



Minutes
Kitsap County EMS and TCC
Board of Directors Meeting
February 14, 2023 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Microsoft Teams Virtual

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Call to Order at 9:00 am

Chair, Jeff Faucett verified a quorum was present on the video call.

B. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

None

C. Announcements

None

2. CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes of BOD Meeting: December 13, 2022

MOTION by Joey Rodrigues to approve the consent items, as presented. SECONDED by Chief Pat McGanney. Motion PASSED unanimously by all members present.

A. Financial Update-

Chief Faucett reported the amounts in the checking and savings accounts.

Checking \$ 45,715.74

Savings \$ 136,788.78

B. MPD Report

A new analytic tool called Insights used to generate reports and easy to use has been rolled out to parent accounts. The tool is not available widespread and available upon request. Information will be given to the medical officers to be handed down to the crews.

Since the end of the pandemic Dr. Hoffman held a series of interviews with an EMS Director pursuing their PhD in Emergency Preparedness covering two counties.

Dr. Hoffman chaired the Northwest Region meeting and reported that they are finalizing their two-year regional plan and will be submitting it. They are working on an Injured Prevention program with the remaining \$3000 funds and waiting for a grant approval for free the lock zone to generate 1000 kits for distribution to the counties of the Northwest Region.

Dr. Hoffman attended a couple of EMS taskforce virtual meetings at St. Michael's, lectured at the Kitsap Fire and EMS Academy class, and taught a combined cadaver class with Tacoma Community College and Pierce College. Dr. Hoffman also attended the state MPD meeting where they discussed the legislative bill that passed in the last session instructing the Department of Health to get an outside entity to review the state cardiac and stroke system. A survey will be coming out to chief officers, and everyone is encouraged to fill them out. There was also a discussion on wall times and the concerns of EMS patients being treated differently at institutions and hospitals. They would like to see a review of the complaint from the Attorney General that will lead to an opinion or a policy statement that would provide statewide EMS support as well as neighboring states. Chief Gillard requested



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to talk with Dr. Hoffman after the meeting to share the communication he had with Senator Rolfes requesting the Department of Health not to investigate the complaint he submitted.

C. Monthly Staff Report

There are currently 2 EMT classes, 335 EMT providers with their CPR training verified and 8 providers with no CPR training verified or have not received their certification, 18 paramedics with expiring ACLS and PALS this quarter, 34 EMT's and 10 paramedics onboarding, and 132 providers recertifying this year. Each provider received personal invitations with clear instructions. There are 8 evaluators that are scheduled to attend the Evaluator class. If they choose not to attend, we will lose them. IV Tech classes are also scheduled. Tamarah is working with Northwest Protocol to develop specific training for Dr. Hoffman.

Chief Faucett talked about the growth and changes of Kitsap County and the council. Chief Faucett shared that Chief Mock and Chief Post recently learned while working through the Training Consortium and HR Directors with onboarding, that there are nuances that the fire side did not understand. As more EMT Academy is coming, Chief Faucett suggested a meeting when the EMT Academy is done with Tamarah, Chief Post, Chief Mock, and others a meeting to talk about and identify opportunities to streamline the onboarding and training processes to make it a better and more efficient way. Tamarah is currently working with 34 EMT's and 10 paramedics with onboarding. Chief Faucett expressed his appreciation for the work Tamarah is doing with the fire districts through the vacancies and supporting the career side to be successful.

Chief Faucett and Tamara reviewed the cost breakdown for the classes and training that the council provides to members of the council and the neighboring jurisdiction. As members of the council, EMT's, and paramedics, there should be an expectation for ongoing training provided by the council at no charge. They identified four categories which are Brown Bag, Base Station, Super Glottic Airways, and Paramedic Skills which are the baseline of what is needed. These trainings can be put on by the delegate or Dr. Hoffman. Additional classes not required can be brought in for an additional cost for supplies, evaluators, or SCI's. Chief Faucett and Tamarah would like to present a policy at the next council meeting that will identify the no charge classes, internal and external charge classes, member responsible charge classes, and other class charges that would be appropriate.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. CBD Committee Update

Dr. Hoffman has approved the CBD Course with the new manual. There will be improvements to the King County program with a separate instructor's manual. They will be going back to the CBD committee and going back to the original function and getting off the focus of where we have been and trying to get the new training ready for the academies. A meeting is scheduled for later this month or



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beginning of next month. Tamarah learned through the process that people had an expectation that would be provided through her or her office. Tamarah reported a couple of contributing factors in the potential delay of peoples request for data is a lack of staffing and minimal to no access to ESO. Chief Faucett identified individuals that can assist with reports.

B. Nurse Line and Data Task Force

The nurse line and data task force are slowly moving along since it is a new system. Originally the task force was scheduled to meet every other Friday, but they quickly realized they need to slow it down even further. Starting in March, the task force will meet once a month and the second meeting will be with the EMS council to report out staffing levels and other important information. This will help streamline some of the meetings and free up some Fridays for everyone.

C. St. Michael Update

St. Michaels are up on staffing almost at full staffing levels and they have a lot of travelers. Close attention is being given when travelers leave to ensure there is backfill for permanent positions. They are working on internal dialogue on what it looks like for them and how it will work. Joseph Rodriguez complimented Chief Gillard and Chief Faucett for the great work and leadership in turning a big negative in the community into an opportunity to team build and a positive change for the community and a positive reflection on the council.

D. Chief Gillard's Report

Chief Gillard shared updated stats of calls, transports, 1-2 hour wait time, and transports with a turnover time of over 30 minutes wait time for January. In reviewing the longer wait times, Chief Gillard realized it was stacked up in the beginning of the month. He decided to pull a non-scientific subset of numbers for the last two weeks of January for a comparison. In reviewing the data, he learned there was a big drop in average wait times, zero over 2 hours, 5 over 1 hour, and wait times over 30 minutes was down 5%. Chief Gillard hopes to sustain the numbers and reports that staffing made an impact on reducing wait times. Chief Gillard is communicating with St. Michaels and others on their commitment to improve, however, these improvements are a step in the right direction. The Fire Chiefs have been working with St. Michaels to make it public and to show there has been huge improvements to help rebuild the trust in the ER.

4. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS



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A. Update 2018 Bylaws

The work to review and update the bylaws is coming ahead. Chief Faucett will provide more information soon. Tamarah mentioned some policies are up for their 2–3-year review.

B. Strategic Planning

The first strategic planning meeting is tentatively scheduled for the end of March. Chief Faucett mentioned Dr. Hoffman, Tamarah, Daniel, and Chief Moravec to serve on the committee. Chief Faucett will also reach out to others of the council for full representation.

C. KSCO Presentation

Fire Chiefs attended a great presentation from the KSCO talking about a Tactical EMS. Jeff Menge has talked about the team to the council in the past and Chief Faucett expressed the councils full support of the program. The council will have discussion on how to make it work. Chief Faucett wanted to bring it back to the council to help with policies and protocols, or any other assistance Dr. Hoffman may require. Dr. Hoffman commented that no additional work needs to happen with the policies and protocols. Jeff Menge said thank you and expressed appreciation to the group for listening to the presentation and the team said the feedback was good. KSCO will work on completing the ILA and getting it back to the council for review and revisions.

D. Kitsap Count EMS Treasurer and Vice-Chair

According to the bylaws there are three positions, and they are the chair which is currently held by Chief Faucett, vice-chair which has been accepted by Chief Moravec, and treasurer which is currently vacant. Chief Moravec is talking with his finance person to determine whether they have the bandwidth to take over the position. The bylaws will need to be reviewed and updated to reflect the change. This will remain on the agenda for next meeting.

E. Cares Unit Protocol

South Kitsap is preparing to look at the CARES Unit for 2024 and to be ready to answer questions from the bargain unit and the district. Chief Faucett met with Katy Holstein to talk about the concerns for a new agency. Katy explained that when CARES Units with EMT's and paramedics work out of their scope with no protocol and there is a complaint, then they bypass the agency and go straight to the provider. Katy referenced RCW 35.21.930 specific for CARES Unit. Chief Faucett referred to Dr. Hoffman for more insights to the program. Dr. Hoffman shared, majority of the work that Poulsbo and CK are doing with CARES is navigational and procedural, which he said the procedural document will need to be written loosely enough and framework enough that it doesn't put you into a narrow lane. He went on to say the RCW states that as the program grows and matures, an annual report with an estimate of the cost savings to the health care authority will be required. This is a fluid process with multiple entities that are all part of Kitsap County. Dr. Hoffman would like to have a Kitsap EMS CARES



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program policy and procedure document with additional training and protocols as needed. He also recommends for the districts to maintain communication with the health department to keep them informed of the framework of the programs and shared risk partners with the liability companies. Chief Gillard agreed with Dr. Hoffman of moving from individual district CARES Unit to Kitsap County CARES Unit and protocols. Chief Gillard talked about the importance of the protocols especially as districts look at mobile integrated health and performing medical procedures in the field, it is very important that everyone has the right training approved by Dr Hoffman under protocols. Currently firefighters perform very little medical work, instead they try to recognize if there is a medical emergency happening.

Dr. Hoffman mentioned providing specific training that will be ongoing for providers engaged in CARES work. Tamarah recommended updating the OTEP plan to include a separate CARES OTEP plan. She also shared that the OTEP plan and the training programs license with the state are up this year. Chief Gillard talked about a couple of CARES mental health protocols that are not covered well which are suicide and behavioral health emergencies and suicide. Chief Gillard has a draft 1 for suicide that he will be presenting to Dr. Hoffman for review and then bring it to the council review. Joseph Rodrigues encouraged the district to reach out for help from their team which have experience building protocols specifically in the clinical realm and he has worked very closely with Chief Sharp in the city of Port Angeles Fire Department where they have a lot of mental health and substance abusive in their community paramedic program and their protocols are established.

F. Gabrielle Hadley's Report

Respiratory season is back to normal in Kitsap County and RSV blue and covid numbers are matching the national average. We are better prepared for flu and RSV since everyone is masking and children are staying home from school when they are sick with access to remote learning. These efforts have helped to keep the numbers low. This year one of the biggest response was for MPOCS, however it did not impact any of the schools or pediatric population, but it has impacted the frontline health care workers. This is a topic we hope to bring to the council. The district is beginning to focus on fentanyl and opioid overdose related deaths which are increasing in all age groups, and more than half of the deaths are related to fentanyl. Fentanyl deaths have increased by 10-fold since 2016. The Health District is working on distributing the lock zones that they received free from DOH and trainings associated to the schools. The ESF8 Taskforce had their first meeting yesterday and Chief Gillard was in attendance. The taskforce welcomes any feedback on topics to cover or specific exercises. Chief Faucett pitched the idea of practicing a long term care facility fire and evacuation. The taskforce would like invite others from the EMS council to be part of their meeting. The listening sessions for the COVID 19 after action reviews kicked off Monday of this week and will wrap up the ending of February. A request was made to the vendor for all districts to schedule their own listening sessions. If districts need additional sessions contact Gabrielle.



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5. GOOD TO THE ORDER

Attendees:

Chief Jeff Faucett- SKFR
Chief Christian-CKFR
Joey Rodrigues-Olympic Ambulance
Chief Jim Gillard-PFD
Tamarah Hoffman-KCEMS
Dr. Hoffman-MPD
Pat McGanney- BFD
Claire Clark
Scott Davran
Rick Lagrandeur-NKFR

ADJOURNED 9:57 am

1. Next meeting will be held on March 14, 2023