[WHATCOM COUNTY EMS & TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL]

Education Committee Meeting

July 16, 2026

Committee Members in Attendance:
Dawn Cannizzaro, WCFD 17
Jerry DeBruin, WCFD 14
Noa Harwick, PHSJ
Phil Magistro, BMRC
Megan McCarthy Williamson, WCFD 19
Scott Painter, WCFD 7
Heather Ripke-Olson,
Robin Stimac, PHSJ
Dr. Ralph Weiche, MPD
Dr. Emily Welch, Supervising Physician
Dwight Worden, Cascade

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 2026 minutes, stand as written

REPORTS:

Funding:
The North Region Injury Prevention Grant is available. Applications are due by July 30th.

Training officers:
The August 18th Recruit Academy is in the planning phase. District 7 and District 14 are participating.

CQI:
The next CQI meeting may take place on July 27th.

Hospital:
In June, there were 52 stroke codes, 21 from Pulsara, and 25 were confirmed strokes.
DOH has asked EMS to develop a protocol to deal with hemorrhagic viruses.
Dr. Weiche discussed developing a pre-hospital blood program in Whatcom County. Discussions would need to start with ALS providers and involve collaboration with the blood bank, which has expressed interest in participating.
Ski area refresher training is scheduled for Sunday, October 25th.

Unfinished Business:
Protocols need to be approved by DOH.
Dr. Welch is considering adding basic trach management skills for BLS. It was suggested to send information to each agency and let the departments send people for training to bring back to their department.

The Handtevy use survey results showed only two districts currently use it at the BLS level. Jerry recommended maintaining access for Bellingham and WCFD 7 for ALS services.

2027 OTEP Scenarios: Hoping to have something by the start of the 4th quarter.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 pm