

Kitsap County EMS and Trauma Care Council EMS Operational Meeting Minutes

December 17, 2008
Readiness Center
Bremerton, WA

Attendees:

Barb Lovato	KCEMS	Martin Bennett, MD	KCEMS
Stan Plyler	BFD	Steve Engle	NKFR
Rhonda Roberts	KCEMS	Mike Wernet	SKFR
Kim Doyle	Olympic	Joe Schweiger	KCEMS
Joe Repar	CKFR	Thomas O'Donohue	PFD

Called to order by Chair Steve Engle at 10:10 am.

I. Approval of November 19, 2008 Minutes

Kim made a motion to approve November's minutes as written, motion seconded by Joe R. Minutes were approved as written.

II. Old Business

A. Protocols Tests ALS/BLS

Stan discussed with the group that he had 1/2 his providers tested. Steve updated he had 2/3 of his providers tested. Kim said she had 3/4 done and Butch said he had 3/4 done also. Mike asked if we could discuss the test questions after everyone had taken the test. It was agreed after all the testing was done we would review the test. Steve informed everyone to email him the questions from the test that needed to be review. Dr. Bennett asked if everyone would be done testing by then. Everyone agreed that their providers should be done testing by the first of the year. Barb asked the group to remind everyone that if the providers have not passed the protocol test they can not practice in Kitsap County.

B. Protocol Testing Policy

Rhonda presented the updated Protocol Testing Policy from the last meeting. She asked if there were any other changes requested. It was asked to change 1.1.2 from a to an.

Kim made the motion to forward the Protocol Testing Policy it to the council with the change requested. Tom 2nd the motion. Motion approved to forward as changed.

C. Fire Chief's Strategic Plan

Stan discussed the 2008 Fire Chief's Strategic Plan. Strategy 1 the first objective has been reached to reduce ALS to BLS downgrades, in strategy 2 the objectives of continuing and developing BLS and ALS OTEP programs are ongoing, strategy 3 the 2007 MCI plan has been completed, and strategy 4 evaluating current aid and mutual aid agreements as they apply to closest unit response is also ongoing.

Steve asked if the KCEMS office has a copy of the MCI plan and Itac plan. Rhonda responded that the office does not have a copy of those plans. Steve asked Rhonda to contact DEM for copies and distribute them out to the group.

D. Video for Skilled Nursing Homes

Stan reiterated to the group that the Fire Chief's are willing to help with the production cost of the DVD. He asked what stage we are at and if we could give the Chief's a cost for the DVD. Mike responded that at this point the range is too wide. They have estimates from \$1,000 - \$10,000. It depends on what is to be done on the DVD. Kim asked that while they continue to research to put a hold on discussing this project.

E. OTEP

Joe Schweiger updated the group that he has submitted in an OTEP plan to the state. He handed out a copy of the plan to the entire group. He also gave out a list of evaluators for the county and asked that the group to review it. Joe brought attention to the four 1 ½ to 2 hour labs that are added to the OTEP plan. Each medic would have to make four labs in their three year recertification period. These four classes will be repeated each year so the medics should be able to make the four classes in their recertification period. Steve asked if there will be an OTEP evaluators class offered soon. Joe stated that there will be an OTEP evaluator's class on 2/6/09 0900-1700 here at the Readiness Center.

Joe informed the group the next EMT Basic course will be starting 1/20/09. It will be held through Olympic College. He also discussed with the group the change the state is making from state exam to National Registry exam. Currently our classes have a 45% pass rate for national registry while we have a 90% pass rate for the state exam. He is looking at putting the passing rate for quizzes and test from 70% to 80% to make sure the students have the understanding of the subject.

Barb announced that there is discussion with having a spring EMT-B class at Bainbridge Island.

III. New Business

A. Policy Review

The group started by reviewing the Development of Basic and Advanced Life Support Patient Care Protocols and/or Policies. Barb asked the group if we should separate the Protocol from the Policies to make this into two policies instead of just one. The group decided to leave them together as one policy. The group discussed changes, mostly grammatical, to the policy. Barb suggested when Rhonda sends out the policies she state that the changes to the policies, both ALS/BLS Testing and Development of Basic and Advanced Life Support Patient Care Protocols and/or Policies, she state the changes are grammatical and for the testing one that the BLS is done in house now.

Joe Repar moved to accept the Development of Basic and Advanced Life Support Patient Care Protocols and/or Policies as revised on December 17. Stan seconded the motion. Motion approved they will be forwarded to EMS Council.

The group decided to table the IV Starts until the next meeting.

B. QA Position and Procedures

Barb presented to the group a synopsis of the discussion with the QI search committee containing Dr. Bennett, Steve Engle and she. The handout discussed some changes that the group would like to make to the QI Plan. 1) They would like to change that the departments review their own run reports by either the Medical Officer or his/her designee. 2) All "Non transport" calls and calls relating to a "study topic" for each month will be pulled and brought the appropriate QI committee meeting (BLS or ALS). Also, any reports that do not appear to fit into protocol or standard of care guidelines will be brought to the QI meetings too. 3) The EMS Office QI coordinator shall be available to, and responsible for, reviewing reports, compiling needed information from other agencies or hospitals, and completing other QI related tasks requested by the MPD or the Program Manager. 4) QI committee meetings will have a form with recommendations for action. The committee, with the QI coordinator and the MPD, will decide actions to be taken and the QI coordinator will forward the information to the appropriate agency. The four categories the search committee discussed for the reports are: a protocol issue, a system issue, a personnel issue, or is there no problem. They would like to see the focus of the QI committees themselves more on the "study issues". The question from the group to Barb was a concern about the provider reviewing their own reports. Barb suggested that the Medical Officer could review them or they could send those reports to the QI Coordinator for review. The QI Coordinator will come to the EMS Operations meeting and update the group on items review at the committee meetings.

C. Staff Updates

- MPD

Dr. Bennett discussed the concerns that he has heard from the providers that the phone line into the hospital is busy when they call. He discussed it with the hospital and they requested the providers use the paramedic radio.

He asked the Medical Officers to discuss with the medics if they have a long transport to give proper amounts of analgesics.

He asked the group if they have providers that work part-time for the county to make sure they too have taken the protocol test.

- Program Manager

Barb reminded everyone that the NW Region is offering a 48 hour refresher course in 2009 and they have the Pediatrics conference in January with a PALS certification.

IV. Good of the Order

1. Joe Repar announced they have two new medics
2. Kim shared the Bariatric Policy for Olympic Ambulance.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:55 am

Next meeting will be scheduled for January 21, 2009 at 10:00 am.