioritized COVID work between March 2020 and November of 2022.

We would like to thank all of the stakeholders who participated with us in this work. We believe this rule package helps establish a more contemporary framework for EMS while protecting public safety, as our profession continues to evolve to meet the demands of the rapidly changing healthcare landscape.

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This email was sent to [vancamp@southbayfire.com](mailto:vancamp@southbayfire.com) using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Washington State Department of Health · 101 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501

