

THURSTON COUNTY MEDIC ONE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ~ MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID - ESC
February 1, 2024

PRESENT

(In-Person): Brian Hurley, Anders Conway, Wendy Hill, Brian VanCamp, Steve Brooks, Ray Curtis

PRESENT

(Virtual): Wendy Rife, Mark Gregory, Eric Forsythe, Ciaran Keogh

ABSENT: Mindy Churchwell, Matthew Morris, Leonard Johnson

EXCUSED: Carla Carter

GUESTS: Shawn Crimmins (I), Derek Smith (I), Jennifer Schmidt (I), Joey Rodriguez (I), Tammy Smith (V), Chris Patti (I), Kevin Heindel (V)

STAFF: Ben Miller-Todd, Sandra Bush, Chris Clem, Scott Brownell, Juan Mejias

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

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –MSC – The agenda was amended to remove ‘Establish Quality Improvement Committee’ and ‘Behavioral Health’. (Hurley/Brooks) move to approve the agenda as amended and this carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Operations Committee – January 4, 2024 – (Curtis/Brooks) move to approve the minutes and this carried.
2. EMS Council – No January meeting (Informational only)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. **West Region EMS Council** – No WREMS meeting since Ops met last. Training, Education and Development committee (TED) is continuing the planning for the EMS conference May 17 - 19.
- B. **Subcommittees**
 1. Equipment Committee (EqC) – Keogh reported: 1) Drug shortages: Lidocaine, Ketamine, Albuterol, and Sodium Bicarb. Due to availability, we’ve switched from the 250-irrigation saline to Seljet. 2) The McGrath video laryngoscope is in stock; however, training still needs to take place so there is no ETA on roll-out. 3) Steerable bougies are in stock and we will demo those. 4) We are still searching for infant BVMs for the mercury medical adjustable BVMs.
 2. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Committee – No report.
 3. Training Advisory Committee (TAC) – No report.
 4. Transportation Resource Utilization Committee (TRU) / Hospital Diversion – Brooks reported: There was limited participation at the last meeting. There was discussion about including South Sound Behavioral Health, and Brooks said there was some interesting information that came out about Madigan that could warrant some investigation.
 5. ePCR Committee – No report.
- C. **Staff Report** – Staff report is located on the website at – <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/m1/Pages/meetings.aspx>

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. EMT Class Workgroup – Clem presented highlights of the information that was changed by request. (Brooks/Hurley) move to approve recommendation of the EMT class handbook to DOH for approval, and this carried.
- B. MPD PCR Policy – Miller-Todd said the final draft was sent out, and posted on the website, and will be in place April 1, 2024. Brooks asked if this would be agency to agency, and Miller-Todd confirmed that it will be, and said it will be a compliment to the protocols. Brooks also asked if this is available on the ‘App’ and Miller-Todd said not at this time.
- C. OCED Transports – Miller-Todd reported: There is a significant higher amount of EMS traffic in and out of the OCED than what was anticipated. Traffic can be tracked on the dashboard. In December there were 5 public transports, and there were 25 for January. Derek with Olympic Ambulance said things are going great. January there was a total of 151 requests for out of the OCED, with the majority going to CMC or Tacoma General. They also dropped off 130

patients in total. Joey Rodriguez with Olympic said they have seen an uptick in mental health transports from the OCED to Smokey Point, which he believes is based on bed placement. Tammy with the OCED said she does not have the resources to take care of a restrained patient. Miller-Todd said TRU will establish a workgroup, made up of a variety of stakeholders in the system, to address issues regarding transports of mental health patients. Eric with AMR said for the month of January they had 44 transports into the Lacey OCED and 16 were from South Sound Behavioral Health. Eric said Neil Lacanlale with South Sound Behavioral health would be a good contact for discussions. Miller-Todd said NW Ambulance has been approved by DOH, so they are actively in our system, and we are going through the process of getting the reciprocity done. Brooks thanked Olympic for their ability to step up and help with the transports.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposed Draft Rules for WAC 246-976 – Miller-Todd said this has been 6 years in the process of making and it is finally in the comments period. There will be a public hearing on March 7, 2024, and comments will be accepted until 5pm on March 7th. Miller-Todd said there are a couple of components that were included in the WAC – for MPDs that would like to maintain the skills component to DOH's WAC for recertification, has been maintained, but the State has also included MPD discretion for those agencies that struggle to be able to send people to the OR and would like to do a separate training module. 2.6.976 is the EMS chapter in the WAC.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Clem: Evaluator workshop just completed, and comments were made about pay for volunteers. Volunteers can be set up as employees with Medic One and they will need to fill out a timesheet for their time. Career providers time can be billed to Medic One on an invoice, for reimbursement out of their BLS funds. Miller-Todd: Medic One is planning a 50th anniversary gala for September 28th. Ben will send an email to stakeholders asking if the 28th will conflict with any major events.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 2:45.