

**SPOKANE COUNTY EMS & TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016**

Chair, Cathy St. Amand, called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. and introductions were made.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Tom Chavez, Sharon Colby, Brian Foster-Dow, Greg Godfrey, Bruce Holloway, Elena Mierau, Ray Moeckel, Dr. Jim Nania, Dr. Robert Notske, Patrick Ramsey, Adam Richards, Jim Schaffer, Cathy St. Amand, Ben Suttlemyre,

Guests Present:

Tammie Drapeau (AMR), Samantha Roberts (INHS Training), Ben Sabori (SCC), Vince Speziale (SCFD4),

EMS Staff Present:

Cindy Pavlischak, EMS Office Administrator

**MINUTES:**

It was M/S/P to approve the July 2016 minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Cathy St. Amand, Chair

- Chief Holloway, SCFD3, said their agency is looking for a physician medical advisor. Interested physicians can contact him at [bholloway@scfd3.org](mailto:bholloway@scfd3.org) or 509-624-7103.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jim Schaffer

No issues.

**HOSPITAL DIVERSION REPORT FOR July & August 2016:** Cathy St. Amand, Chair  
(Report provided by Ryan Traylor, Region 9 Healthcare Coalition)

Cathy reviewed the county-wide diversion data.

**Action:** Adam Richards proposed taking diversion data report off the Council and QI agendas for future meetings. The Council agreed that the data looks good and less frequent reporting would be fine. The next report will be in December for Sept/Oct/Nov 2016 data.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- EMS Training Course Applications – INHS:
  - Start date: 10/24/16                  Paramedic
  - Start date: 10/18/16                  EMT-SGA**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above applications.
- EMS Training Course Application: SCC
  - Start date: 9/20/16                  EMT-SGA**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above application.

- EMS Training Course Application – SCFD4:
  - Start date: 11/7/16 EMT-SGA**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above application.
- SEI Application: Vincent Speziale, SCFD4
**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above application.
- EMS Training Program Application: SCFD3, Bill Dennstaedt
**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above application.
- EMS Evaluator Application: Deborah Dodson, SCFD3
**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above application.
- EMS Course Completion Verification: SCFD9
  - Completion date: 8/6/16 EMT-SGA**Action:** Reviewed; no issues.
- Regional EMS & TCC Membership Application: Dominic Pompanio, Life Flight Network
**Action:** M/S/P to approve the above application.
- Issue: Difficulties Staffing Rural Ambulances: Bruce Holloway, SCFD3

Bruce said Newport Ambulance has closed again. He said fees and hours necessary for volunteers to get EMT training as well as maintain certification are difficult for them. There are just not enough volunteers to go around for these rural agencies. Perhaps the issue of minimum standards to facilitate volunteerism could be revisited. He asked if there is any way to makes changes at the state level. Any way to fund these volunteers to help with testing costs, etc.

Suggestions:

  - SCFD4 has looked at doing intercepts with South Pend O’Reille County.
  - Vince (SCFD4) said they plan ahead knowing they will only have volunteers 3-4 years, but admits they are also close to a large city and they also pay for training.
  - Maybe air ambulance can respond to more calls and expand their ground operations
  - Maybe AMR can look at expanding their availability/operations
  - Dr. Nania suggested Fire Chiefs use their lobbying ability to talk with state about getting funding.
  - Paul Priest, AMR, said there is a long delay with getting approval from DOH for individuals asking for reciprocity. They have a number back-logged and said DOH is not communicating.
  - Other ideas: EMS levy in the smaller communities; underwrite testing fees; look at legislation to fund these areas; rural tech schools (catch kids in high school), tax breaks for volunteers.
- EMS Instructor Workshop Update:

Cindy reported that the workshop planning group met recently and agreed to hold the Council-sponsored EMS Instructor Workshop at the Spokane Fire Training Center on Nov. 8, Noon – 4:00 or 4:30, (following the EMS Council and QI meetings). Lunch will be provided from Noon to 1:00 with workshop topics starting at 1:00. More information will be sent out by email.

## REPORTS:

- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Greg Godfrey, SCFD8  
Fire Chiefs have been discussing the volunteer issue. He said they have also been discussing long scene times with AMR.
- 911 Board: Bruce Holloway, SCFD3  
Looking at 1% tax initiative to provide funding for communications, crime check, etc.
- East Region: Adam Richards  
Adam reported and he and Mike Lopez have been participating in Pend O'Reille County discussions. This is the second time in recent past that Newport Ambulance has stopped service and other agencies are trying to pick up the slack. This issue has reactivated the Pend O'Reille local EMS Council.
- Curriculum & Paramedic Advisory Committee/INHS Health Training: Samantha Roberts
  - Samantha asked that Michelle Ensminger be added to the Council agenda and meeting invites. Michelle will be the primary person providing these reports to the Council.
  - The October paramedic class is full at 23 applicants and a waiting list has been established. INHS is awarding up to 8 scholarships for this class.
  - The NW EMS Conference is Oct. 15 at Northern Quest. Anyone interested in having a booth should contact Michelle. There is more information on the EMS website at [www.emsoffice.com](http://www.emsoffice.com).
- Fairchild: Jason Satcher  
Nothing new to report at this time.
- QI: Dr. Nania
  - Summary of 2015 Prehospital and Hospital Stroke KPI data – Dr. Nania reviewed the data.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- EMS Live@Nite:  
Topic: Motor Vehicle Accidents & Trauma by Dr. Nania  
6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.
- AMR – Paul Priest:  
Employee contract ratified.

## MEETING ADJOURNED