

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Travis Dierks, Chris Gibbar, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Adenea Sellars, Dan Williams, James Young

Guests Present

Jeff Anderson, Dana Bosworth, Jake Grant, Deanna Jones, Kayla Kramer, Sierra Knutson, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Stacy Parizek, Austin Pea, Beth Perkins, Shaun Pitts, Joseph Rodriguez, Dillon Russell, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Tim Loncon

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of March 2025 Meeting Minutes

Randy Olson made a motion to approve the minutes, and Tom Chavez seconded the motion. None were opposed.

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Anne Raven

➤ EMS Awards Presentation May 13th

Anne reminded everyone that the annual Spokane County EMS Awards will be presented next month on Tuesday May 13th at 10:30a.m. at the Spokane Fire Training Center Auditorium. There will be no EMS Council meeting that day, and the QI portion of the meeting will be held at 9-10am. Anne mentioned that the deadline for some awards categories had to be extended due to not receiving nominations. Anne encouraged all to submit nominations for EMS awards each year, and reminded the group that the nomination form is available on the EMS Office website year-round and are voted on in April. Any nominations submitted after April will be reviewed the following year.

➤ EMS Office New Positions

Anne shared that the Executive committee has sent offers for the Program Analyst position and the Program Coordinator position. Anne congratulated Tom Chavez and Chris Neilsen for their new positions and shared that the Program Analyst interview consisted of a 2-part process which included an assignment to complete and present to the E-board. The E-board was thoroughly impressed by the candidate pool for both positions and believe that these two positions will move the EMS Council toward a more patient centric system. Both positions will begin in May, and Anne stated that the data analyst will spend the first few months meeting with agencies to determine needs, and likely won't have data to share immediately. The EMS Office is still looking at space to relocate to.

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that Providence has continued to conserve some fluids, specifically the 3000 bags due to being at a 40% operating capacity. A list of upcoming events between May and June was emailed out, and some events offer opportunities to partner with fire and EMS agencies. Holy Family Hospital hosted an active shooter exercise with SPD and SWAT that went well, and Sacred Heart will be

hosting an exercise on June 9th and June 13th. If you would like to observe the active shooter exercise, please contact Lindsay. The Special Pathogens Unit is hosting a free symposium on May 6th. The Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) mass DECON tent set up and open house will be held on May 14th. A Drug Recognition Symposium will be held on June 10th, and a Sex trafficking awareness presentation will be on June 25th, both at the Sacred Heart Auditorium. Flyers were emailed and can be found on the [calendar on the EMS Office website](#).

- Multicare: No report

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for March 2025

Jack shared the financial reports and stated that the final 2025 share fees are coming in, and that there will be an increase in payroll expenses beginning in May due to the new positions starting. There were no questions or concerns.

REPORTS:

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks stated that OTEP training requirement have changed in the WAC and were discussed during old business section of the meeting.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that SRHD is continuing to do pre-planning with partners for potential measles outbreak. Working with the NWHRN to gather information from healthcare systems on availability of IG/IM, IG/IV, MMR, MMRV and point of contact. MRC will be staffing a medical aid station for Bloomsday. The community wide Pertussis outbreak is ongoing, and there is a downtrend in Influenza and RSV ER activity. COVID ER activity was below the epidemic threshold with a stable trend, and the immunization team continues to provide flu, COVID, and other adult vaccines to those living in shelters.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff reported that applications for paramedic school are open until June 30th. Site visits will be in November. Jim stated that a letter review for AEMT accreditation was sent and hoping to be accredited within the next year or two.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
 - Airway KPI reports

OLD BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect OTEP- Curriculum Schedule: Dr. Travis Dierks

Dr. Dierks shared that recent changes have been made to the WAC regarding OTEP requirements, and that the DOH will now require approval from the county MPDs for each agency's OTEP plan. EMSConnect follows Washington state requirements as its headquarters are in Spokane WA, and Dr. Dierks explained that the EMSConnect 3-year curriculum was edited to include all new WAC requirements to ensure that agencies using their platform for OTEP will meet the new requirements for recertification. Dr. Dierks shared the curriculum schedule with the group, which includes all WA State and NREMT requirements, and requested approval from the MPD and Council for the updated curriculum for didactic education for agencies using EMS Connect. Dr. Dierks explained that when creating the schedule, they take into consideration the timeline of when specific subjects are scheduled to better prepare providers specific seasons and emphasized that skill tracking can be done on EMSConnect by uploading documents and completion certificates for skill requirements. Jeff Anderson from the training chiefs group asked if local intubation requirements have been determined by the County MPD, and following discussion, the County MPD, Dr. Nania, agreed to discuss intubation requirements at the next Protocol committee meeting, and suggested that agencies follow the previously required numbers

until stated otherwise. Dr. Nania agreed to send an update for the requirements once determined after the next protocol meeting. Tom Chavez stated that regarding the County wide OTEP discussion, he and Dr. Nania met to review the new WAC requirements and have updated the county wide OTEP application. The next step will be to meet with Training Officers at each agency to go over the application for review. Tom emphasized that agencies could use EMSConnect or any online platform for education but must meet skills requirements with hands on training and will make sure that all agencies are on the same page regarding OTEP, regardless of platform being used. Dr. Dierks reiterated that he brought the EMSConnect 3-year curriculum to be reviewed and approved as a didactic portion for agencies to use. Dr. Nania agreed to review the curriculum for approval for didactic education for agencies to use within an OTEP plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
 - Providence Health Training Initial ESE Course (04/25/2025)
 - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/21/2025-08/01/2025)
 - EMS Connect Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/28/2025-05/26/2025)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The next meeting is Thursday, April 17th and Dr. Nania will be discussing Spokane County airway management requirements for recertification. Five pediatric protocols need to be reviewed and updated, as the protocol workgroup will be formatting pediatric protocols next. Tom shared the format that the protocol workgroup is converting all protocols to and stated that once reviewed by the protocol committee, will be brought to the EMS Council for approval. Hoping to have all protocols approved and updated by the first quarter of 2026. The workgroup is currently working on trauma protocols and will work on pediatric protocols once approved by the DOH.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for April
 - 04/16/2024 “Doc, legal, POLST, reporting & multicultural” Shaun Pitts hosting a discussion regarding “Sirens lights and Lawyers” by David Givot. Live and free to join.
- Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes
 - 04/08/2025 at 6:30p.m “High Risk Cardiac” with Rebecca Berg, EMT-P
- Spokane County EMS Symposium
 - 04/15/2025 9am-12pm at the Spokane Fire Training Center

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:13AM