

Education Committee Meeting

Committee Members in Attendance:

Brian Atkins, WCFD 1
Rachel Carlson, WCFD 1
Steve Cohen, WCEMS
Jerry DeBruin, WCFD 14
Michael Lish, WCFD 11
Stephen Mitchell, SWFA
Heather Ripke-Olson, WCFD 14

Wes Segar, WCFD 8
Robin Stimac, PHSJ
Dr. Marv Wayne, WCEMS
Dr. Emily Welch, PHSJ
Megan Williamson McCarthy, WCFD 19
Dwight Worden, Cascade

CALL TO ORDER: Jerry DeBruin called the regularly scheduled Education Committee meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 2025 minutes, stand as written

REPORTS:

North Region:

The North Region is working towards a contract with the West Region to provide an executive director.

Budget reductions from the state may not be as steep as originally thought.

Grants are still on hold.

The council was reimbursed \$10,000 for opioid response training.

Training officers:

Recruit Academy started yesterday for Whatcom County.

BLS evaluator course on September 13th.

The dates for the 2026 Evaluator Courses are set.

A CPR Instructor course will be on October 11th

Dr. Welch and S. Cohen have been working on topics for the BLS-focused training.

Protocols have been sent back to DOH with minor edits. A video explaining the major protocol changes is ready.

Once protocols are approved, they will be sent to HandTevy and the PPP app.

HandTevy meeting on Sept. 8th via Zoom at 11:30 pm.

CQI:

The next CQI meeting will be in October.

If Dr. Welch and Dr. Weiche notice a system issue, they will bring it to CQI and Education.

TAB:

The focus with TAB is to take bank capacity to maintain the level of service.
The new gurneys are out.

Hospital:

The hospital has started to use Pulsara.

EMS care questions are forwarded to Dr. Weiche, Dr. Welch, or Dr. McNielly, and sorted from there.

There was a discussion about where feedback from EMS should go. R. Carlson will discuss at the chief's and MPD meetings.

Unfinished Business:

Steve C. has finished filming the opioid response video, other than some B-roll.

The protocol for field buprenorphine is a new protocol. BFD has the medication; they need protocol approval and education.

It will start in Bellingham with just the supervisors and MSOs carrying it, with hopes of quickly expanding to all ALS providers.

Remind personnel to use the referral button in ImageTrend for overdose cases to utilize Kilmeny's services as ODPR coordinator.

New Business:

Dr. Wayne reports that with the help of the FAA, all Bellingham Airport ARF will be moved to at least EMR.

PTSD program on Sept. 25th. A Discussion panel will take place after the movie.

Good of the Order:

East County EMT starts September 2nd.

The Fire Academy started

BTC's EMT class will be starting soon.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:24 pm