

Minutes
Kitsap County EMS and TCC
Board of Directors Meeting
August 13, 2024 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Zoom

I. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Call to Order at 9:02 am

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

B. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

1. Handtevy 4-B

C. Announcements

None

II. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Minutes of BOD Meeting: April 9, 2024

MOTION by Chief Moravec to approve last month's minutes, as presented. **SECONDED** by Chief Gillard.
The motion was **PASSED** unanimously by all members present.

B. Financial Update-

Chair Jeff Faucett reported the amounts in the checking and savings accounts.

Checking \$ 32,199.38

Savings \$ 295,807.91

C. MPD Report

Dr. Hoffman reported that he and the protocol committee have met 3 times. The meetings have been well represented and moving along in Kitsap and throughout the Olympic Peninsula. He attended the Governor's steering committee on trauma and EMS. He participated in the rural QI Project which will be wrapping up at the end of the summer. He mentioned a new phase of the grant for rural EMS will begin. Dr. Hoffman has been working on OTEP, working on the 2025 schedule with the new OTEP requirements for ALS and BLS. He attended a Region meeting on designated masks as a medical control. The Kitsap Base Station was held on June 6th and had great attendance from Paramedics

D. Monthly Staff Report

Tamarah reported she and Dr. Hoffman have been working on projects where they have made two modules for BLS OTEP, Stop the Bleed, and the new tresh tool. She has been busy with video editing the Base Station, Protocol, and Brown Bag videos. She reported that the EMT applications are coming in for January Community and Academy Classes. She has been working on the budget and CPR throughout the County. She is working on getting 394 EMTs updated CPR cards and will start BIFD and CKFR certification completed by July 31st.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2025 Budget Process

Chief Faucett reported on the 2025 budget. He provided two budgets, one with Handtevy and one without. He explained that in June, the Board approved the revenue spreadsheet, but not knowing the time, the

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spreadsheet had an error. Chief Faucet realized the Physician Delegate fee column was missing on the spreadsheet. He explained when he and Danielle were looking at the funding policy, terminology, alarm costs, and agency costs, they both realized that the Physician Delegate fee was missing.

This created an increase in dues per agency, with some having large increases. Chief Faucett discussed the funding policy with the Board as it correlated with the spreadsheet. Discussions continued fees, EMS Calls, and alarm rates. Discussion on why some agencies' dues would be increasing.

Joey Rodrigues commented on the increases. He mentioned the increases being between 12% to 15% with some increasing 20%. He suggested that once the Strategic planning project is complete, the Board should tackle this and see if these increases could taper off. He was looking at the sustainability of the Council and every agency involved.

Another point made by Chief Faucet was the 100,000 that the Council didn't have last year, which is typically built into the budget that we've had in past years. He mentioned there hasn't been an increase since pre-covid. Chief Faucett mentioned the issue is we're increasing everything in our budget, but our budget revenue has been staying the same.

IV. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

A. EMS Triage Line-SMMC for 911 calls

Chief Faucett reported on the EMS triage line which is being used with call volumes being monitored. Chief Faucett asked the group if it was possible to push more calls to the triage line. If we're following protocol, Dr. Hoffman's guidelines, what other opportunities are there?

Chief Christian commented that just last month, there were between 20 and 30 calls. He mentioned that this triage line is a great opportunity to be able to send more 911 calls to the nurse line and he hopes to see that number climb to 100 calls per month.

Chief Gillard agreed with Chief Christian and included that this is part of a bigger picture both with the partnership with Virginia Mason and their virtual clinic at Mission Control. Along with the updates to the protocols that Chief Payne is working on. Those two things merged will allow more utilization of the triage line.

Dr. Hoffman spoke about using this line during COVID-19, but recently with the congestion at the hospitals and ED throughout the South Sound and hospitals were wanting to divert with no hospitals having beds.

We need to consider whether the person needs an ambulance, can this call be given to the triage line?

Maria Jameson-Owens reported that Chief Payne is the Chair of the CBD Committee, and the group's focus has been this triage line. The group meets every 3 months. They review calls and get info from the field crews. She mentioned having changes to the protocol and creating new ones that would send these calls directly to the triage line. The triage line is learning that most calls are positive, but there are calls in which the patient was told what to do, but 27% of them ended up with home care, 26% only wanted advice and 12% were told to go to the ER.

The group agreed to continue this with Chief Payne and have him report to us his findings.

B. Handtevy

Dr. Hoffman spoke about the current protocols being a pocketbook or a binder where you flip back and

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forth looking at pain medicine doses or looking for something in the formulary. He explained that you also can get this information from cell phone apps on your phone, but you're still flipping electronic pages. When the county started the protocol development, CKFR had already started with Handtevy. Handtevy is one of two well-vetted programs/platforms that allow agencies or counties to load the information into their platform. This would consist of their protocols, their formulary, to purchase certain medications. This is geared toward pediatric care.

This allows providers to click back and forth from seizure meds to pain meds. He would like to see a protocol platform. The other vetted platform is Check the Dose which was written by certified medics. CKFR and SKFR are already using Handtevy. What would this look like? What would that look like financially? Logistically? This is how we've gotten to this point of the conversation.

Tamarah has recently had discussions with Handtevy about a possible contract. She reported that if the Council agreed to go with a more County-wide system, Handtevy is the way to go since CKFR and SKFR are already using Handtevy. Setup fees are based on tiers. Set-up fees consist of the initial setup and the annual fee. In her review of Handtevy and their billing, Handtevy was going to charge each of the 5 districts these two fees. She negotiated a single contract, and a single pay point like Kitsap County EMS, with a parent account and child accounts like Vector, they would charge you \$2500 saving the other 5 districts over \$8000. Handtevy will not budge at all on their annual fees. You wouldn't look at the rate per provider but per tier.

Chief Faucett spoke to the Board and prepared 2 different budgets for their review. The first budget excludes Handtevy with a normal budget. The second budget is with Handtevy so you will see in the budget a start-up fee for everyone except CKFR and SKFR. The Board was asked if there was any interest in moving forward with Handtevy.

Guy Earl spoke on dosing errors in emergencies. Looking at these benefiting patients and any legal consequences.

Tamarah spoke on how Handtevy would be set up. It would be set up similarly to Vecor. The billing would come through Kitsap for the setup, but you would still have separate child accounts. Discussion continues proposing an internal PALS instructor so we would have PALS and Handtevy cards. Discussion continued with Medic renewal for PALS and the cost savings Handtevy would create.

Chief LaGrandeur is all for using this application, but not knowing anything about Handtevy, he's deferring this to his Medical Officers and would like to have consensus from all Medical Officers that they would like to go in this direction.

Dr. Hoffman referred to other Medical Officers checking out the other platform for discussion.

Chief Gillard also agreed with Chief LaGrandeur's concept. He was concerned about the number of Apps and programs and how they all interact with Operative IQ.

Chief Moravec agrees with Chief Gillard on getting more input from the Medical officers before committing.

Joey Rodrigues asked if this is only for Pediatrics or does this cover all the protocols. Dr. Hoffman reported that this platform covers all the protocols. Joey's second question was about the analytics or footprint that CKFR and SKFR can share to see if there is actual access. Discussion on putting the information of personal phones or rig phones, iPads or both?

This discussion will be moved to the Mo's and take the next step on some of the questions the group has.

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V. AGENCY UPDATES

A. SMMC

Brandon and Kerrie reported on the standing ERs in Port Orchard and Bremerton. With a bridge plan, they will continue to see a few urgent care patients while construction is happening at that facility. He reported that they still anticipate the first patient in Bremerton in Q1 of 2025. The tower construction is going as planned, even with a drilling rig tipping over. He spoke about the impacts on the EMS routes and ED lobby have been a challenge.

B. Life Flight

Lora reported no new updates

C. Airlift

Steve LeMay reported that the tower typo blood study is now complete, and they finished 2nd behind Pittsburgh. He reported that Kitsap and Mason Counties were the biggest enrollers for the study. Once the report comes out, he will share it with the Board members. This study was on whole blood vs PRBCS and plasma. On a personal note, he thanked Chief Moravec and the Commissioners for cleaning up the Airlift Northwest Memorial at BFD 21.

D. Kitsap Health District

Brain Nielson reported on the TEEX course PER213-wide area search. The course is a 3-day course scheduled on Jan 18-20 at KCDEMs newly remodeled campus. They have 48 seats available.

E. K911

Maria reported on the approval of giving Narcan instructions. They added this to the CBD book, and a few people in call receiving training.

F. Olympic Ambulance

Jake reported on rig replacement plans. Six trucks are in motion three are scheduled for remount. He reported on service to Mason General early last month. This is a big benefit to the Olympic Peninsula where we're not using our local resources as often. He spoke about Bill 998 and attracting more stakeholder representation as this bill evolves.

G. Fire Agencies

CKFR-Chief Christian updated the group on the nine Fire Station replacements or re-models within the next 5 years. This will possibly cause challenges with service delivery and response. Station 57 in Lake Symington will still be open and staffed. Station 56 in Seabeck will close for a remodel, Station 64 in Chico, and 42 on Central Valley. Station 41 will need to be replaced.

Chief Moravec reported they've hired four new Paramedics, which doubles the number of Paramedics on staff. Two of the hires are recent graduates from class 50 at UW Harborview Paramedic training and the other 2 are laterals.

SKFR- Chief Faucett reported on nine hires with three of them being Paramedics

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PFD- Chief Gillard reported on the Cares program. Both Poulsbo and South Kitsap are going through a transition with the social worker staffing which will make our social workers short on staff. An announcement will be going out for a new social worker soon. He reported that the Cares program is very active.

KCEMS- Tamrah asked to have the agency's HR reach out to her about all new hires and onboarding for the EMS side of Vector. This would create a smooth transition considering LOA, etc. Discussion on letters, retirement, and inactive providers continued.

VI. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Attendees:

Chief Jeff Faucett-Chair/SKFR

Chief Jason Christian-CKFR

Chief Jim Gillard-PFD

Chief Rick Lagrandeur-NKFR

Chief Jared Moravec-BIFD

Chief Pat McGanney-BFD

Steve Lemay-Airlift

Lora York-LifeFlight

Joey Rodrigues-Oly Ambulance

Brian Nielson-KCPH

Brandon Holt-

Maria Jameson-Owens-Kitsap 911

Guy Earle-KCPH

Tamarah Hoffman-KCEMS

Dr. Hoffman-MPD

Lori Danco-St. Michael

Keirrie Waddington-Interim director at St. Michael

Jack Reynolds-Oly Ambulance

VII. ADJOURNED 9:57 am

The next meeting will be held on August 13, 2024