

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom C & D / 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

Josh Ambach, Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Liz Ciais, Rinita Cook, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Brad Kane, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Dan Williams, James Young

Guests Present

Dana Bosworth, Tamara Drapeau, Sierra Knutson, Nathan Jeffries, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Tara Ohman, Beth Perkins, Joey Rodriguez, Dillon Russell, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Lane Strite, Whit Spencer

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

MINUTES: Approval of June 2025 Meeting Minutes

Anne requested a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Randy Olson made a motion to approve, and David Baird seconded.

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Anne Raven

- Anne recognized the active shooter event in Coeur d' Alene last week and asked for a moment of silence to remember the battalion chiefs who fell in the line of duty, and the firefighter who is recovering.
- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that things are good from a clinical perspective. St. Luke's Rehabilitation will have two bomb threat drills that staff is unaware of, as it is a regulatory requirement to do no notice drills. Providence continuing to share wildfire safety information and get people signed up for Alert Spokane. A group text thread was created after recent protests to be used for mass gathering events and protests to keep hospitals, law enforcement, EMS, and the DMCC notified in case of an emergency. The thread was used to share updates during the Coeur d'Alene active shooter event, and Lindsay expressed that Providence was able to work through the mass casualty protocol and felt prepared to take patients.
 - Multicare: no report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for June 2025
Jack shared the reports to the group. There were no questions or concerns.
- 2026 Budget- Initial Proposal at September meeting
The initial budget proposal will be shared at the September meeting. Jack shared that after 2 months of payroll wages, the Executive committee will look at high yield savings account options to be included in the 2026 budget proposal. Jack stated if anyone has questions, concerns, or wants to discuss anything regarding the upcoming budget proposal, to email him prior to the September meeting.

REPORTS:

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks stated nothing to report. The BLS Report will be used to share updates from the DOH regarding the ALS/BLS licensing discussion over the next few months.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that the Fire Chiefs did not meet this month and will not meet next month. Will give a report at the September meeting.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau shared that the East Region Council took a significant cut of funds for education and grants, which has not fully been released yet. Unsure of why cuts were made, and the East Region will have to cut programs that were previously being funded but will try to maintain those programs through the end of the year with saved funds. Rinita Cook from the East Region EMS Council added that they have been asked to suspend all program funding. Rinita spoke with the executive team for the East Region and can currently support the 50% cost for EMSConnect for providers for now. East Region does not want this to affect the smaller rural agencies that have less funding and will do their best to keep agencies informed of any changes.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt thanked the Council and EMS agencies for all that they do for the community. There is still a lot of pertussis activity in the community, and there have been 10 measles cases reported in Washington State this year, but none in Eastern WA. One ongoing food outbreak and a few COVID outbreaks in LTC, but ER activity in the past week was low for these pathogens and RSV. DOH announced they have updated guidance based on recommendations from the CDC regarding use of PPE when caring for a patient with suspected or confirmed COVID. Find recommendations [here](#).
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff stated that the application process is closed, and testing will begin this month. 55 applications were submitted and 25 will be selected. Limmer LC ready app recommended for studying, and discount code Providence20 can be used.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania shared a summary of the C.A.R.E.S data that was reviewed at the June QI committee meeting and shared a summary for the WSU Cadaver lab evaluation from those who attended.
 - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
 - Trauma KPI data
 - Case review referred by MultiCare.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Countywide OTEP Plan Update & Vote for Approval: Tom Chavez-
The plan outline was sent following last month's EMS Council meeting for everyone to review. Once the plan is approved by the EMS Council, Tom will submit the plan to the County MPD, Dr. Nania, and to the WA DOH for approval. Randy Olson made a motion to approve the OTEP plan, and Dan Williams seconded. A vote was taken, and none were opposed. If anyone has questions regarding the OTEP plan, reach out to Tom via email at coordinator@emsoffice.com
Action: It was M/S/P to approve the OTEP plan to be submitted to the DOH.
- Bylaws Revision Discussion: Anne Raven
The draft of the revised bylaws was sent prior to last month's EMS Council meeting for review. Anne asked if anyone had questions or comments, as a vote will be taken at the September meeting. Chief Chris Wyrobek stated that the Inland Empire Fire Chiefs requested clarification regarding the elimination of the finance committee, and to clarify the difference between the Protocol Chair and Program Coordinator positions. The group discussed and agreed to consider updating language for funding request and budget process, and to include advanced notice of requests to the EMS Council members. If anyone has additional questions or concerns, reach out to the Council Chair, Anne. Requested changes will be reviewed and if changed, will be sent out for review prior to the September meeting.
Action: The Executive committee will review and update the discussed changes, and Berkley will send out an updated draft for review.

➤ Spokane County Min/Max Assessment & Service License Update

Following the discussion at last month's meeting regarding BLS/ALS licensure, Rinita Cook (East Region EMS Council) requested that any Spokane County agencies that can meet staffing requirements to increase their license level, to reach out. SCFD 3 and SCFD 9 will submit applications to increase their license, which would require a min/max adjustment for Spokane County. Rinita requested that Spokane County begin the process of a min/max assessment, and the EMS Council agreed. The Council will need to provide the East Region EMS Council and DOH the required needs assessment data and explain why the Council is requesting an adjustment to the current min/max numbers. Rinita advised the group to look at Spokane County to include hospitals and interfacility transport. The last assessment was done in 2023, and the recently approved East Region strategic plan states that local councils will complete a needs assessment every 2 years. Rinita described the needs assessment process and included that once the steering committee approves the increase, the Department of Health is required to post an open trauma response area for 30 days and take applications that will be reviewed by the local and regional councils. The Department of Health makes the final decision for approval. It was suggested that SCFD 13 and Cheney Fire Department determine if they plan to increase recruitment of ALS providers or have a timeline of when they could meet ALS licensing requirements to increase their license level as well. If other agencies apply to increase their license in the future, another needs assessment will need to take place. Following discussion, the group agreed to begin the min/max assessment process by creating a workgroup. SCFD 9 requested a 90-day timeline for the assessment, and Rinita suggested that if the Spokane County EMS Council can review for approval by the October meeting, the East region can review for approval at the November meeting. The Steering Committee and Department of Health must receive all applications 45 days prior to review. Representatives from SCFD 3, SCFD 8, SCFD 9, SCFD 10, SCFD 13, Cheney FD, AMR, Advanced Life Systems, SFD, SVFD, Providence, and the East Region EMS Council all agreed to participate in the workgroup. Dr. Nania emphasized that the level of licensure for the agency should not preclude the level of its personnel and compared level 3 trauma facilities that often operate at level 2 because they cannot operate at a level 3 full time.

Action: An initial meeting for the Min/Max workgroup will be scheduled to move forward with the needs assessment process. A chairperson and main point of contact needs to be determined for the workgroup.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ Recently Approved Training Course Applications

- Spokane Community College Initial EMT-SGA Course (07/01/2025-08/21/2025)
- EMSConnect Initial EMT-SGA Course (08/03/2025-09/10/2025)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The protocol workgroup is working on formatting the pediatric protocols, and Tom shared that the new format would include hyperlinks to additional protocols for drugs and dosage referencing to avoid redundancy, and to keep updates streamlined in the future. The protocol workgroup began editing the manual in September 2024, and will continue until September 2025, with hopes to get the entire manual approved by the EMS Council and sent to the DOH by December 2025. The protocol committee will continue to work on Peds I/O, the Physician on scene statement, the post ROSC checklist, DMIST handoff on scene, and clarifying language regarding triage tags in the MCI protocol. It was intended that the EMS Council would purchase the first order of SALT triage tags, and Tom requested that agencies send how many tags are needed for each agency to Berkley. Tom will link the MCI Chapter from the County FOG to the MCI protocol and HandTevy, and in the Protocol reference section.

➤ Pediatric Protocols for Approval by EMS Council

The revised pediatric protocols were sent out last month for review, and Tom did not receive any questions or concerns. Tom asked for a motion to approve the protocols. A motion was made by Dr. Maika Dang and seconded by David Barid. A vote was taken, and none were opposed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the pediatric protocols to be sent for approval to the DOH.

➤ Protocol workgroup committee payment:

The original workgroup was made up of 6 individuals, and the group has been unable to keep a 6th person. The 5 remaining individuals have consistently remained on the workgroup and picked up the duties of the vacant spot. Tom requested that the remaining 5 people split the remaining funds of \$409.83 that have been saved to pay a 6th person. A motion to approve was made by Dr. Travis Dierks and seconded by Randy Olson. A vote was taken, and none opposed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the remaining funds be split equally between the 5 individuals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

➤ EMS Connect Classes for July

- 7/21 at 2pm with Dr. Travis Dierks “Trauma-chest and back w SMR”

➤ Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes

- No classes over the summer. Unsure if classes will continue in the fall.

ADJOURNED AT 10:38AM