

**General Committee Meeting**

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Gary Baar, Treasurer  
Justina Bass, WCFD 16  
Rachel Carlson, WCFD 1  
Steven Cohen, WCEMS  
Scott Crowe, WCFD 18  
Marc Davis, Lynden  
Jerry DeBruin, WCFD 14  
John Granger, WCFD 11  
Mike Hill, WCFD 8  
Mike Hilley, WCEMS  
Robert Howery, WCFD 17

Rick Kowsky, Cascade  
Steve Larsen, BFD  
John Lewis, BFD  
Erica Littlewood, Mt Baker Ski  
Sam Llober, Mt Baker Ski  
Megan McCarthy Williamson, WCFD 19  
Mitch Nolze, SWRFA  
Heather Ripke-Olson, WCFD 14  
Becky Stermer, SJPH  
Jeremy Wilson, STS  
Dwight Worden, Cascade

**Guests:** Susie Johnson, SJPH  
Kelly O'Connor, Cascade  
Jim Petrie, WCFD 17

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**CALL TO ORDER:** President Jerry DeBruin called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Whatcom County EMS & Trauma Care Council to order at 7:00 pm.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** January 2025 minutes, stand as written

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**REPORTS:**

**Executive:**

The nomination committee recommends Marc Davis and Michael Lish for the 1<sup>st</sup> VP position, and Erica Littlewood and Robert Howery for Secretary.

The Executive Board reviewed 1 council membership application and 3 education committee applications, and recommends approving all.

The yearly raise for the operations manager was discussed, and board members recommended a raise of CPI-W + .5%, which would be a 4.7% raise. (\$34.84).

**Finance:**

As of March 31, 2024:

Checking: \$17,847   Savings: 80,903   Capital Group Investment Account: \$374,140

Holly Linville from D7 completed the audit of the books and found everything in good order.

**Education:**

The Protocols are at DOH and will come back for final approval.

**CQI:**

At the April 23<sup>rd</sup> CQI meeting, Dr. Welch discussed her vision of what she would like to see moving forward.

The CQI committee would like representation from every agency at the CQI meetings.

**Regional Council:**

The last North Region council meeting was held on March 20<sup>th</sup>

The council is on track to a balanced budget in July, and a subcommittee has been formed to hire a new executive director.

The opioid Grant Funds came through the North Region, and project requests are being worked on.

They approved a BLS upgrade at Central Whidbey and examined the min/max numbers for Island and Snohomish counties.

The IVP committee met last week. Amy Rydell, from Whatcom Health Department, is partnering with agencies from Snohomish, Island, and Skagit counties. They are working with all five counties to rebuild the fall prevention coalition. They are also looking at fall prevention equipment available.

**Injury Prevention:**

Car Seats: additional funds are needed for donation requests. Whatcom County has 4 new car seat technicians.

The Safety Fair will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Barkley. PeaceHealth will be handing out window locks.

Distracted driving drill: Blaine High School on May 28<sup>th</sup>

Stop the Bleed: The next class will be on May 14<sup>th</sup> at the garden room

**TAB:**

TAB met on March 5.

The budget is being reexamined.

BLS allocation update: Departments can start putting in their invoices for this year.

Levy planning for 2028-3032 will begin at the next TAB meeting.

Gordon Tupulua gave a presentation on opioid response and treatment.

A mobile medical van is positioned on the Division Street campus for daily intakes.

### **Hospital:**

B. Stermer from PeaceHealth has offered to fund a few car seats.

The ED has not seen a significant increase in trauma activations after changing the trauma activation criteria.

Pulsara has a May 28<sup>th</sup> target start date. Contact Susie if your agency is interested in participating.

The ED is trialing a new front-end process. Two providers and two nurses will be in triage from 11:00 am- 11:00 pm.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Opioid grant through N. Region: Each region receives \$49,250. Kelly O'Connor and Joey Rodriguez are working on the grant. Requests will be processed at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **New Business:**

*The Council Membership application for Brian Atkins was approved.*

*Education Committee Membership applications for Rachel Carlson, Brian Atkins, and Stephen Mitchell were approved.*

*Nolze/Worden motion to approve operations manager raise by 4.7% to \$34.84.*

Whatcom County EMS would like to become a Washington State-approved training site. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to table the discussion until the MPD and Supervising Physicians could weigh in. *Davis/Nolze motion to table discussion until July.*

Marc Davis was elected for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and Robert Howery was elected for Secretary.

With no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:32 pm