

PIERCE COUNTY EMS COUNCIL MINUTES

DRAFT October 17, 2019

Attendance:

Membership Attendance Roster on File

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 am by Joe Worley. Introductions made around the room. Previous meeting minutes were noted as being provided electronically, however, they could not be approved since there was not a quorum.

Treasurers Report ~~Karmela Palmer, Secretary-Treasurer~~ — Not present.

Norma Pancake provided the treasurers report. The current balance is \$17,389.53. A substantial amount of the funds were sent to PC EMS agencies for BS & OTEP rosters per the contract.

Program Reports:

A. MPD/Base Station, Dr. Waffle, MD, MPD

Base Station meetings are no longer required; however, we now have Educational Sessions and are encouraging attendance. We are also looking for ways to make the sessions more useful.

B. Committees:

Training & Development, Patsy Maloney – No representative present/No report.

Operations, Russ McCallion – No representative present/No report.

CQI, Ryan McGrady – No representative present/No report.

Protocol, Cynde Rivers – No representative present/No report.

Community Access to Care Committee, Mike Newhouse – No representative present/No report.

C. Tacoma-Pierce County Health, Cindy Miron

Cindy Miron discussed resuming the divert committee due to issues we have had from saturation from Thurston County. Further discussion will be held regarding when counties outside Pierce County are saturated. There is nothing on the flu surveillance radar so far.

D. West Region EMS Council, Norma Pancake, WR Council Chair

Norma Pancake said that West Region EMS has a requirement for the West Region Strategic Plan to ask each county to conduct a SWOT analysis of their CQI plan and individual agencies' CQI plans. At this point, they are wanting a list of all the CQI processes we do by December 1, 2019. The CQI committee will need to take a look at the processes. The SWOT analysis is due by April 15, 2020. Per recommendation from Joe Worley, this will be put on November's CQI meeting agenda. A suggestion was made to let agencies know so they can be prepared. Norma said she will put a letter out with the agenda. We do need to look at our CQI plans. The state is making a priority for this for the next biannual.

The next West Region Conference is scheduled for March 27-29, 2020.

Dr. Waffle is making a video this afternoon regarding stroke assessment. The video is part of the Coverdell program and is being made to reinforce and educate ALS and BLS providers. It should be out by May 2020.

E. Department of Emergency Management, Jody Ferguson

Norma Pancake said that the Great Shakeout is today at 10:17 AM. Pierce County Emergency Management is hosting the Pre-Winter Season Seminar on October 29, 2019 at 9:00 AM. A large problem is urban flooding mostly from leaves in drains. Now is the time to be prepared for winter by cleaning leaves out of gutters and replacing wiper blades on cars.

Unfinished Business:

A. Off-Campus ED Facility Update, Dr. Waffle

The Off-Campus ED Facility has been well received and successful. They currently run about 74 patients per day. Two more off-campus EDs are being planned. The Bonney Lake ED will open on December 5, 2019 and the South Hill ED will open in July 2020. The impact on the local EMS is positive. They are monitoring patient flows. We will be working on policies and procedures for handling psych patients walking into the off-campus ED and how to transport them.

B. DispatchHealth/CPFR Project, Dr. Waffle

Dispatch Health has been activated and appears to be working well and feedback is that it has been well received. The resource is currently only for CPFR jurisdiction only at this point, however, opening it up to other jurisdictions would make sense.

New Business:

A. Vascular Neck Restraint, Dr. Waffle

A temporary protocol for the Vascular Neck Restraint has been approved by the state and will be sent out via email today. The temporary policy states that when EMS is called to do an evaluation, they call the base station for direction from the physician. A meeting is being scheduled with law enforcement, EMS representatives and the MPD to further work out a permanent policy that will work for both EMS and law enforcement.

B. NW Ambulance application to upgrade to ALS Interfacility: No representative present.

Norma Pancake gave the report. NW Ambulance requested to be upgraded to ALS Interfacility transport. The request was sent out to the council members for review. Dan Beckman spoke in support of this request. A caveat is that they need to serve the unserved/underserved areas. NW Ambulance has said they can cover all the underserved agencies of which there are currently twenty (20) agencies. Suggestions were made to add some agencies onto the ALS Interfacility Transport list and this will be sent to NWA and made part of the recommendation to the WREMS Council & State EMS Office. Norma will do updates then will send it to the council members via email. The physicians in attendance recommend that they proceed with the application.

Unscheduled Business:

None.

Announcements:

With the lack of attendance to these meetings, we may need to look at our calendars and see if there are other dates open next year that would be better. We will do the elections of the Chair and Vice-Chair at the next meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned @ 10:13 am.