

PIERCE COUNTY EMS MPD BASE STATION MINUTES
January 17, 2019

Attendance:

Membership Attendance Roster on File

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Waffle at 8:32 am. Introductions were made around the room.

Previous meeting minutes were noted as being provided electronically and were approved as written.

Base Station Reports/Issues:

A. Good Sam, Mike Hirsig – They've hired a new trauma director, Tom Lamanna, who is taking Karrie's position.

B. Madigan Army Health System, Dr. Misner – Dr. Misner reported that they are still trying to install 800 MHz radios for first responder use.

Dr. Waffle said that even though we use cell phones daily, we need to be prepared if the towers are out. He asked if everyone uses the 800 MHz system. He also asked if we should drill on it's use as an alternative. There was positive response from the group for a drill.

Norma clarified that this discussion needs to go to the Operations Committee. Dr. Waffle added that a system will be set up for further discussion.

Dr. Misner asked about a communication plan with MCI. Bill Barber, who's on the committee, said it's in process. Bill Sawaya added that the Ops Manual has been updated and may have some pertinent communication plan information.

Dr. Friedrich brought up an issue with Thurston County diverting their patients to Pierce County and overwhelming the PC emergency departments. Lots of discussion on this subject followed. Dr. Waffle committed to converse with Thurston County to coordinate their diversion to Pierce County hospitals in the future.

C. Mary Bridge, Cynde Rivers – not in attendance.

D. St. Anthony, Karmela Palmer – Their recent Base Station was last week.

'Base Station Meetings Equivalent' Reports/Issues:

A. AMR/RM, Kevin Heindel – Their Base Station in December was about specials needs patients. This month's was on cardiac emergencies. The next one is in March. Please note, their calendar dates for 2019 have changes to accommodate Dr. Elam's schedule.

B. Buckley – No representative present.

C. CPFR, Dr. Steven Friedrich – Their Base Station yesterday was on updates to Allenmore. In November, it was about service animal training.

- D. **EPFR** – No representative present.
- E. **Falck, Mike Hirsig** – Falck is going through a change. Scott Jones has retired, and they are looking to hire his replacement within the next 6 weeks.
- F. **GHFR, Dr. Keith Gates** – Their next Base Station is next Thursday on run reviews and cardiac arrests.
- G. **GFR, Matt Waltrip** – Last quarter they talked about pediatric trauma.
- H. **KPFR, Dr. John Campbell** – Their next meeting is tomorrow on respiratory emergencies and run review. A rep from Zoll will present info on rescue pods.
- I. **OVFR** – No representative present.
- J. **TFD, Dr. Gerecht** – At the upcoming Base Station, they'll be talking about a hodgepodge of stuff. Last Base Station was on neonatal resuscitation. For their OTEP Plan there will be a presentation on head and spine injury. They are moving away from using the long spine board for spine immobilization to using a gurney to restrict spinal motion. Dr. Waffle commented that moving toward this step will require an education process with hospital staff. The backboard is a red flag for spinal injury. Much discussion followed. Per Norma, Dr. Waffle will be attending the WR QIF (West Region Quality Improvement Forum).
- K. **WPFR, Dr. Friedrich** – Their Base Station was 2 days ago on pregnancy emergency. They are doing an EMS trivia contest, which should be fun. They are working on pediatric cards for reference on weight dependent dosing of meds for pediatric patients. These were handed out to the group. They are tailored to PC EMS and it will be important to keep them updated with medication changes, maybe using a version number.

Unfinished Business:

- A. **Free-Standing EDs, Dr. Waffle** – They are still in process. The question was asked, can LPNs answer the radios. Since they will be seeing lower acuity patients, most questions will be few and easy to answer. So, the response is YES, LPNs will be able to answer the radios, but will need to transfer more complex concerns to the RN or MD.
- B. **DispatchHealth Pilot, Dr. Waffle** – They are still waiting on State approval. The State is in the investigative process currently since this is a revolutionary medical approach.
- C. **Wellfound Behavioral Hospital Update, Dr. Waffle** – There is an Open House from 10 am to Noon today. Transport protocols are being reviewed to coordinate between facilities.

- D. Trauma Triage Tool Update, Dr. Waffle** – The tool has been accepted. Norma added that the one on the back of the trauma calendar is incorrect.

New Business:

- A. “Step” versus “Injured” patients to off cycle TG/StJ ED, Dr. Waffle** – If the hospital is not designated as a trauma facility, they can only receive “Injured” patients. “Injured” patients can go to any non-trauma hospital.
- B. Northwest Ambulance, Dr. Waffle** – Northwest Ambulance has applied for inter-facility transports. We are discussing the underserved areas that would benefit from their service.
- C. Allenmore ED Upgrade, Dr. Waffle** – This is an \$18 million project being completed in stages.

Unscheduled:

None.

Announcements:

Norma proposed the we start the Base Station Committee meeting at 8:00 instead of 8:30 because the meeting has run over the past few times. This was agree upon so the next Base Station meeting in April will begin at 8:00.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned 9:32 am.