

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2022 9 a.m. via Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Brian Barton, Mike Charter, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Joel Edminster, John Leavell, Mike Lopez, Dr. Mike Metcalf, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Paul Priest, Jeff Reid, Adam Richards, Cody Rohrbach, David Sewell, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek

Guests Present:

James Akramoff (Providence Health Training), Kasey Austin (SCFD9), Jack Busch (AMR), Mike Dawson (SFD), Tammie Drapeau (AMR), Chris Gibbar (Multicare Deaconess) Carlos Hardesty (AMR), Chuck Henke (Multicare Deaconess), Nathan Jeffries (SCFD9), Deanna Jones (PSHMC), Denise McCurdy (PSHMC), Veronica Mitchell-Jones (LFN), Shaun Pitts (EMS Connect), Kurt VandeVanter (SFD)

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of January 2022 minutes

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the January 2022 minutes

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Tom Chavez

➤ Hospital status report:

- Multicare Deaconess Report: David Sewell reported that there are currently 27 positive Covid cases in the ICU and 12 holds in the ED. Valley hospital currently has no holds and has bed availability. Covid numbers are starting to drop from their peak numbers.
- Providence SHMC & HFH Report: Adam Richards stated that there are currently 85 positive Covid cases with 9 in the ICU at Sacred Heart, and Holy Family has 33 positive Covid cases with 4 in the ICU. There is a steady decline in Covid cases. Surgery cancelations and delays continue, but there is a plan in place to work on getting surgeries rescheduled as Covid numbers decrease. Challenges related to staffing shortages continue and Sacred Heart has been using ACI staffing resources for emergency staffing that will end March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Cathy St. Amand

➤ Financial reports for January 2022

EMS Council Treasurer, Cathy St. Amand, not present. EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, reviewed the financial reports.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

➤ Discuss behavioral patient triage and transport guidelines

Dr. Nania summarized the initial meeting that occurred with EMS Officers and Hospital representatives in January. The group agreed that EMS transport agencies need to follow transport guidelines that bring psych patients, with no destination preference, to the closest appropriate hospital due to limited bed capacity and high numbers of psych patients at the downtown hospitals. After further discussion, a proposal was made that the EMS Office

recommend a meeting with EMS transport agencies, law enforcement agencies, and Frontier Behavioral Health to amend the section for destination of patient transport on the Designated Crisis Responder (DCR) request form. Mike Lopez suggested that the Council receive support from the Spokane Regional Health Districts' behavioral health unit in conducting a meeting between the EMS Office, EMS transport agencies, and law enforcement.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to move forward in arranging a meeting with EMS transport agencies, law enforcement agencies and Frontier Behavior Health to discuss amending the current DCR request form used.

➤ Hospital Diversion update

- PSHMC/PHFH: no new update
- Multicare Deaconess: no new update

➤ February 8, 2022 at 1300 Agencies Physician Advisors and EMS Officers meeting via Teams virtual meeting to discuss the addition of an Advanced Airway course to the OTEP schedule

➤ Recently approved EMS Training Course Applications:

- Providence Health Training- Initial EMR SEI (02/14/2022-02/23/2022)
- Providence Health Training- Initial EMT Supraglottic Airway Endorsement (02/20/2022-04/22/2022)
- Deer Park Volunteer Ambulance - Initial EMT Supraglottic Airway Endorsement (02/28/2022-06/06/2022)

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

➤ Protocol Committee update

The Protocol Committee will be meeting today following the QI Committee meeting. The committee continues to work on the following protocols:

- Continuing to work on Sexual Assault protocol
- Review draft of Ibuprofen/Acetaminophen protocol
- Update Cardiac procedures
- Review Bradycardia, Post Resuscitation, and Post Cardiac Arrest protocols
- Addition of Mechanical CPR protocol

**REPORTS:**

➤ EMS WAC Revision: Mike Lopez

No new update. The current Covid surge has created shortages at the DOH. There will hopefully be more movement in the upcoming month.

➤ Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek

Chris stated that they have finally began working on review of the FOG regarding MCI

➤ SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach

Cody reported that preliminary stages of obtaining new CAD systems have begun to ensure that will law enforcement and EMS transport agencies are using the same system. Also, there is still an emphasis on the recruiting process.

➤ East Region EMS & TCC: Mike Lopez

The next meeting is February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 1100 via virtual meeting. There was no January meeting, so there will be a new report following the February meeting

➤ REDi Healthcare Coalition: Ashley Christoff

Not present

➤ SRHD: Kira Lewis

Not present

➤ Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Michelle Ensminger

Jim Akromoff will be reporting today, as Michelle is not present. The Paramedic advisory meeting is Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 0900 via Teams virtual meeting. Last year's cohort is now officially out working. The current cohort is going well.

➤ FAFB: Jason Satcher

Not present

- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - The meeting agenda includes:
    - A case review referred from PSHMC Trauma Committee
    - Protocol committee meeting
    - Dr Nania requested support for SB 5821 regarding cardiac and stroke emergency response system

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for February:  
02/22/2022 at 1800 “Pediatric Cardiac Arrest” with Dr. Ryan Stanton
  - Shaun Pitts stated that they have launched refresher courses that will support national credit hours for recertification. Find the courses on the [website](#) or reach out to Shaun Pitts
- EMS Live @ Nite for February:  
02/08/2022 at 1830 “Crime Scene Preservation” with Michael Anderson, Asst. Fire Chief  
02/24/2022 at 1830 TBA
- Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council will be bringing back the annual EMS awards this year. The Spokane County Medical Society Foundation have submitted a Grant Proposal for \$1200.00 toward an AED for the EMS award winner.

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**