

Education Committee Meeting

Committee Members in Attendance:

Dawn Cannizzaro, WCFD 17
Jerry DeBruin, WCFD 14
Mike Hilley, WCEMS
Darren Branum, WCFD 1
Ben Boyko, WCFD 7
Tony Melillo, SWFA
Jared Wilhite, Border Patrol

Erica Littlewood, Ski Patrol
Steven Cohen, WCEMS
Dr. Marvin Wayne, MPD
Heather Ripke-Olson, WCFD 14
Michael Lish, WCFD 11
Shaun Ward, NWFR
Ben Russell, WCFD 7

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 2021 minutes, stand as written

REPORTS:

North Region:

-There have been leadership changes.

Funding:

-North Region Grant Applications are due October 25th.
- All members present are in agreement to support Tiffene Hanson's grant application for fall protection equipment.

Training Officers:

-Training officers are looking for resources on how to train their providers on hazard recognition, and the viable resources they can utilize in the field. Looking for something to post county wide.

CQI:

-Dawn has been working on the 1st edition of the CQI Newsletter.
-CQI plan update was sent out for review and is still being worked on.
-Next meeting will be at 4:00pm, Thursday, October 7th.

TAB:

-Last TAB meeting was on held on September 1st.
-Update on 5th medic unit; passed a \$540,000 budget for unit 21 to get up and going.
-Levy planning report was given. Draft document will be up in Nov/Dec.

-B. Boyko presented the equipment exchange program and the EOB approved.

-Lateral paramedic funding proposal for both Bellingham and WCFD 7. The levy would support onboarding and training of lateral paramedics in 2022. Bellingham would get 4 positions funded and WCFD 7 would have 2 positions funded.

-Finance committee: 8-9 budget items that will be new or increasing budget over 2022. EOB approved the budget for 2022 unanimously.

-Looking at alternate response teams or co-responder models for 2022.

Strategy for now: Bellingham would put up a team (EMT and social worker) for 10–12 hour day. Demonstrate project and then get pushed on into county.

-Discussed vaccination in regards to worker shortage.

Hospital:

-Going to try to create a new mental health/behavioral health process to include refusal of care. Would like to create in a way to reduce medical control calls.

-Three new ED physicians.

-The hospital needs to reroute the entrance on Sept. 22nd.

Unfinished Business:

Resuscitation Academy: Have been testing out the process and will be meeting soon to finalize. The Resuscitation Academy will be Whatcom County Specific and will be rolled out in Jan/Feb 2022.

-Heads up CPR will be brought up next year.

-Behavioral Health Response: - A guideline/protocol is being worked on that will include resource/help numbers.

-Give EMT's tools on how to document refusal.

-EMS Non-Compliant Patient Flow Chart was presented by Dr. Wayne.

B. Boyko would like clarification between welfare checks and medical alarm activation in protocol and also for it to include specifics on capacity.

Diversion Protocol:

Alternate destinations: The Crisis Stabilization Center is a 32-bed facility that opened in Jan. 2021. It has 16 beds for mental health, 16 beds for substance use disorder.

The diversion protocols have been written but details need to be worked out with the center before pushing protocol out.

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New Business:

The Whatcom County OTEP plan for 2022-2024 is ready to be sent out once infectious disease is added. Steve will take over as chair of ad hoc OTEP committee.

Scenarios are done for Q4 2021.

Waiting to work on Q1 2022 scenarios until new OTEP is approved.

Protocol update committee sent out a protocol survey.

Good of the Order:

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm