

**General Committee Meeting**

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Gary Baar, Treasurer  
Justina Bass, WCFD 16  
Scott Crowe, WCFD 18  
Steven Cohen, WCEMS  
Marc Davis, Lynden  
Jerry DeBruin, WCFD 14  
Mike Hill, WCFD 8  
Mike Hilley, WCEMS  
Robert Howerly, WCFD 17  
Steve Larsen, BFD  
John Lewis, BFD  
Michael Lish, WCFD 11  
Jared Wilhite, Border Patrol  
Jeremy Wilson, STS

Erica Littlewood, Mt Baker Ski  
Jennifer Keim, SJPH  
Megan McCarthy Williamson,  
Mitch Nolze, SWFA  
Heather Ripke-Olson, WCFD 14  
Ben Russell, WCFD 7  
Grace Schackel, consumer  
Jeff Sluys, WCFD 7  
Becky Stermer, SJPH  
Kristie Watson, Lynden  
Dr. Marv Wayne, MPD Emeritus  
  
Dwight Worden, Cascade

**Guests:** Susie Johnson, SJPH  
Robin Stimac, SJSH  
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 7:04 pm.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** October 2024 minutes, stand as written

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**REPORTS:**

**Executive:**

The Executive Board reviewed 5 membership applications; one for the general council, 2 for the education committee, and 2 for the CQI committee.

Elections for Secretary and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President will be in April and per bylaws, the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP is the head of nominating committee on odd years.

The Board discussed involving a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to review the financials.

**Finance:**

As of December 31, 2024:

Checking: \$4137.00

Savings: \$89,627.00

Capital Group Investment Account: \$386,709.00

**Education:**

Wes Seegar put together a training video for the capnography kits.

**CQI:**

Discussed a couple of calls that happened involving death with dignity.

Discussed statistics on how many vitals are being recorded for a trauma transport versus a non-trauma transport.

**Regional Council:**

A general council meeting was held on Dec. 18th.

There are 13 positions open on the regional council

The Executive director, Nadja, was laid off due to financial challenges. The State is offering technical assistance. The position will be held for 6 months

Should have a balanced budget by August 2025.

**Injury Prevention:**

Car Seat: Erica L. will need more car seats soon as many have been given away recently.

Safekids NW is still looking for a lead agency.

Safety Fair will be held June 7<sup>th</sup> at Barkley.

Fall prevention: Looking at applying to grants for funding.

AED: The committee has been gathering information on where AED's were placed so the remaining funds can be used for appropriate signage to notify the public.

Distracted driving: Jennifer K. will reach out to one of the Bellingham High Schools.

NARCAN training/hands-only CPR will be on March 4th

Stop the Bleed: The next course is March 11th

#### **TAB:**

Jan 11th last meeting. Discussed strategies going into 2025.

Medication overuse disorder treatment was discussed.

Work plans include reallocating fire dispatch fees out of the county and city funds, and then looking at the equipment exchange fund.

Towards the end of the year, the Gurney inventory will be looked at as the fleet increases.

#### **Hospital:**

PeaceHealth viewed the new DOH trauma activation recommendations and did a 12-month retrospective. Becky S. presented some of the main criteria DOH and the impact it would have on the number of full activations.

Pulsara is still being worked on.

Construction will be taking place in front of the ER in the spring may change the approach there.

#### **New Business:**

*Lish/Sluys motion to approve all applications.*

*The Council Membership application for Megan McCarthy Williamson was approved.*

*CQI Membership applications for Robert Howery and Jon Ahrenholz were approved.*

*Education Committee Membership applications for Jon Ahrenholz and Scott Painter were approved.*

Justina Bass will head the Nominating committee for secretary and 1<sup>st</sup> vice president:

Erica Littlewood, and Chief Russell have volunteered to help on the nominating committee.

Having an audit review of the council's financials was discussed.

**Good of the Order:**

Feb 8<sup>th</sup> Gala Event

With no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:56 pm