

**SPOKANE COUNTY EMS & TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 10, 2020, 9 a.m. via Teams Virtual Meeting**

Council Chair, Adam Richards, called the meeting to order and confirmed the list of those present at the TEAMS virtual meeting.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Members Present:

Deb Bried, Darren Briehner, Jack Busch, Carolyn Cartwright, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Joel Edminster, Mike Lopez, Dr. Mike Metcalf, Veronica Mitchell-Jones, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Paul Priest, Lonnie Rash, Jeff Reid, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Brian Schaeffer, David Sewell, Cathy St. Amand

Guests Present:

James Akramoff (INHS Training), Dr. Maika Dang (SCFD3), Mike Dawson (SFD), Tammie Drapeau (AMR), Michelle Ensminger (INHS Training), Nathan Jeffries (SCFD9), Deanna Jones (PSHMC), Doug Presta (CWU Paramedic Program), Orlando Sandoval (SCFD10), Steve Tevlin (Northern Quest), Jim Walkowski (SCFD9)

EMS Office Staff Present:

Cindy Pavlischak, EMS Council Office Administrator/County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of October 2020 minutes

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Adam Richards

➤ Treasurer Position reminder

- Interested parties for position (starting Jan. 2021 through Dec. 2022) should contact Cindy at the EMS Office (625-7122 or [capavlischak@spokanecity.org](mailto:capavlischak@spokanecity.org)). Election will take place at the December 2020 Council meeting.
- CARES Act money-  
Adam reported that neither he nor Cindy have been able to find a contact to request funds. Jim Walkowski said the process goes through the Grant Administrator at Greater Spokane Emergency Management and he will send contact info to Adam and Cindy.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mike Lopez

➤ Financial reports for October 2020:

Mike reviewed both reports.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the reports.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

➤ COVID-19 Discussion/Update (Adam Richards & Mike Lopez)

Agencies and hospitals gave updates. Mike Lopez reviewed two graphs showing weekly and daily case counts. He said that there are cluster facilities out there that EMS personnel need to be aware of.

➤ East Region EMSTC Council initial appointment application for Dr. Hasson Tehrani

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve this application.

- INHS Training Course Applications approved since Oct. 13:
  - Initial ESE Date: 11/06/2020
  - Refresher ESE Date: 1/29/2021
  - Initial IV Endorsement Dates: 1/4/2021 – 1/30/2021
  - Initial EMT-SGA Dates: 1/5/2021 – 4/3/2021

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:  
DOH recently approved the following protocols: Severe Sepsis, Infectious Disease Precautions, and Pandemic Triage Guide (revised), and Norepinephrine (new). The updated Spokane County COVID Response Plan will go out on the EMS Council web site and to the EMS Officers and Physician Advisors. The updated Protocol Manual document will be posted on the EMS Office website and updated on the Protocol App. The next virtual meeting of the Protocol Committee is Nov. 19 at 0930.

**REPORTS:**

- EMS WAC Revision: Mike Lopez  
Mike said he did not attend last month's meeting due to a conflict in his schedule but understood that nothing major came out of that meeting. COVID is presenting a challenge in getting this review complete. DOH is aiming to have review complete and approved by the second quarter of 2021.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Lonnie Rash  
Lonnie reported that the most recent meeting was on November 5. He said he shared information from the October EMS Council meeting (i.e. share fees, updating rosters, applying for CARES act monies). The group is working on updating FOG, especially Chapter 13 related to triage. Adam Richards said the hospitals would like input on the subject.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach  
Not present to give report.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Mike Lopez  
Mike reported that the group last met in October. The East Region Council is committed to the education of rural providers and allocated money to offset the cost of initial EMT training for small rural agencies as well as ongoing support of continuing education (i.e., SEI's). There is still no news on what cuts the Governor may make for 2022 funding. The next virtual meeting will be in December when the group will look at the strategic plan. There will be an email going out soon to each county in the East Region regarding min-max numbers.
- REDi Healthcare Coalition: Carolyn Cartwright  
Hospital and testing capacity challenges are increasing due to COVID-19. Also working on patient coordination with Idaho. Various briefings and projects continue.
- SRHD: Mark Springer  
Not present to give report.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/INHS Training: Michelle Ensminger  
The new paramedic class cohort starts Nov. 23. The Paramedic Advisory Committee Meeting is Nov. 19 at 0800. This will be a virtual meeting.
- FAFB: Jason Satcher  
Not present to give report.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - Dr. Nania said he recently attended the virtual Prehospital TAC meeting. The group will be working on more accurate definitions of EMS personnel levels of care among other things.
  - At today's QI meeting the committee will review 2019 ACS data and a case referred from Deaconess.
  - 2019 Stroke Data Summary. Dr. Nania reviewed the data.  
Mike Lopez said his review of 2020 YTD stroke data shows that 12 people refused

transport despite need for care - some of them due to fear of COVID. Of patients with last seen well greater than 15 hours, some didn't want to go to hospital earlier due to fear of COVID, and ultimately waited too long to call EMS. Group discussed how to let the community know that it's safe to go to the hospital. There have been TV commercials on the local channels regarding this; not sure what else to do.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMSCoconnect Classes:  
Nov. 18, 6 p.m. – Hypothermia & Altered Mental Status presented by Dr. Jake Rabe
- EMS Live @ Nite:
  - Nov. 10 – Ginger Locke – The Art of Auscultation
  - Nov. 24 – Cameron Murphy – Crush It!
- Dr. Cover asked the hospital representatives about access to OR's for endotracheal intubation experience. He said there is still difficulty with at least one hospital requesting background checks that have been completed within the previous 90 days. Adam Richards said he thought this had been dealt with and will follow-up. Michelle Ensminger, INHS Training, asked to be kept in the loop on this issue as well.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**