

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order. Those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Josh Ambach, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Liz Ciaias, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Joel Edminster, Chris Gibbar, Brad Kane, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Cody Rohrbach, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek, James Young

Guests Present

Jeff Anderson, Dana Bosworth, Cass Doyle, Tamara Drapeau, Zach Holmes, Tom Jenkins, Deanna Jones, Kayla Kramer, Brandon Legore, Denise McCurdy, Dr. Mike Metcalf, Meagan McCoy, Lindsay Payton, Stacy Parizek, Beth Perkins, Shaun Pitts, Ami Roy, David Reif, Andy Ruschak, Dillon Russell, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, Kevin Smith

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of December 2024 Meeting Minutes

Randy Olson made a motion to approve the minutes, and Dave Baird seconded the motion.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

➤ IV Fluid Shortage Update

Anne Raven asked how hospitals and EMS agencies are doing with IV fluids. Lindsay Payton reported that Providence is still monitoring and conserving but working on getting back to normal soon. Kevin Smith from SFD stated that vendors are starting to fill backorders. The County MPD, Dr. Jim Nania asked how hospital capacity is with the current illnesses, and Lindsay reported that COVID numbers are up, influenza and RSV has gone down. Some areas within Providence have masking requirements again in patient care areas.

➤ EMS Office Share Fees due this month.

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton reported that planning for mass casualty continues and are hoping to finalize Sacred Heart's plans by the end of the month and Holy Family's plans by end of March. Have had activation exercises with the ER team and have created an ED MCI quick sheet that has been shared with EMS and 911 partners, which ER staff will have access to if EMS calls in with an MCI in the field. Dr. Nania emphasized the importance of EMS providers on scene painting a clear picture of the scene.

- Multicare: No report

➤ EMS Office New Positions Update

The full time Program Analyst position was posted to the EMS Office website and emailed out. Please share to anyone who might be interested. The part time Program Coordinator position is put on hold until the Program Analyst position is determined.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for 2024

➤ Financial reports for December 2024

Jack shared the reports with the group.

## REPORTS:

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks not present.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that the Chiefs Association honored some of the individuals involved in the RTF workgroup, both on the law enforcement and fire side. RTF work is continuing to move forward as multiple agencies have either begun training or near the end of training, and Emergency Management has worked with the group on production field cards to be used on RTF incidents.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach reported that SREC acquired a new facility in Spokane Valley and intend to be operating in the new facility by the first quarter of 2026. The CAD project is still ongoing, and a board meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the potential impacts dependent on city of Spokane's decision of whether to join the CAD system and regional center. Randy Olson asked about the new facility, and Chief Rohrbach stated that SREC had a consultant to discuss future needs and identified several sites that met the criteria. The new facility was previously an IT building and has a good foundation for emergency communication services. Construction to remodel and update some security concerns will take place before SREC moves into the building.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau reported that the WA Department of Health is requesting all OTEP plans be reevaluated and submitted by the end of the year. Certification credentialing is now available online, excluding the MPD signature form. The entire certification application is planned to be exclusively online by March. The East Region Council has open positions on the board that can be found on the [East Region website](#). The next meeting is in February.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that they are continuing to work on the pertussis outbreak and seeing some increase in influenza in long-term care and adult family homes. Robin stated to let her know if anyone would like to receive the weekly covid update and outbreak newsletter.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff reported that many students from last year are finishing their capstone but have had some challenges getting cardiac arrest requirements. Jim thanked Dr. Cover for coming in for exit interviews, and shared that all students that have taken the National Registry exam have passed.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania attended the National EMS Physicians conference last week and recommended others attend in the future. Dr. Nania reported that WA state remains contemporary in most procedures, but there are some topics that could be adopted in Spokane County. Washington state will now have a chartered chapter within NAEMSP and there will be an application to join.
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Pediatric Cardiac Arrest Discussion
    - Case Review

## OLD BUSINESS: None

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Andy Ruschak: SRECS 800 MHz EMS COMMS

Andy introduced himself and stated that he is a Principal Communications Consultant for Providence Swedish and manages all the wireless infrastructure for Providence Swedish hospitals, including internal radio systems. Andy is assisting Sacred Heart and Holy Family in transitioning to the SRECS 800 MHz radio system, and attended the meeting to bring up operational questions and discussion topics to determine how the transition to the new radio system may affect communication with EMS. Discussion points included whether there is a transition plan to determine a desired transition date, how the hospital will communicate with ALS and BLS units, the opportunity for weekly DMCC updates and radio roll call, coordination for trauma and triage for MCI events, HIPAA and patient health information and recordings of transmissions, and regulation of the existing VHF radio channel used for county communications.

Andy emphasized he is not looking for answers but looking for an opinion or recommendation of how to coordinate for the future of EMS communications for Spokane County. Following the discussion, Chief Chris Wyrobek recommended that this topic be discussed by the Communications group within the Fire Chiefs Association, as the group already exists and handles communications that tie into the County Field Operating Guide. Hospital representatives and AMR representatives can be included in the discussion as well. Andy thanked the group for their time.

**Action:** Topic will be moved to the IEFCA communications workgroup for further discussion.

➤ Countywide OTEP Discussion

Anne Raven mentioned that the Department of Health is requiring that all OTEP plans be updated and submitted by the end of the year, and it has been requested to discuss the option of a county wide OTEP plan. Tom Chavez stated that he has been working with the DOH in a pilot program for the OTEP application approval process and explained that new guidelines and an updated application will be available and once finalized, there will be a template for the rest of the county agencies to follow when updating their OTEP plans. Tom also mentioned that at the county level, Dr. Nania, the County MPD, will need to be involved in determining some of the requirements for Spokane County to ensure that all agencies are meeting the minimum requirements. The group discussed whether all agencies should submit their own individual plans to include additional agency specific training or submit a county wide plan that meets the minimum requirements and allows agencies to provide their own training in addition to the minimum OTEP requirements if they have the means to do so. Jeff Anderson from Cheney FD emphasized that agencies have common assignments and goals, and suggested a workgroup to begin developing a county plan to meet minimum requirements while the DOH finalizes the application and guidelines. Tom emphasized that the DOH is changing guidelines and suggested waiting until all guidelines are finalized. Dr. Nania stressed that agencies record all procedural skills for providers for the time being, including intubations. Tom will give an update on the DOH pilot program at the next meeting.

**Action:** Topic will be added to the February meeting agenda as Old Business for further discussion.

➤ Recently Approved Training Course Applications

- Providence Health Training- Initial ESE Course (01/30/2025)
- Providence Health Training- Initial AEMT Course (02/10/2025-07/31/2025)
- Providence Health Training- Refresher EMT Course (02/14/2025-02/21/2025)

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

➤ Protocol Committee update: The next meeting is January 23<sup>rd</sup> and will focus on finalizing pediatric protocols. Pediatric protocols will be reviewed for approval by the EMS Council in March and sent to the DOH for approval by April. The protocol workgroup will work on pediatric protocols in May once all are approved by the Department of Health.

➤ Protocols for approval by EMS Council

- EMS Provider response to Patient Specific Physician Standing Orders (to be added to County Operating procedures)
- Droperidol

A motion was made and seconded to approve the county operating procedure and protocol. A vote was taken with no opposition.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the County operating procedure and protocol.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

➤ EMS Connect Classes for January

1/16/2025 at 1400: Head injury assessment and management with Dr. Kai Sharbono

➤ Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes

01/14/2025 @ 6:30p.m. “Shock” with James Akramoff, EMT-P

➤ EMS Survey

An EMS Survey was emailed out. Please share and encourage personnel to complete EMS Survey. A survey summary will be shared with the EMS Council later this year.

- NWRH Events:  
2/12/2025 at 8:30am-3:30pm “Water, Public Health, and Healthcare Coordination Workshop”  
Register in person: [Link here](#)  
Register virtually: [Link here](#)
- Spokane Valley Fire Department offering Advanced Airway Courses and EMS Labs on Fridays throughout the year. All dates can be found on the EMS Office website.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:45AM**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order. Those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Josh Ambach, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Tom Chavez, Liz Ciaais, Dr. Maika Dang, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Amber Jones, Tom Jenkins, Brad Kane, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Jason Mayfield, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Cody Rohrbach, Adeana Sellars, Dan Williams, James Young

Guests Present

Jeff Anderson, Jacob Atkins, Beth Perkins, Dana Bosworth, Jill Collier, Tamara Drapeau, Joseph Hennessy, Deanna Jones, Tim Loncon, Meagan McCoy, Denise McCurdy, Joey Rodriguez, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, Kevin Smith, Vincent Speziale

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of January 2025 Meeting Minutes

Randy Olson made a motion to approve the January minutes, and Tom Chavez seconded the motion. None were opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

➤ IV Fluid Update

Anne requested a status report of current IV fluid supply for hospitals and EMS agencies. Lindsay Payton reported that Providence have continued to conserve, and Kevin Smith from SFD stated that all backorders have been filled and are back to normal supply. Anne suggested that the conservation notification that was sent to EMS agencies in October by the County MPD, Dr. Nania, be lifted. Dr. Nania agreed to send an updated letter to EMS agencies that IV fluids should be used according to all indications in the current protocols in circumstances and volumes appropriate for best patient care.

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that there has been an increase in influenza cases, and that the Special Pathogens Unit is being used for overflow of pediatric patients. The SRECS 800 MHz Radio system updates continue. Holy Family Hospital will host active shooter scenario-based exercises on March 24<sup>th</sup> 1pm-5pm, and March 28<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 12pm. Sacred Heart Medical Center will host the same event in June, and St. Luke's will host in October. Dates and times are TBA. Providence is a sponsor for the First Responder Mental Health Conference that is being hosted by Spokane Police Department in Coeur d'Alene Idaho on February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Travis Dierks reported that due to flow issues at local hospitals, EMS crews are delayed at the hospital when no beds are available to transfer care of patients, forcing EMS personnel to remain with the patient at the hospital and delaying their return to service. Dr. Joel Edminster stated that hospitals are admitting large numbers of influenza cases and patients are waiting for beds to become available. Liz Ciaais added that nurse safety is also a concern, as nurses are taking on many patients due to staffing shortages, and that they continuing to address this issue at Holy Family Hospital. Tamara Drapeau mentioned that EMS crews are not certified in WA State to work and treat the patient

inside hospitals. The crews are not obligated to stay with the patient but have nowhere to deliver the patient, with average wait times of 40-50 minutes and have reached up to 3.5 hours. The group discussed the possibility of creating a policy for this scenario for EMS crews to follow. The group also discussed the new hospital certification for EMS providers, but that hospital certified personnel would need to be hired by the hospital and not the EMS agencies. Dr. Nania asked if any hospitals have considered hiring hospital certified EMS personnel, and suggested they consider as a possible solution.

➤ EMS Office Program Coordinator Position posting

Anne Raven proposed a vote to determine if the part time position of Program Coordinator for the EMS Council be posted for applications. The Executive board discussed offering the position to the current Protocol Committee Chair, Tom Chavez, as majority of the job duties fall under the current workload of the protocol committee chair. Anne opened the floor for Tom to speak, and Tom added that he currently participates in many projects being worked on for the EMS Council and would be the one to train a new individual for all tasks that the protocol committee chair is responsible for. Anne reiterated that the vote would be to determine whether the position be open to the public or offered to Tom Chavez. Randy Olson asked what the financial impact would be, and Tom stated that it would decrease the total spending for this position as he would not utilize the benefits that would be offered for this position. Brad Kane from SREC suggested an internal application process to ensure transparency. Dr. Joel Edminster made a motion to approve an internal application to be open for 2 weeks, and Cody Rohrbach seconded the motion. None were opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the part time Program Coordinator position application be opened internally for two weeks. Anyone interested can email their resume and cover letter to [bvanhout@spokanecity.org](mailto:bvanhout@spokanecity.org) by Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for January 2025

Jack Busch was not present. The Vice Chair, Dan Williams, shared the financial reports with the group, and there were no questions or concerns.

**REPORTS:**

➤ BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks stated nothing new to report.

➤ Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present. Tom Chavez reported that the meeting date was changed and nothing new to report.

➤ SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach reported that the SREC Board and City of Spokane are nearing a decision regarding if City of Spokane will join the regionalized model or have their own dispatch center. House Bill 1258 was introduced on January 10<sup>th</sup>, which lead to the recommendation that City of Spokane become their own primary dispatch center. Chief Rohrbach explained that HB1258 seeks apportionment of the 911 excise tax dollars for a secondary PSAP with language regarding call transfers and stated that currently 100% of 911 calls go to SREC, and all calls for the Spokane Police Department are transferred. The Board discussed the current apportionment of funds for SPD based on call volume, and CAD system maintenance, and expressed the City of Spokane has higher call volumes compared to the population, and from 2020-2024 have received \$3.26 million more in services than they generated. Discussion regarding governance, finances and service level continue. Chief Rohrbach reported to be working with officials to try to ensure that everyone understands the context of the bill and why the board made their recommendation. Correspondence is ongoing between the city and county to determine how to proceed. Chief Rohrbach opened the floor for questions, and Randy Olson asked how a secondary dispatch center will impact dispatch times, and Chief Rohrbach stated that there are inevitably some delays, but that all transfers are already taking place for all SPD calls. A Geofence or geographic barrier could be used to separate calls in the future, but the 20 other member agencies believe that the current system is meeting their needs. Lindsay Payton from Providence asked if there are discussions for both dispatch centers to be on the same CAD system, and Cody reassured that

there is, and that the board will continue to work through fair and equitable agreements for both sides.

- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau stated that the next meeting is February 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00a.m to go over the strategic plan for the next 3 years and discuss impacts of some Washington State contracts. The training and education, and prehospital committees' reports have been canceled for the meeting. Dr. Nania asked how to pursue the potential funding of Buprenorphine or Naloxone leave behind programs from the East Region Council, and Tammie stated there is an application, and once completed will be reviewed by the East Region. Dr. Nania emphasized that Spokane County agencies are interested, and Tammie agreed to get more information regarding who would get the funds.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that Shigella is back at some level in the homeless population, and flu and other respiratory illnesses are on the rise. SRHD is working with the WA Department of Health and Washington Emergency Management Division on a FIFA public health medical planning group for the World Cup that will take place in 2026 in Washington State. Spokane has been identified as a base camp for a training facility, and as a fan site. A subgroup for EMS and site security will be created for plan for this event, and anyone interested should reach out to Robin.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff stated they will begin accepting applications for the next cohort on March 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>, and testing will take place in July. Interviews will be held in August, which is the same process as last year which worked well. If anyone is interested in the Paramedic program, reach out to Providence Health Training for more information. Randy Olson asked if Spokane county EMS agency's personnel get priority, and Jim emphasized that the past two years there has been a waiting list, and that they do prioritize local applicants.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Case review

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- County wide OTEP Discussion

Tom Chavez gave an update since the last EMS Council meeting; the Washington Department of Health has not yet finalized the new OTEP application process. Tom shared the draft application with the group and revealed the inconsistencies that are being address by the DOH. The DOH suggested that Spokane County agencies can move forward by discussing a plan with the County Medical Program Director, Dr. Nania, and agree on a plan before submitting an application. A list of required components for OTEP are included in the application process, and Tom emphasized that the county OTEP plan will be a minimum requirement for all county agencies and that individual agencies would be able include their own additional training if they choose. The EMS Council does not have a DOH service number for the application, and Tom will be working with the DOH on how a county wide application can be submitted.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- House Bill 1545

Dr. Nania shared a summary of HB 1545 related to improving cardiac and stroke outcomes to the group and suggested the EMS Council create a letter of support.
- DOH Opioid Funding for Naloxone or Buprenorphine Leave Behind Programs

The topic was discussed during East Region EMS Council report. Tamara Drapeau, East Region EMS Council Chair, will get more information out for this program.
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Lincoln County FD4- IV Endorsement Course
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (03/03/2025-06/6/2025)

#### **PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The protocol committee have completed updates for half of the pediatric protocols and hope to finish the rest at the next meeting. The last set of protocols that

were approved by the EMS Council were submitted to the DOH in November but have had delay due to DOH staffing changes. The protocol update group continues to move forward consistently, and Tom will share some of the completed updates for approval by the protocol committee soon.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for February
  - 02/18/2025 at 2:00 PM “Street Smarts: Mastering Toxidromes and the World of Street Drugs for EMS” with Officer Mike Thomas and Dr. Ryan Stanton  
(Register to watch live [link here](#))
- Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes
  - 2/11/2025 at 6:30 PM “Behavioral Emergencies” with Cliff Hadsell, EMT-P, PhD
- Providence Health Training offering AHA advanced stroke and life support classes
- DOH Online Certification Freeze on February 14<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> as DOH transitions to a new system.
- RTF Update: Jeff Anderson reported that SVFD has finished training, and SCFD 9 & SCFD 4 are finishing their classes soon. Law enforcement and SFD will begin training next, and a few more agencies will begin in April. It is anticipated that by May most county agencies will be trained for RTF operations.
- First Responder Mental Health Conference February 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Register [here](#)

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:22AM.**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
March 11, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Josh Ambach, Robin Albrandt, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Liz Ciais, Rinita Cook, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Travis Dierks, Chris Gibbar, Brad Kane, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Dr. Jacob Rabe, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek, James Young

Guest Present

Jeff Anderson, Eyla Baltazar, Dana Bosworth, Jill Collier, Tamara Drapeau, Beth Hansen, Sierra Knutson, Tim Loncon, Meagan McCoy, Denise McCurdy, Beth Perkins, Shaun Pitts, Dillon Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Kara Welchel

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of February 2025 Meeting Minutes

Randy Olson made a motion to approve the minutes, and Jim Akramoff seconded the motion. None were opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

- EMS Awards Nominations Due March 31<sup>st</sup> to Berkley
- Hospital Status Report
  - Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that volumes were expected to be high in January and February but beginning to decrease. Providence continues to monitor IV fluids to remain consistent. The 800 MHz Radio system implementation continues to move forward, and there are discussions to create a communications plan for the county. Plans for mass casualty are finished for Sacred Heart and Holy Family, and there will be an airport training exercise in June. Holy Family has their active shooter scenario-based training at the end of the month, and Sacred Heart will have their training in June. Anne Raven asked if the new radio system will change the activation process for the DMCC and Lindsay stated that activation will remain the same, and that the DMCC is involved with planning to do radio checks and create a communications plan. Anne requested practice activating the DMCC, and Lindsay will share the contact information.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

- Financial reports for February 2025

Jack reviewed the reports, and there were no questions or concerns. Jack shared that future expenses would include new office space and new employees for the EMS Council and gave an update on the Program Analyst position. The E board interviewed multiple applicants and have narrowed down to 3 applicants who will attend a project based second interview. The E board is hoping to have someone hired with a start date by May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Program Coordinator position that was opened internally had 2 applicants that will be interviewed the first week of April. More information to come.

## REPORTS:

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks no report.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek stated that the Providence MHz radio system discussion went through the fire chiefs and a task order was initiated and brought to the Fire Communications Advisory board. They are currently working with SREC to get a designee appointed, and a workgroup is being organized for planning and to anticipate as many challenges as possible for impacts in the field during conversion of the new system, while working to keep system redundancy and letting some of the outlying transport agencies continue to use VHF if possible. Chief Wyrobek included that the secondary DMCC will continue to default to Harborview Medical Center on the west side of the state unless a local organization formally takes the role of being the secondary DMCC. RTF training is ongoing and preparing for wildland season with trainings and incident management team formation.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present at the time of report. Rinita Cook gave report that the East Region EMS Council completed a first draft of the 2025-2027 strategic plan, and plan to work with local councils to identify weaknesses in patient care plans. The East Region Council will be encouraging local councils to complete min/max assessments every 2 years to identify the true status of system and will share guidance for completing the assessments. OTEP plans are due to the WA DOH at least 90 days prior to the start date, and the DOH is requesting that all plans be updated by January 1, 2026, to reflect revisions that were made in the WAC. Rinita stated there will not be a regional OTEP plan, and that agencies will need to submit their own plan or discuss a county plan within the local council. Rinita shared that there is a delay for implementation of the DOH HELMS online processing system due to glitches, and there is no update of when that will be implemented. Regional Councils were asked by the DOH to do opioid work and presented 2 options for funding. The first option offers funding to implement or expand naloxone or buprenorphine leave behind programs, and funds need to be used by June 30, 2025. The second option for funding is for OD2A, which is federal funding through the CDC for outreach targeting high school aged individuals to train Naloxone administration, and funding is available through August. Funds can be given for any program for high school aged individuals including street fairs, open markets, prevention programs etc. If you are interested in either of these funding opportunities, reach out to Rinita. The next East Region EMSTCC meeting is April 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be virtual only.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that work for the community-wide pertussis outbreak continues, and they are in the process of pre planning for measles. A measles outbreak is not anticipated but want to have a plan in place.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff reported that Providence Health Training is accepting applications for next year's cohort until June 30<sup>th</sup>. Interviews and testing will be in August, and selections will be made by August 21<sup>st</sup>. A virtual info session for the Paramedic programs will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup> & April 17<sup>th</sup>. The next Paramedic Advisory Committee meeting is March 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania encouraged agencies to submit EMS awards nomination for this year's awards presentation, and reminded agencies to submit airway KPI reports that will be presented at the next QI committee meeting.
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Case review referred by Providence.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Bylaws Review

Anne Raven shared that the E board have been working with an attorney to review changes to the bylaws and to clarify some confusion in the verbiage. Once the review is completed by the attorney, a draft will be shared for review by the EMS Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect County-wide OTEP Proposal: Shaun Pitts

Shaun Pitts, the head of education at EMS Connect, introduced himself and gave a summary of the EMS Connect system. EMS Connect provides a 3-year curriculum schedule which agencies can submit to the DOH as their OTEP curriculum to follow. Curriculum includes BLS curriculum with monthly 1-hour lectures specific to BLS providers, live curriculum which presents lectures for live education, and fire curriculum. There is over 140 hours of distributed education available, and Shaun discussed the capabilities of admin users for agencies to assign and track education and skill requirements, upload and build agency specific courses and exams, and assign courses by certification level. Admins can also run reports for completed and deficient courses for all users, enter credits for psychomotor skills, and receive copies of presentations that includes applicable lectures for scenario-based training. Individual users can upload certifications, receive reminders of expiring certifications, and print transcripts. Shaun noted that the system communicates directly to NREMT to allow all education to be included in transcripts. Some counties in WA have set up a county wide system for individual agencies to upload and manage their own content, while allowing access for the County MPD to oversee all agencies. Shaun reiterated that EMS Connect has taken the national curriculum requirements, as well as Washington State requirements, and planned curriculum over a 3-year period, and will have a Washington State specific addendum presentation to cover all additional requirements that were recently updated in the WAC. Tutorials and trainings are available to learn the system for agencies that sign up with EMS Connect. Jeff Anderson from Cheney FD added that getting clarification from each agency's goal for OTEP would be helpful in creating a county-wide OTEP plan, and that a plan that allows agencies to continue using EMS Connect or other platforms that are currently being used would be ideal. Anne Raven asked Tom Chavez for an update on the county-wide OTEP plan process, and Tom added that the plan is completed, and the next step is to meet with the County MPD, Dr. Nania, to define local requirements and approve the plan. After Dr. Nania approves the requirements, the plan will be discussed at an upcoming training fire chiefs meeting to finalize the plan and submit to the DOH. Tom emphasized that EMS Connect can supplement the OTEP requirements for agencies who use the platform, and that specific topics may just be covered at different times. Shaun Pitts expressed that counties that participate in a county-wide plan with EMS Connects' curriculum have expressed positive feedback of all agencies undergoing the same content and training. If anyone has questions about EMS Connect, please reach out to Shaun Pitts. The county-wide OTEP plan discussion will continue, with more updates at the next meeting.
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Providence Health Training- Refresher AEMT Course (03/06/2025-03/20/2025)
  - Providence Health Training- Refresher Paramedic Course (03/03/2025-06/6/2025)
  - Providence Health Training- Refresher ESE Course (03/27/2025)
  - Providence Health Training- Initial IV Therapy Endorsement (04/03/2025-05/01/2025)

## **PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez**

- Protocol Committee update

Tom shared that the protocol committee will work to conclude the pediatric protocol updates at the next meeting. Updates will be presented to the EMS Council for approval before being sent to the DOH. Tom continues to work on Handtevy updates and the county-wide OTEP plan application. Tom shared that the Handtevy renewal is due in April, and he is working to get all agencies access to add required personnel, as some larger agencies have had challenges of adding all personnel due to reaching the maximum number of accounts. The Handtevy contract is good for one more year, and Tom will continue to negotiate with Handtevy for pricing options and breakdown per agency and provider for the county-wide Handtevy app. Anne Raven suggested that agencies review and clean up their Handtevy rosters of providers who are no longer with the agency. The group discussed long term planning of app use and the possibility of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party creating an app specific for Spokane County EMS agencies. Dr. Nania emphasized that Handtevy

was originally purchased for pediatric drug administration, and that KPIs should determine if Handtevy was used for pediatric cardiac arrests. Tom will provide an update on Handtevy pricing at the next meeting, and this task will then be moved to the individual who is hired for the Program Coordinator position.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for March
  - 3/21/2025 at 1 Medical- Stroke & ICH with Dr. Maika Dang
- Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes
  - 3/11/2025 “Language Matters” with Carrie Gigray, EMT-P
- November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Airlift Northwest Sponsored EMS Conference

Christine Hankins shared that Airlift NW was planning to host an EMS Conference on November 7<sup>th</sup> in Spokane Valley but has since been cancelled. Airlift NW hopes to offer future opportunities.
- United We Rescue Annual Golf Spirit Scramble

Jim Akramoff shared that United We Rescue, a non-profit dedicated to helping EMS responders find mental health resources, is hosting their annual golf scramble May 18<sup>th</sup> at Wandermere Golf course and is looking for sponsors. View website to get more information: [Home | United We Rescue](#)
- WATrac District Coordinator

Sierra Knutson attended the meeting as the new Coalition District Coordinator for Eastern Washington partners, and is responsible for the implementation of NWHRN’s preparedness, response and recovery programs, and activities throughout Eastern WA. For any meetings, networking opportunities, or coordination discussions that you would like to attend, please update your distribution list to include [sierra.knutson@nwhrn.org](mailto:sierra.knutson@nwhrn.org). WATrac. For any WATrac needs such as accounts, training, or other support, please reach out to Kara Welchel, Administrator at [WATrac@nwhrn.org](mailto:WATrac@nwhrn.org)
- NWHRN Spokane Catchment Healthcare Hazard and Vulnerability Assessment Meeting
  - 3/21/2025 at 10:30am-12:00pm

**MEETIND ADJOURNED at 10:30AM**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
April 8, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Travis Dierks, Chris Gibbar, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Adenea Sellars, Dan Williams, James Young

Guests Present

Jeff Anderson, Dana Bosworth, Jake Grant, Deanna Jones, Kayla Kramer, Sierra Knutson, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Stacy Parizek, Austin Pea, Beth Perkins, Shaun Pitts, Joseph Rodriguez, Dillon Russell, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Tim Loncon

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

**MINUTES:** Approval of March 2025 Meeting Minutes

Randy Olson made a motion to approve the minutes, and Tom Chavez seconded the motion. None were opposed.

**Action: It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.**

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

➤ EMS Awards Presentation May 13<sup>th</sup>

Anne reminded everyone that the annual Spokane County EMS Awards will be presented next month on Tuesday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m. at the Spokane Fire Training Center Auditorium. There will be no EMS Council meeting that day, and the QI portion of the meeting will be held at 9-10am. Anne mentioned that the deadline for some awards categories had to be extended due to not receiving nominations. Anne encouraged all to submit nominations for EMS awards each year, and reminded the group that the nomination form is available on the EMS Office website year-round and are voted on in April. Any nominations submitted after April will be reviewed the following year.

➤ EMS Office New Positions

Anne shared that the Executive committee has sent offers for the Program Analyst position and the Program Coordinator position. Anne congratulated Tom Chavez and Chris Neilsen for their new positions and shared that the Program Analyst interview consisted of a 2-part process which included an assignment to complete and present to the E-board. The E-board was thoroughly impressed by the candidate pool for both positions and believe that these two positions will move the EMS Council toward a more patient centric system. Both positions will begin in May, and Anne stated that the data analyst will spend the first few months meeting with agencies to determine needs, and likely won't have data to share immediately. The EMS Office is still looking at space to relocate to.

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that Providence has continued to conserve some fluids, specifically the 3000 bags due to being at a 40% operating capacity. A list of upcoming events between May and June was emailed out, and some events offer opportunities to partner with fire and EMS agencies. Holy Family Hospital hosted an active shooter exercise with SPD and SWAT that went well, and Sacred Heart will be

hosting an exercise on June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 13<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to observe the active shooter exercise, please contact Lindsay. The Special Pathogens Unit is hosting a free symposium on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) mass DECON tent set up and open house will be held on May 14<sup>th</sup>. A Drug Recognition Symposium will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup>, and a Sex trafficking awareness presentation will be on June 25<sup>th</sup>, both at the Sacred Heart Auditorium. Flyers were emailed and can be found on the [calendar on the EMS Office website](#).

- Multicare: No report

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for March 2025

Jack shared the financial reports and stated that the final 2025 share fees are coming in, and that there will be an increase in payroll expenses beginning in May due to the new positions starting. There were no questions or concerns.

#### **REPORTS:**

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks stated that OTEP training requirement have changed in the WAC and were discussed during old business section of the meeting.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that SRHD is continuing to do pre-planning with partners for potential measles outbreak. Working with the NWHRN to gather information from healthcare systems on availability of IG/IM, IG/IV, MMR, MMRV and point of contact. MRC will be staffing a medical aid station for Bloomsday. The community wide Pertussis outbreak is ongoing, and there is a downtrend in Influenza and RSV ER activity. COVID ER activity was below the epidemic threshold with a stable trend, and the immunization team continues to provide flu, COVID, and other adult vaccines to those living in shelters.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff reported that applications for paramedic school are open until June 30<sup>th</sup>. Site visits will be in November. Jim stated that a letter review for AEMT accreditation was sent and hoping to be accredited within the next year or two.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Airway KPI reports

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect OTEP- Curriculum Schedule: Dr. Travis Dierks  
Dr. Dierks shared that recent changes have been made to the WAC regarding OTEP requirements, and that the DOH will now require approval from the county MPDs for each agency's OTEP plan. EMSConnect follows Washington state requirements as its headquarters are in Spokane WA, and Dr. Dierks explained that the EMSConnect 3-year curriculum was edited to include all new WAC requirements to ensure that agencies using their platform for OTEP will meet the new requirements for recertification. Dr. Dierks shared the curriculum schedule with the group, which includes all WA State and NREMT requirements, and requested approval from the MPD and Council for the updated curriculum for didactic education for agencies using EMS Connect. Dr. Dierks explained that when creating the schedule, they take into consideration the timeline of when specific subjects are scheduled to better prepare providers specific seasons and emphasized that skill tracking can be done on EMSConnect by uploading documents and completion certificates for skill requirements. Jeff Anderson from the training chiefs group asked if local intubation requirements have been determined by the County MPD, and following discussion, the County MPD, Dr. Nania, agreed to discuss intubation requirements at the next Protocol committee meeting, and suggested that agencies follow the previously required numbers

until stated otherwise. Dr. Nania agreed to send an update for the requirements once determined after the next protocol meeting. Tom Chavez stated that regarding the County wide OTEP discussion, he and Dr. Nania met to review the new WAC requirements and have updated the county wide OTEP application. The next step will be to meet with Training Officers at each agency to go over the application for review. Tom emphasized that agencies could use EMSConnect or any online platform for education but must meet skills requirements with hands on training and will make sure that all agencies are on the same page regarding OTEP, regardless of platform being used. Dr. Dierks reiterated that he brought the EMSConnect 3-year curriculum to be reviewed and approved as a didactic portion for agencies to use. Dr. Nania agreed to review the curriculum for approval for didactic education for agencies to use within an OTEP plan.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Providence Health Training Initial ESE Course (04/25/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/21/2025-08/01/2025)
  - EMS Connect Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/28/2025-05/26/2025)

#### **PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The next meeting is Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and Dr. Nania will be discussing Spokane County airway management requirements for recertification. Five pediatric protocols need to be reviewed and updated, as the protocol workgroup will be formatting pediatric protocols next. Tom shared the format that the protocol workgroup is converting all protocols to and stated that once reviewed by the protocol committee, will be brought to the EMS Council for approval. Hoping to have all protocols approved and updated by the first quarter of 2026. The workgroup is currently working on trauma protocols and will work on pediatric protocols once approved by the DOH.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for April
  - 04/16/2024 “Doc, legal, POLST, reporting & multicultural” Shaun Pitts hosting a discussion regarding “Sirens lights and Lawyers” by David Givot. Live and free to join.
- Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes
  - 04/08/2025 at 6:30p.m “High Risk Cardiac” with Rebecca Berg, EMT-P
- Spokane County EMS Symposium
  - 04/15/2025 9am-12pm at the Spokane Fire Training Center

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:13AM**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
June 10, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Liz Ciais, Tom Chavez, Rinita Cook, Dr. Maika Dang, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Chris Gibbar, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Don Malone, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Cody Rohrbach, Adeana Sellars, Chris Wyrobek, Dan Williams

Guests Present

Jeff Anderson, Tamara Drapeau, Mary Malone, Jason Mayfield, Chris Nielsen, Treena Russel, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Kevin Smith, Dr. Godfrey, Matthew Vinci

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkley Van Hout

**MINUTES:** Approval of April 2025 Meeting Minutes

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

➤ Office Relocation & New Positions Update

Anne introduced Chris Nielsen, the new Data Analyst for the Spokane County EMS Office. The EMS Office has relocated to 44 W. Riverside Avenue inside of SFD Station 1. There are three reserved parking spaces for the EMS Council for anyone stopping by for Council or MPD business.

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton reported they are doing well from a clinical perspective. Providence held their Airport MCI the first week of June and had good interaction and feedback. Providence have begun scenario-based active shooter exercises at Sacred Heart and will have exercises at St. Lukes in October. The Sex Trafficking presentation will be held on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for April & May 2025

Jack shared the financial reports for April and May due to no meeting in May for the EMS Awards. There were no questions or concerns.

**REPORTS:**

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks asked if the updated protocol template that is being worked on by the protocol workgroup would be approved in parts, or if the entire manual would be approved at once. Protocol Chair, Tom Chavez, stated the entire manual will be sent to the Dept. of Health for approval once all protocols are updated, and is expected to be completed by February 2026.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported several agencies have completed academies for new recruits and have graduation upcoming. Wildland season training is underway. IEFCA had a meeting with hospitals regarding the 800-MHz radio system in April and will meet again this month to continue moving forward. The goal is for EMS personnel in the field to have capability to communicate with hospitals. Lindsay Payton added that Providence has begun receiving equipment and working on installation of the new system. Chief Wyrobek added that

the County FOG would be updated if any significant changes to operations takes place. Working on apparatus nomenclature to number individual apparatus within different fire districts, and RTF trauma equipment purchased by the EMS Council was distributed. Agencies have started the didactic portion of RTF training and are currently completing Ops training.

- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach reported that mediation between Spokane County, SREC and Spokane City will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> with hopes to get direction for dispatch for Spokane City. HB1258 was amended to include that all parties will enter an ILA to apportion tax dollars. The timeline for the new CAD system implementation has been delayed due to additional training for the vendor.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau reported the next meeting is the annual meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> and they will discuss the budget. The strategic plan was approved by the Dept. of Health and will become effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. Rinita Cook reminded the group about OD2A CDC funding for naloxone education and outreach to high school age kids. Looking to provide 10 grants of \$3,600 each by August. Reach out to Rinita if interested.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that MRC participated as victims in the airport MCI exercise and are available for future trainings if volunteers are needed. Participated in the Region 10 SPU Operation Marburg Shield exercise that focused on two simulated patients suspected of Marburg disease at Samaritan Hospital in Moses Lake. After receiving treatment and care, the hospital coordinated transport of the patient using AMR Spokane to Providence. Currently in the process of finalizing their emergency preparedness and response deliverables for the next grant cycle that runs July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026. Still responding to Pertussis community outbreak, increase in level of shigella in communities experiencing homelessness, and closely monitoring the status of measles due to the outbreaks occurring throughout the state and country. Westside LHJs reported some norovirus outbreaks, including one at a SNF in Spokane.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff thanked everyone that participated in their virtual site visit and stated that Providence Health is officially under letter of review for accreditation for the AEMT program. Jim also thanked hospital partners for allowing students in facilities. All paramedics currently completing rotations in the OR and ER until the end of July. Jim recognized Hailey Karnitz for successful implementation of a flipped classroom to include more activity-based training which had a lot of positive feedback from students. Paramedic applications are due June 30<sup>th</sup>, testing will begin in July, and interviews will begin in August.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania gave a summary of the airport MCI event and the group discussed needing better training of triage tags at future trainings.
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - C.A.R.E.S data
    - Case referred by PSHMC.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Countywide OTEP Plan Update: Tom Chavez

Tom stated that the OTEP plan outline was sent to training chiefs to review. The MPD and Protocol committee discussed the WA State requirements to be included in the new plan outline. Agencies will have autonomy for instruction and will be able to use EMSConnect and Target Solutions as they have been using in the past. The EMS Council will work to fill training gaps and offer county wide training opportunities. The training chiefs' group have approved the proposed plan, and the proposed plan was emailed to the EMS Council following the meeting to review.

**Action:** Members will review the OTEP plan outline, and a vote for approval will be taken at the next meeting in July.
- Bylaws Update Discussion: Anne Raven

A draft of the revised bylaws was sent to EMS Council members for a 60-day review. The bylaws were revised by the Executive committee and reviewed by an Attorney.

**Action:** Discussion will take place at the meeting in July, and a vote for approval will be taken at

the meeting in September, as there is no meeting in August.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Spokane Valley Fire Department Physician Advisor  
Current Physician Advisor for SVFD, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, accepted a new position and will be relocating effective August 1<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Laverdiere introduced Dr. Steve Godfrey who will be taking over the position at SVFD.
- SRHD Naloxone Leave Behind: Mary Malone  
Mary Malone presented how EMS agencies can request Naloxone Kiosks in rural areas. Any interested agencies can reach out to Mary via email at [mmalone@srhd.org](mailto:mmalone@srhd.org)
- Spokane County Min/Max Assessment & Service Licenses Discussion: Rinita Cook & Jason Norris  
Dr. Dierks summarized ongoing confusion between BLS licensed agencies and the WA Dept. of Health (DOH) regarding the provisions of ALS-level care by ALS certified providers employed at BLS licensed agencies. The WA Administrative Code (WAC) requires 24/7 ALS-level staffing to be licensed as an ALS agency, however, some BLS agencies currently employ ALS-level personnel without meeting licensure standards, raising concern about liability, scope of practice, and certification validity. Jason Norris (DOH) clarified that while BLS agencies can have ALS-certified individuals on staff, these agencies are licensed and inspected based on BLS standards and may not utilize ALS equipment or provide ALS-level care. Use of ALS resources by a BLS agency exceeds their license and poses regulatory risks. Jason also explained that agencies must meet staffing standards on their own merit and cannot use contracts or agreements with another license. It was reiterated that the DOH is aware of this practice occurring in Spokane County. Discussion emphasized the need for legislative action to allow for part time ALS recognition or alternative models, which were previously denied due to lack of stakeholder involvement. Dr. Nania and a subgroup will draft a letter to the state MPDs and DOH addressing these concerns. Joey Rodriguez, who is a member on the trauma steering committee, will bring the topic forward and efforts will be made to gather historical data and build a unified position across regions. Members discussed adjusting staffing definitions and agency min/max numbers. Agencies capable of providing 24/7 ALS/ILS coverage were encouraged to notify the EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, and Rinita Cook at the East Region EMS Council, for a review of the current min/max numbers. It was clarified that the County MPD and EMS Council cannot direct agency action but can support members with a formal letter of concern. A draft letter, signed by the MPD and MPDDs will be presented at the next meeting. Rinita Cook shared openings on the EMS Steering Committee and recommended that individuals from the East Region apply.  
**Action:** Dr. Nania will coordinate with other MPDs statewide and draft a formal letter of concern for review at the July meeting. Joey Rodriguez coordinate with the EMS Council to review historical rulemaking documentation. Any additional questions can be directed to Rinita Cook, Jason Norris or Dawn Felt.
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (05/21/2025-08/29/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (05/20/2025-08/27/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Initial ESE Course (07/15/2025)
  - SVFD Initial Supraglottic Airway Endorsement Course (08/05/2025)

#### **PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez**

- Protocol Committee update: Tom stated that Pediatric protocols have been revised and are ready for approval by the EMS Council. Tom sent protocols prior to the meeting for review to save time during the meeting. The group requested that a vote for approval take place at the next meeting due to the length of the meeting and not having enough time to review all the protocols.  
**Action:** Pediatric protocols vote for approval will take place at the next meeting in July.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for June
  - 6/24 2pm Dr. Ernst Live Curriculum: Cardiac Arrest
  - Fire Curriculum: Wildland Training
- Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes
  - 06/10/205 at 6:30p.m “Respiratory Review” with Haley Karnitz, EMT-P
- Protocol App

The Protocol App subscription ended June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. The county-wide Handtevy app is active, and the protocol manual PDF will remain on the EMS Office website.
- DOH HELMS System Update

Dan Willaims (SCFD 4) advised agencies to check their roster on the new DOH HELMS system as there have been glitches. If anyone has questions, reach out to Dawn Felt at DOH. Dr. Nania included that the DOH is working out glitches of the new systems which has caused delays in recertifications. Dr. Nania sent an email to agencies to check their rosters online as a reminder.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:10AM.**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
July 8, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom C & D / Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Josh Ambach, Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Liz Ciais, Rinita Cook, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Brad Kane, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Dan Williams, James Young

Guests Present

Dana Bosworth, Tamara Drapeau, Sierra Knutson, Nathan Jeffries, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Tara Ohman, Beth Perkins, Joey Rodriguez, Dillon Russell, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Lane Strite, Whit Spencer

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

**MINUTES:** Approval of June 2025 Meeting Minutes

Anne requested a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Randy Olson made a motion to approve, and David Baird seconded.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

- Anne recognized the active shooter event in Coeur d' Alene last week and asked for a moment of silence to remember the battalion chiefs who fell in the line of duty, and the firefighter who is recovering.
- Hospital Status Report
  - Providence: Lindsay Payton stated that things are good from a clinical perspective. St. Luke's Rehabilitation will have two bomb threat drills that staff is unaware of, as it is a regulatory requirement to do no notice drills. Providence continuing to share wildfire safety information and get people signed up for Alert Spokane. A group text thread was created after recent protests to be used for mass gathering events and protests to keep hospitals, law enforcement, EMS, and the DMCC notified in case of an emergency. The thread was used to share updates during the Coeur d' Alene active shooter event, and Lindsay expressed that Providence was able to work through the mass casualty protocol and felt prepared to take patients.
  - Multicare: no report.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

- Financial reports for June 2025  
Jack shared the reports to the group. There were no questions or concerns.
- 2026 Budget- Initial Proposal at September meeting  
The initial budget proposal will be shared at the September meeting. Jack shared that after 2 months of payroll wages, the Executive committee will look at high yield savings account options to be included in the 2026 budget proposal. Jack stated if anyone has questions, concerns, or wants to discuss anything regarding the upcoming budget proposal, to email him prior to the September meeting.

## REPORTS:

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks stated nothing to report. The BLS Report will be used to share updates from the DOH regarding the ALS/BLS licensing discussion over the next few months.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that the Fire Chiefs did not meet this month and will not meet next month. Will give a report at the September meeting.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau shared that the East Region Council took a significant cut of funds for education and grants, which has not fully been released yet. Unsure of why cuts were made, and the East Region will have to cut programs that were previously being funded but will try to maintain those programs through the end of the year with saved funds. Rinita Cook from the East Region EMS Council added that they have been asked to suspend all program funding. Rinita spoke with the executive team for the East Region and can currently support the 50% cost for EMSConnect for providers for now. East Region does not want this to affect the smaller rural agencies that have less funding and will do their best to keep agencies informed of any changes.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt thanked the Council and EMS agencies for all that they do for the community. There is still a lot of pertussis activity in the community, and there have been 10 measles cases reported in Washington State this year, but none in Eastern WA. One ongoing food outbreak and a few COVID outbreaks in LTC, but ER activity in the past week was low for these pathogens and RSV. DOH announced they have updated guidance based on recommendations from the CDC regarding use of PPE when caring for a patient with suspected or confirmed COVID. Find recommendations [here](#).
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff stated that the application process is closed, and testing will begin this month. 55 applications were submitted and 25 will be selected. Limmer LC ready app recommended for studying, and discount code Providence20 can be used.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania shared a summary of the C.A.R.E.S data that was reviewed at the June QI committee meeting and shared a summary for the WSU Cadaver lab evaluation from those who attended.
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Trauma KPI data
    - Case review referred by MultiCare.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Countywide OTEP Plan Update & Vote for Approval: Tom Chavez-  
The plan outline was sent following last month's EMS Council meeting for everyone to review. Once the plan is approved by the EMS Council, Tom will submit the plan to the County MPD, Dr. Nania, and to the WA DOH for approval. Randy Olson made a motion to approve the OTEP plan, and Dan Williams seconded. A vote was taken, and none were opposed. If anyone has questions regarding the OTEP plan, reach out to Tom via email at [coordinator@emsoffice.com](mailto:coordinator@emsoffice.com)  
**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the OTEP plan to be submitted to the DOH.
- Bylaws Revision Discussion: Anne Raven  
The draft of the revised bylaws was sent prior to last month's EMS Council meeting for review. Anne asked if anyone had questions or comments, as a vote will be taken at the September meeting. Chief Chris Wyrobek stated that the Inland Empire Fire Chiefs requested clarification regarding the elimination of the finance committee, and to clarify the difference between the Protocol Chair and Program Coordinator positions. The group discussed and agreed to consider updating language for funding request and budget process, and to include advanced notice of requests to the EMS Council members. If anyone has additional questions or concerns, reach out to the Council Chair, Anne. Requested changes will be reviewed and if changed, will be sent out for review prior to the September meeting.  
**Action:** The Executive committee will review and update the discussed changes, and Berkley will send out an updated draft for review.

➤ Spokane County Min/Max Assessment & Service License Update

Following the discussion at last month's meeting regarding BLS/ALS licensure, Rinita Cook (East Region EMS Council) requested that any Spokane County agencies that can meet staffing requirements to increase their license level, to reach out. SCFD 3 and SCFD 9 will submit applications to increase their license, which would require a min/max adjustment for Spokane County. Rinita requested that Spokane County begin the process of a min/max assessment, and the EMS Council agreed. The Council will need to provide the East Region EMS Council and DOH the required needs assessment data and explain why the Council is requesting an adjustment to the current min/max numbers. Rinita advised the group to look at Spokane County to include hospitals and interfacility transport. The last assessment was done in 2023, and the recently approved East Region strategic plan states that local councils will complete a needs assessment every 2 years. Rinita described the needs assessment process and included that once the steering committee approves the increase, the Department of Health is required to post an open trauma response area for 30 days and take applications that will be reviewed by the local and regional councils. The Department of Health makes the final decision for approval. It was suggested that SCFD 13 and Cheney Fire Department determine if they plan to increase recruitment of ALS providers or have a timeline of when they could meet ALS licensing requirements to increase their license level as well. If other agencies apply to increase their license in the future, another needs assessment will need to take place. Following discussion, the group agreed to begin the min/max assessment process by creating a workgroup. SCFD 9 requested a 90-day timeline for the assessment, and Rinita suggested that if the Spokane County EMS Council can review for approval by the October meeting, the East region can review for approval at the November meeting. The Steering Committee and Department of Health must receive all applications 45 days prior to review. Representatives from SCFD 3, SCFD 8, SCFD 9, SCFD 10, SCFD 13, Cheney FD, AMR, Advanced Life Systems, SFD, SVFD, Providence, and the East Region EMS Council all agreed to participate in the workgroup. Dr. Nania emphasized that the level of licensure for the agency should not preclude the level of its personnel and compared level 3 trauma facilities that often operate at level 2 because they cannot operate at a level 3 full time.

**Action:** An initial meeting for the Min/Max workgroup will be scheduled to move forward with the needs assessment process. A chairperson and main point of contact needs to be determined for the workgroup.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

➤ Recently Approved Training Course Applications

- Spokane Community College Initial EMT-SGA Course (07/01/2025-08/21/2025)
- EMSConnect Initial EMT-SGA Course (08/03/2025-09/10/2025)

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The protocol workgroup is working on formatting the pediatric protocols, and Tom shared that the new format would include hyperlinks to additional protocols for drugs and dosage referencing to avoid redundancy, and to keep updates streamlined in the future. The protocol workgroup began editing the manual in September 2024, and will continue until September 2025, with hopes to get the entire manual approved by the EMS Council and sent to the DOH by December 2025. The protocol committee will continue to work on Peds I/O, the Physician on scene statement, the post ROSC checklist, DMIST handoff on scene, and clarifying language regarding triage tags in the MCI protocol. It was intended that the EMS Council would purchase the first order of SALT triage tags, and Tom requested that agencies send how many tags are needed for each agency to Berkley. Tom will link the MCI Chapter from the County FOG to the MCI protocol and HandTevy, and in the Protocol reference section.

➤ Pediatric Protocols for Approval by EMS Council

The revised pediatric protocols were sent out last month for review, and Tom did not receive any questions or concerns. Tom asked for a motion to approve the protocols. A motion was made by Dr. Maika Dang and seconded by David Barid. A vote was taken, and none were opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the pediatric protocols to be sent for approval to the DOH.

➤ Protocol workgroup committee payment:

The original workgroup was made up of 6 individuals, and the group has been unable to keep a 6<sup>th</sup> person. The 5 remaining individuals have consistently remained on the workgroup and picked up the duties of the vacant spot. Tom requested that the remaining 5 people split the remaining funds of \$409.83 that have been saved to pay a 6<sup>th</sup> person. A motion to approve was made by Dr. Travis Dierks and seconded by Randy Olson. A vote was taken, and none opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the remaining funds be split equally between the 5 individuals.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

➤ EMS Connect Classes for July

- 7/21 at 2pm with Dr. Travis Dierks “Trauma-chest and back w SMR”

➤ Upcoming Providence EMS Live at Nite Classes

- No classes over the summer. Unsure if classes will continue in the fall.

**ADJOURNED AT 10:38AM**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & B / Zoom Virtual Meeting

Voting Members: SFD: Anne Raven, Dr. Joel Edminster, (alt) Julie O'Berg SVFD: David Baird, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, SCFD4: Dr. Jacob Rabe, Dan Williams (alt) Mike Nokes, SCFD8: Dr. Travis Dierks, Tom Chavez, (alt) Chris Wyrobek, SCFD9: Dr. Joel Edminster, Jeff Reid, (alt) Dan Cecil, AMR: Dr. Maika Dang, Jack Busch, (alt) Tim Loncon, Deer Park Amb: Dr. Jacob Rabe, Amber Jones (alt) Adeana Sellars, LFN: Veronica Mitchell-Jones, (alt) James Young, BLS: Dr. Travis Dierks, Rod Heimbigner, Josh Ambach, Cody Rohrbach, Lonnie Rash (alt) Tom Chavez, SREC: Lori Markham (alt) Brad Kane, GSEM: Chandra Fox, Elected Official: Sharon Colby, Hospitals: Tiarra Dreckman, Liz Ciais, Chris Gibbar, Richard Johnson, Consumer Rep: Randy Olson

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EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/ Ex-Officio Present

Robi Albrandt, David Baird, Jack Busch, Liz Ciais, Tom Chavez, Rinita Cook, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Amber Jones, Brad Kane, Tim Loncon, Mike Nokes, Dr. Jim Nania, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Adenea Sellars, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek, James Young

Guests Present

Jeff Anderson, Dana Bosworth, Daron Bement, Brian DeLong, Tamara Drapeau, Dawn Felt, Emily Fleury, Beth Hansen, Kate Hall, Christine Hankins, Nathan Jeffries, Sierra Knutson, Stephanie Leaver, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Emily Mercer, Tara Ohman, Beth Perkins, Eddie Richardson, Joey Rodriguez, Dillon Russell, Treena Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Kevin Smith, Vincent Speziale, Lance Strite, Whit Spencer, Kristen Thompson, Matthew Vinci, Matthew Von Steuben, Kara Welchel, Scott Williams

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

**MINUTES:** Approval of July 2025 Meeting Minutes

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

- Anne reminded attendees of meeting decorum for meetings. The WA Department of Health has requested this reminder and will be enforcing this expectation. Anne stated that no motions for a Min/Max vote will be accepted until the final report from the subcommittee is complete. SCFD9 will present as scheduled during new business.
- Hospital Status Report
  - **Providence:** Liz Ciais (Holy Family) reported two confirmed measles cases at SHMC. Action plans and workflow processes are in place. A Mass Casualty Incident drill is planned for November, and a few active shooter drills have been completed at each Providence Hospital campus including the outpatient facility in the Valley. The Inland NW Trauma Conference is scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Double Tree downtown, with strong speakers and sessions planned. Registration information has been sent out.
  - **Multicare:** Dana Bosworth (Valley) will attend Valleyfest on September 19<sup>th</sup> with a distracted driving booth. September 6<sup>th</sup> an offsite wilderness training was held. A M.A.S.H event took place in July with strong turnout and good participation. The great shake out earthquake drill is scheduled for October. More information to come as they

are in early planning stages. Participation from EMS Council members and Spokane County agencies is encouraged. Dana will send event details to Berkley to share with the group. Volunteers for Valleyfest are welcome; contact Dana if interested.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

- Financial reports for July & August 2025  
Jack shared the reports. There were no questions or concerns.
- Initial Proposal of 2026 Budget  
Jack shared the proposed 2026 budget prepared by the Executive committee and opened the floor for questions or comments. Questions regarding if county required airway training courses should be included in the annual budget. Jack stated that trainings will be submitted as a funding request or proposal, as it is unknown what the cost will be at this time. Dr. Maika Dang made a motion to approve the proposed budget with no amendments, and Dan Williams seconded the motion. None were opposed, motion carried.  
**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the proposed 2026 budget.
- Funding Requests
  - None

#### **REPORTS:**

- BLS Report: Dr. Travis Dierks no report.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that the 800MHz radio project is ongoing with hospitals. The next meeting is later this month and will have an update at the October meeting. SHMC is moving forward and ready to install hardware, and the group is meeting with Multicare this month.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau requested Rinita Cook, East Region Executive Director, to give the report.
  - East Region EMSTCC received information from the WA DOH that the fiscal year 2026 budget will not be reduced at this time. However, state agency budgeting remains fluid, so funding could still change depending on what trickles down to the EMS section.
  - An updated reporting template is begin used for deliverable reports to the DOH. Education reimbursement processes will change slightly to align with this.
  - Establishing a list of stake holders to begin process of trauma service analysis for hospitals.
  - Establishing a workgroup for regional PCPs and requesting at least one person from each county council to participate. The entire packet will be reviewed and edited at one time, and hope to make recommendations to county councils with regards to county operating procedures, and provide education of the difference between region PCPs, and county operating procedures.
  - Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 8th.
  - Rinita asked that any questions regarding min/max be sent via email so she can reply with guidance documents and additional resources and share information widely.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported
  - Measles Update: went into ICS structure with command and general staff in response to the confirmed measles cases. Were in response until Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> and are now monitoring. During that time, health alerts were set up and regular meetings with hospitals and healthcare facilities were established. Infection preventionists worked diligently to ensure that patients could go through safely. Also reached out to the health network to coordinate with hospitals to ensure there was enough IG, and supported providers for getting a supply of MMR vaccines. A school immunization clinic was held at Shaw Middle School on August 27<sup>th</sup> where MMR was offered. Continuing to do media reports, social media, and blogs, and continue to update measles webpage. A Link to the website for current outbreaks, testing, and vaccine clinics can be found [here](#).

- Pertussis still in the community. People are encouraged to get vaccinations. A link to the pertussis webpage can be found [here](#).
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff not present. Emily fleury reported that out of 64 applicants, 28 students were accepted for the Paramedic class starting October 13<sup>th</sup>. Current students are completing ride times and will be finishing towards the end of the year. Jim is out for the month, so reach out to Emily for any questions.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - Shared a summary of trauma KPI data that was presented at the July QI Committee meeting. Dr. Maika Dang gave a summary of common themes from cases reviewed from Trauma KPIs and shared that NAEMPS came out with a core compendium of all trauma review which references spinal motion restrictions and suggested everyone read it. A link was sent out following the meeting.
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Stroke KPI
    - 2 Case reviews referred by SVFD

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Countywide OTEP Plan Update: Tom Chavez  
The County-wide OTEP plan was approved by the DOH, and was presented to the East Region, who will use it as a template for other counties. Tom sent the official document to all involved agencies and emphasized that there are five new requirements in the OTEP plan which include multicultural awareness, health equity, legal reporting, disabilities and functional needs, and POLST. Reach out to Tom for any OTEP related questions at [coordinator@emsoffice.com](mailto:coordinator@emsoffice.com)
- Bylaws Revision for Approval: Anne Raven & Tom Chavez  
Tom reviewed the revised bylaws, which were previously emailed out for review, and opened the floor for questions. Concerns about quorum requirements under the new voting structure were expressed, and it was suggested to have simple majority for regular meetings, and a 30% quorum for special meetings required for votes. Clarification on the review period was brought up, and was confirmed the review had been open for 60 days per current bylaws and discussed at 2 regular meetings. James Young made a motion to amend the bylaws to require a simple majority for regular meetings and 30% quorum for special meetings. The motion was seconded by Chief Mike Nokes. A vote was taken and was unanimously approved. A motion was made to approve the bylaws with the amended voting structure by David Baird. The motion was seconded by James Young. A vote was made and was unanimously approved.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the bylaws with the amended voting structure of simple majority required at regular meetings, and a 30% quorum required at special meetings. A final draft of the updated bylaws document will be distributed and posted to the EMS Office website.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- East Region EMS & Trauma Care Council Applications for Approval
  - Christine Clutter: Reappointment
  - Berkley Van Hout: Reappointment

A motion was made by Tom Chavez to approve the applications and seconded by Jack Busch. None opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the applications.

- Training Program Applications for Approval
  - AMR: EMT-SGA, EMT-IV & ESE Courses

A motion was made by Tom Chavez to approve the application and seconded by Jack Busch seconded. None opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/ P to approve the application

- SCFD9 Trauma Verified Transport License Application: Matthew Vinci, Fire Chief  
Chief Vinci, Assistant Chiefs Jeff Ried and Dan Cecil, and Captain Spencer Whitt, presented on District 9's application for an ALS Verified Trauma Transport License. Anne Raven noted that data has not yet been analyzed by the workgroup. Chief Vinci recognized and thanked partners

that have joined with letters of support which were shared prior to the meeting. The presentation included deployment model plans, population growth for Spokane County and District 9 over the past 25 years, call volume data, ambulance transport incidents, projected ASB rates, and a comparison of min/max numbers from other counties. District 9 Commissioners passed a resident waiver program policy that would allow District 9 residents to not be billed for service if transported by a District 9 ambulance. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Assistant Chief Jeff Reid to hold a special meeting of the EMS Council within 10 days to address and vote on the min/max assessment, and Anne Raven stated that the min/max workgroup must complete their data analysis before a special meeting can be held. James Young, chair of the min/max subcommittee stated the subcommittee met and has requested additional data from SREC and believes data can be delivered by September 19<sup>th</sup>. David Baird made a motion to hold a special meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup> to allow 10 days for the workgroup to review data prior to presenting. Jeff Reid seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was amended by Dave Baird to change the date to September 22<sup>nd</sup> and seconded by James Young. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve a special meeting on Monday September 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Min/Max Assessment for Spokane County.

- Recently Approved EMS Services Applications
  - Spokane County Sheriff's Office ESSO Renewal
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Providence Health Training Initial AEMT Course (08/27/2025-02/28/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (09/09/2025-12/12/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Refresher EMT Course (09/10/2025-09/16/2025)
  - Spokane Community College Initial EMT-SGA Course (09/17/2025-12/11/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Refresher AEMT Course (09/22/2025-09/30/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Refresher Paramedic Course (09/22/2025-09/30/2025)
  - SCFD4 Initial EMT-SGA Course (10/06/2025-01/10/2026)
  - Providence Health Training Initial Paramedic Course (10/13/2025-03/31/2026)
  - Providence Health Training Initial IV Endorsement Course (10/20/2025-11/18/2025)
  - Providence Health Training Refresher ESE Course (11/06/2025)

#### **PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:

The protocol update workgroup will finish this month, and the new format will be reviewed for approval by the EMS Council at the January meeting. The next protocol committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for September
  - Medical- Geriatrics & Polypharmacy
- NWHRN
  - Planning to host a ChemPREP on October 21<sup>st</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> and are looking for a venue to accommodate 100 people. Please reach out to [meagan.mccoy@nwhrn.org](mailto:meagan.mccoy@nwhrn.org) if you have an available space.
  - October 15<sup>th</sup> 12:30-3pm: Fall Pediatric Respiratory Refresher Course
  - For WATrac assistance or more information, reach out to [WATrac@nwhrn.org](mailto:WATrac@nwhrn.org)
- Chris Nielsen sent out Business Associate Agreements to agencies. Please review and send to Berkley.
- Advanced Life Systems: Joey Rodriguez announced partnership with Providence in Spokane and will begin service with Sacred Heart, Holy Family and St. Luke's Rehab effective October. ALS will add 6 more ambulances, 2 wheelchair vans, and are sourcing a larger facility in the area. Will be submitting a formal letter to include inter-facility considerations in the min/max process as

they hope to submit an application for trauma verification specific to inter-facility transport.  
Reach out to Joey with questions.

- AirliftNW: November 17<sup>th</sup> free education for EMS providers. Christine Hankins thanked SCFD3 for offering their training center. Registration information will be sent out in a few weeks.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:23A.M.**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
September 22, 2025 – 1000  
Spokane Fire Training Center Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Voting members & (alternates): Jack Busch, (Tim Loncon), Jeff Anderson (Tom Jenkins), Amber Jones (Adenea Sellars), Eric Olson, (Lindsay Pestana), Cody Rohrbach (Bill Dennstaedt), Dan Williams, (Mike Nokes), Tom Chavez (Chris Wyrobek), Jeff Reid (Dan Cecil), Andres Steevens, (Don Malone), Daron Bement (Josh Ambach), Anne Raven (Julie O Berg), David Barid (Dr. Stephen Godfrey), Treena Russell (Johnnie Sylvester), Dr. Jim Nania, Liz Ciais, Tiarra Dreckman, (Lindsay Payton), Veronica Mitchell-Jones (James Young), Chris Gibbar, Richard Johnson

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Voting Delegates & Alternates Present

Jeff Anderson, Josh Ambach, David Barid, Daron Bement, Jack Busch, Dan Cecil, Liz Ciais, Bill Dennstaedt, Chris Gibbar, Tom Jenkins, Amber Jones, Tim Loncon, Dr. Jim Nania, Mike Nokes, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Treena Russel, Cody Rohrbach, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek, James Young,

Non- Voting Advisory Representatives & Guests Present.

Greg Anderson, Rinita Cook, Tamra Drapeau, Chandra Fox, Dr. Joel Edminster, Robert Gary, Nathan Jeffries, Paul Priest, Joey Rodriguez, Bobby Shindelar, Kevin Smith, Whitt Spencer, Matthew Von Steuben, Matthew Vinci

EMS Office Staff Present

Berkey Van Hout, Chris Nielsen

**NEW BUSINESS:**

➤ Min/Max Assessment

James Young, the subcommittee Chair, presented a summary of data from SREC that showed that fire departments generally arrived on scene faster than ambulances, with urban areas experiencing the most significant response time challenges. The analysis highlighted a 19-second median ambulance dispatch delay and noted that while rural and suburban response times were meeting state standards, urban response times for ambulances were below the 80% threshold required by the WAC. The meeting focused on discussing the min/max assessment of emergency response times and data collection process. Participants raised questions about staging times, data corrections, and mapping iterations, with clarification provided on how these factors were considered in the assessment. The group also addressed issues related to BLS and ALS responses, noting that local jurisdictions decide which should respond first. James Young emphasized that data collected was determined by WAC requirements only. The East Region EMSTCC Executive Director, Rinita Cook, requested to run this portion of the meeting to ensure accuracy of the process, and EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven agreed to let Rinita run this portion of the meeting. Rinita introduced herself, and stated there were four points to be discussed at today's meeting.

1. Aid verified ALS (AIDV ALS) min/max numbers: There is currently a minimum of 4, and a maximum of 4 AIDV ALS licenses in Spokane County, and all 4 are being filled. SCFD 3, SCFD 10, SCFD 13 and Cheney Fire Department have indicated to East Region that they are willing and intend to upgrade from an aid verified BLS licenses to an aid verified ALS license, which would require an increase of 4 to the maximum number to reflect a minimum of 4 and maximum of 8. James Young made a motion to increase the maximum to 9. Jeff Anderson seconded the motion. Discussion held regarding the importance of agencies complying with WAC and DOH regulations.

**Motion:** to increase the maximum number of AIDV ALS licenses to 9.

**Moved by:** James Young; **seconded by:** Jeff Anderson

**Roll-call vote:**

Jack Busch (AMR) Yea  
Jeff Anderson (Cheney FD) Yea  
Amber Jones (Deer Park Ambulance) Yea  
James Young (LFN) Yea  
Cody Rohrbach (SCFD3) Yea  
Dan Williams (SCFD4) Yea  
Chris Wyrobek (SCFD8) Yea  
Jeff Reid (SCFD9) Yea  
Daron Besment (SCFD13) Yea  
Anne Raven (SFD) Yea  
David Baird (SVFD) Yea  
Treena Russell (Advanced Life Systems) Yea  
Dr. Jim Nania (County MPD) Yea  
Liz Ciais (Holy Family) Yea

**Action:** Motion approved (14 Yea, 0 Nay)

2. Aid verified BLS (AIDV BLS) min/max numbers: There is currently a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 12, and 9 licenses being used. If the 4 agencies listed above apply for AIDV ALS licensure, only 5 licenses will be used, leaving 7 open AIDV BLS licenses in Spokane county. No motion for change.
3. Ambulance Verified ALS (AMBV ALS) min/max numbers: There is currently a minimum of 2 and maximum of 3 AMBV ALS licenses, which are all filled. The meeting discussed increasing the ambulance transport license by one for Trauma Response Area 3202, which is currently being responded to by SCFD9 and Spokane Fire Department. Rinita emphasized that East Region would need to know what area of TR3202 SFD is responding to and how that would affect responses and if SFD would continue to respond to the area. The group discussed focusing on improving service redundancy and addressing underserved areas. Participants debated the process, data, and potential risks, with some expressing concerns about the speed of change and the impact on existing agencies. Rinita explained the county Council's assessment process and emphasized the importance of considering the entire system's needs. David Baird made a motion to increase the AMBV ALS maximum number by 1 specific to TR 3202. Dr. James Nania seconded the motion. Questions regarding primary service and mutual aid agreements were discussed, as well as WAC requirements compared to Ambulance service board and local contract requirements.

**Motion:** To increase the AMBV ALS maximum number by 1 specific to Trauma Response Area 3202.

**Moved by:** David Baird; **seconded by:** Dr Jim Nania

**Roll-call vote:**

Jack Busch (AMR) Nay  
Jeff Anderson (Cheney FD) Yea  
Amber Jones (Deer Park Ambulance) Yea  
James Young (LFN) abstained  
Cody Rohrbach (SCFD3) Yea  
Dan Williams (SCFD4) Yea  
Chris Wyrobek (SCFD8) Yea  
Jeff Reid (SCFD9) Yea  
Daron Besment (SCFD13) Yea  
Anne Raven (SFD) Yea  
David Baird (SVFD) Yea  
Treena Russell (Advanced Life Systems) Yea  
Dr. Jim Nania (County MPD) Yea  
Liz Ciais (Holy Family) Yea

**Action:** Motion approved (13 Yea, 1 Nay, 1 abstained)

4. AMBV ALS min/max increase for Interfacility Transport: A request from Advanced Life Systems was submitted to East Region to apply for AMBV ALS license specifically to provide interfacility transport of trauma registry patients in Spokane County, which would not involve a trauma response area or 911 calls. Rinita explained that while there is no specific WAC for this purpose, similar arrangements exist in other counties, and the service would support contracts between facilities and Advanced Life Systems. The group questioned the County Councils ability to approve the proposal without existing regulations and data to justify it, while a raise concern about the lack of information on existing trauma-verified agencies capable of providing inter-facility transports. The group agreed to table the decision and work on establishing criteria for data collection and emphasized the need for hospital participation in tracking and addressing delays in interfacility transport. Liz Ciais (Holy Family) agreed to bring the request to Providence Holy family and Sacred Heart for participation. Rinita added that the County Council work with the Regional QI committee to determine a method for facilities to provide and track data for interfacility transport. The group agreed that there is a concern for delay of patient care, but not ready to make a decision.

Rinita shared the next steps regarding the approval of the AMBV ALS min/max adjustment:

- Berkley will send the meeting minutes to Rinita.
- Application will be added to East Region EMSTCC agenda for October 8<sup>th</sup> for review and will be submitted to the DOH for internal review and requests for changes.
- A request to be added to the Steering Committee meeting agenda in November. If agenda is full, will be moved to January as need time for review.
- Once Steering Committee reviews and if change is approved, a Trauma Response area will be posted by DOH.
- Open Trauma Response area is posted for 30 days. Applications for open Trauma Response area sent to DOH. Applications are reviewed, and if requirements met, sent to Regional Council for review and comment.
- Regional Council will send application to County Council for review and comment (Not for approval)
- Regional Council will determine if applications align with strategic plan.

- Applications will be sent to DOH for approval.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:48AM**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & B / Zoom Virtual Meeting

Voting Members: SFD: Anne Raven, (alt) Tom Williams, SVFD: David Baird, (alt) Dr. Stephen Godfrey, SCFD2: Eric Olson, (alt) Lindsay Pestana, SCFD3: Cody Rohrbach, (alt) Bill Dennstaedt, SCFD4: Dan Williams (alt) Mike Nokes, SCFD8: Tom Chavez, (alt) Chris Wyrobek, SCFD9; Jeff Reid, (alt) Dan Cecil, SCFD10: Andres Steevens, (alt) Don Malone, SCFD13: Daron Bement, (alt) Josh Ambach, AMR: Jack Busch, (alt) Tim Loncon, ALS: Treena Russell, (alt) Johnnie Sylvester, SHMC & Children's Hospital: Tiarra Dreckman, (alt) Lindsay Payton, Holy Family: Liz Ciais, (alt) Lindsay Payton, Deaconess: Chris Gibbar, Valley Hospital: Richard Johnson, (alt) Dana Bosworth, Consumer Rep: Randy Olson, MPD: Dr. Jim Nania

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EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present

Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Daron Bement, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dan Cecil, Liz Ciais, Chris Gibbar, Tom Jenkins, Brad Kane, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Treena Russell, Adeana Sellars, Chris Wyrobek, James Young

Guests Present

Jim Akramoff, Dana Bosworth, Dr. Greg Cover, Jill Collier, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Beth Hansen, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Tara Ohman, Ami Roy, Joey Rodriguez, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Lace Strite, Kevin Smith, Kim Van Hout, Matthew Vinci

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

**MINUTES:** Approval of September 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Randy Olson and seconded by Dr. Nania.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence: Lindsay Payton stated there were no clinical updates. The 800 MHz radio system update is still ongoing. A no notice exercise at St Lukes took place and went well, and active shooter trainings are scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. A full-scale MCI activation exercise is scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup> at SHMC, and an FBI presentation for violent online networks targeting vulnerable ages is scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> which will be open to first responders and hospital staff only as it will be graphic. Lindsay introduced Kimberly Van Hout, the new Trauma Clinical Program Coordinator at Sacred Heart. The Inland NW Traum Conference is scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> and there are still spots available to register.
- Multicare: Dana Bosworth shared that the Valleyfest Distractive driving course was a success. The regulatory emergency management drill "The Great Shake Out" will take place on October 18<sup>th</sup> at Deaconess and Valley hospital.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for September 2025

Jack shared the financial reports with the group. There were no questions or concerns.

➤ Funding Requests

- Handtevy: Adding users for SVFD and SCFD9

Tom Chavez stated that SVFD and SCFD9 have requested more users for the county wide Handtevy account and was quoted a total of \$2,786.46. Tom shared that the cost can be negotiated again in April when the contract is renewed for the entire county and stated that agencies continue to hire more personnel which will require more users in the future and likely increased prices. Handtevy currently charges the EMS Council per agency and how many users per agency, which allows the agencies to provide their own administrators to manage personnel and agency specific updates. Tom will get more information for one umbrella account but is unsure if agencies would continue to have their own administrators for personnel management. The renewal terms will be discussed prior to the renewal in April 2026.

**Motion:** To fund more users for SVFD and SCFD9 for a total of \$2,786.46

**Moved by:** Randy Olson; **Seconded by:** Liz Ciais

Roll-call Vote:

Jack Busch (AMR) Yea  
 Tom Jenkins (Cheney FD) Yea  
 Adeana Sellars (Deer Park) Yea  
 James Young (LFN) Yea  
 Tom Chavez (SCFD8) Yea  
 Dan Cecil (SCFD9) Yea  
 Daron Bement (SCFD13) Yea  
 Anne Raven (SFD) Yea  
 David Barid (SVFD) Yea  
 Treena Russell (ALS) Yea  
 Dr. Jim Nania (County MPD) Yea  
 Liz Ciais (Holy Family) Yea  
 Lindsay Payton (SHMC & Children’s Hospital) Yea  
 Dana Bosworth (Valley Hospital) Yea  
 Randy Olson (Community Delegate) Yea

**Action:** Motion approved.

**REPORTS:**

- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek no report.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present. Brad Kane reported that construction on new building is planned to being at the end of the month, and there is an anticipated move in date of October 2026.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported there will be updates to the SHRD Respiratory Illness Dashboard with a change in the epidemic threshold metric, and an announcement when updates are published on the website will be sent. Working on measles AAR, and Pertussis is still in the community.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff stated that the new cohort started October 13<sup>th</sup> with 28 students. Providence health has a new lead instructor, Charles Freeman. The PM Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> at 8am to discuss the upcoming site visit in November.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
  - Stroke KPI summary: Dr. Nania shared a power point presentation summarizing 2024 stroke KPI data that was presented at the September QI meeting.
  - Today’s QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Case review from Valley Hospital
    - ‘OB’ Diversions
    - Simulation Training

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Min/Max Assessment- Special Meeting Update: Anne Raven shared that the min/max assessment special meeting was held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, and a request to increase the maximum number of ALS-AMBV licenses in Spokane County for trauma response area 3202 was approved by the Spokane County EMS Council and sent to the East Region EMSTCC. The request was approved by East Region and will move forward to the Steering Committee. More updates to come.

**NEW BUSINESS: None**

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:
  - The protocol workgroup's last meeting was in September, and the group is finishing final formatting of protocols. The goal is to have the entire manual completed with new formatting for Council review and approval by December, and to send to DOH by January 2026.
  - Pediatric protocols were approved by the DOH and have been updated on Handtevy and the EMS website.
  - Next Protocol committee meeting: Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for October
  - 10/16 at 2:00p.m "BLS Essentials: LIVE Case Studies"
- Recognition for AMR Personnel: Jason Mayfield recognized two AMR personnel, Hunter Snyder and Michael Scott, that competed and qualified for a national EMS competition in Texas and won. Congratulations to them.
- ALNW EMS Education Seminar: Lance Strite reminded the group that Airlift NW is hosting a free EMS education seminar on November 17<sup>th</sup> at SCFD3. A link to register was sent out.
- Medical Detection Form- Mass DECON Team: Lindsay Payton requested that fire departments let her know what medical detection paperwork is used.
- SALT Triage Tags: Tom Chavez reminded the group that the EMS Council approved purchasing the first round of SALT triage tags for agencies last year, and asked for suggestions on how the EMS Council can provide the tags as they do not have a vendor to purchase from. Estimated 100 tags per agency minimum. It was suggested that Tom reach out to D.E.M.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 9:53AM.**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 18, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & B / Zoom Virtual Meeting

Voting Members: SFD: Anne Raven, (alt) Tom Williams SVFD: David Baird, (alt) Dr. Stephen Godfrey, SCFD2: Eric Olson, (alt) Lindsay Pestana, SCFD3: Cody Rohrbach, (alt) Bill Dennstaedt, SCFD4: Dan Williams (alt) Mike Nokes, SCFD8: Tom Chavez, (alt) Chris Wyrobek, SCFD9: Jeff Reid, (alt) Dan Cecil, SCFD10: Andres Steevens, (alt) Don Malone, SCFD13: Daron Bement, (alt) Josh Ambach, AMR: Jack Busch, (alt) Tim Loncon, ALS: Treena Russell, (alt) Johnnie Sylvester, SHMC & Children's Hospital: Tiarra Dreckman, (alt) Lindsay Payton, SHMC: Liz Ciais, (alt) Lindsay Payton, Deaconess: Chris Gibbar, Valley Hospital: Richard Johnson, Consumer Rep: Randy Olson, MPD: Dr. Jim Nania

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EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Member Agency Representatives/Alternates & Advisory Representatives Present

Josh Ambach, David Baird, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Tiarra Dreckman, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Tim Loncon, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Pestana, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Treena Russel, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek, James Young

Guests Present

Jim Akramoff, Tag Baugh, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Emily Fleury, Beth Hansen, Sierra Knutson, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Ami Roy, Jennifer Rice, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Lance Strite, Kim Van Hout, Matthew Vinci

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

**MINUTES:** Approval of October 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Jack Busch and seconded by Dr. Jim Nania.

None opposed.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

- Send Vice Chair Nominations for Vote at December Meeting.  
Anne asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Dan Williams nominated James Young who respectfully declined. Please send nominations to Berkley via email. A vote for the Vice Chair position will be taken at the December meeting.
- Hospital Status Report
  - Providence: Had an MCI drill at Holy Family Hospital with a simulated active shooter response and practiced their activation plan and disaster triage using SALT triage tags. The goal in the future would be to have a drill at Holy Family and SHMC simultaneously for mass triage. Providence had 32 active shooter drill sessions at Providence hospitals this year and will continue more next year. Lindsay encouraged people to sign up for the FBI presentation on January 13<sup>th</sup> at the SHMC Auditorium. Registration is required.
  - Multicare: Dana Bosworth reported that injury prevention education is done for the year. Anne Raven mentioned that if hospitals are interested in having fire or transport EMS personnel for trainings to reach out.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jack Busch

- Financial reports for October 2025  
Jack reviewed the financial documents with the group and there were no questions or concerns.

- Final Approval of 2026 Budget
  - The initial 2026 budget was approved at the September meeting with no amendments. Anne asked if anyone had questions or concerns prior to final approval, and Jack summarized the proposed changes.  
A motion was made by Chris Wyrobek and was seconded by David Baird. None were opposed.
- Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the 2026 budget.
- Funding Requests
  - None

## REPORTS:

- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that the 2026 budget and task orders are being finalized, including the numbering nomenclature project for standardization of numbering in the county and determining names for all apparatuses. The 800 MHz radio project at hospitals is ongoing but getting close to being completed. The next IEFEC meeting is scheduled for after Thanksgiving.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt not present. Emailed report prior to the meeting. Respiratory Illness Data dashboard has been updated to include Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI) as the metric to measure community respiratory illness activity: [Respiratory Illness Dashboard- Spokane Regional Health District](#)
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff thanked everyone that participated in their site visit earlier this month and stated it went well. Official results will be sent in February. Two students from the last cohort passed the National Registry and are in the field, and the current cohort is going well.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania shared another cadaver lab opportunity on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Berkley has sent out the information to sign up. It is important that those who sign up show up to ensure all spots are filled.
  - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Case referred by AMR.
    - ACS KPI Reports

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

## NEW BUSINESS:

- EMS Transport for Hospice Patients: Dr. Travis Dierks  
Dr. Dierks shared that there is a concern that hospice patients may lose hospice status if they are transported by EMS and stated that Hospice of Spokane recommended on-scene EMS personnel contact the hospice provider on call to discuss if transport should be performed. After discussion, the group agreed to move this topic to the protocol committee for further discussion.  
**Action:** moved to protocol committee
- East Region EMS & Trauma Care Council Membership Applications for Approval
  - Jason Mayfield- New appointment  
Motion made by Dr. Nania and seconded by Dan Williams. None opposed.  
**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the application.
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA (06/29/2026-10/08/2026)
  - Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA (10/13/2026-01/29/2027)

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: Next meeting is Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for November
  - 11/18/2025 Double session. First session: 'BLS Airway' with instructor Shaun Pitts. Second session is 'Advanced Airway Ventilation' with Sheri Worle.
- City of Spokane: Anne Raven stated that SFD will be posting for 2 new paramedic positions for single role paramedics for the Behavioral Response Unit. 12-hour shifts/40 hours per weeks and will be working with licensed mental health counselors and substance use disorder professionals.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:29A.M.**

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council  
Meeting Minutes  
December 09, 2025, 9:00-10:30a.m.  
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom C & Zoom Virtual Meeting

Voting Members: SFD: Anne Raven, (alt) Tom Williams SVFD: David Baird, (alt) Dr. Stephen Godfrey, SCFD2: Eric Olson, (alt) Lindsay Pestana, SCFD3: Cody Rohrbach, (alt) Bill Dennstaedt, SCFD4: Dan Williams (alt) Mike Nokes, SCFD8: Tom Chavez, (alt) Chris Wyrobek, SCFD9: Jeff Reid, (alt) Dan Cecil, SCFD10: Andres Steevens, (alt) Don Malone, SCFD13: Daron Bement, (alt) Josh Ambach, AMR: Jack Busch, (alt) Tim Loncon, ALS: Treena Russell, (alt) James Bennett, LFN: Veronica Mitchell-Jones (alt) James Young, SHMC & Children's Hospital: Tiarra Dreckman, (alt) Lindsay Payton, SHMC: Liz Ciais, (alt) Lindsay Payton, Deaconess: Chris Gibbar, Valley Hospital: Richard Johnson, (alt) Dana Bosworth, Community Rep: Randy Olson, MPD: Dr. Jim Nania

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EMS Council Chair, Anne Raven, called the meeting to order and those present were noted on the attendance sheet.

Member Agency Representatives/Alternates & Advisory Representatives Present

Josh Ambach, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jim Bennett, Dana Bosworth, Jack Busch, Daron Bement, Tom Chavez, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Cody Rohrbach, Adena Sellars, Jeff Reid, Treena Russel, Dan Williams, James Young

Guest Present

Dr. Travis Dierks, Emily Fleury, Beth Hansen, Nathan Jeffries, Sierra Knutson, Jason Mayfield, Meagan McCoy, Ami Roy, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Kim Van Hout, Matthew Vinci, Martha-Ann Walston

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

**MINUTES:** Approval of November 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Randy Olson and seconded by Dan Williams

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the minutes.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Anne Raven

- Anne Raven gave her last remarks as chair, thanking the Council for their support, and the E-board for their work over the last two years, highlighting accomplishments such as rewritten bylaws, new paid positions, and a completed min-max assessment.
- 2026 EMS Office Share Fees will be sent in January. Please update Agency Roster with DOH prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Vote for Vice Chair Position
  - Nominations: David Baird (SVFD) nominated by Jeff Anderson and Cody Rohrbach. Dave accepted the nomination.

A motion to approve Dave Baird for the Vice Chair position made by Randy Olson and seconded by Dr. Nania. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve David Baird as the new Vice Chair of the Spokane County EMS Council. Vice chair duties will begin January 1, 2026.

- Hospital Status Report
  - Providence: Holy Family Hospital had a mystery patient drill with the special pathogens unit that provided good learning and determined areas of improvement. The 800 MHz radio update is almost complete as they are waiting for one more base station for Holy Family. Working on connecting with SREC for feedback capabilities. Additionally, an amateur radio scanner was put on the roof of Holy Family hospital for amateur radio partners to be able to communicate more broadly within the region. Continue to share the

- FBI training scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm at SHMC.
- Multicare: no report.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Jack Busch

- Financial reports for November 2025  
Jack reviewed the financial reports and there was no questions or concerns. A year-end report will be shared at the January meeting.
- Funding Requests
  - None

**REPORTS:**

- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach stated not much new to report regarding SREC and City of Spokane dispatch center update. Productive discussion occurring and more to come in January. The go live date for the new CAD system is delayed and yet to be determined.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that SHRD continues to participate in planning for FIFA World cup. Should know by the end of the month if Gonzaga University is chosen as a Base Camp. The planned FIFA Fan Zone for Spokane is opting to host two fan zones on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at the Gesa Pavilion in Riverfront Park. The Facility contractor for this is sitting in legal for review. Additionally, DOH is planning CHEMPACK TTX and Exercise with emergency management and public health partners in preparation for FIFA 2026.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff not present. Emily Fleury stated nothing new to report as they are in the middle of their current cohort.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania gave a summary of ACS data that was shared at the November QI Committee meeting which will be sent out.
  - Today’s QI meeting agenda includes:
    - Vote for 2026 KPI reporting dates.

**OLD BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- SANE Presentation: McCalle Feller  
McCalle Feller, Spokane Fire Department’s Special Calls Liaison, shared a handout explaining the role and current educational focuses which included Spokane specific training content for county-wide distribution for strangulation education, sexual assault response education, CPS & child abuse response, documentation expectations, and Code Sierra. McCalle explained more about Code Sierra, explaining that it would be a new dispatch code for sexual assaults. Code Sierra has been added to the protocol drafts and will be reviewed for approval in January. More information regarding trainings will be sent through the EMS Office as they become available.
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA (12/09/2025-03/20/2026)
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA (01/05/2026-06/01/2026)
  - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA (03/24/2026-07/03/2026)

**PROTOCOL COMMITTEE:** Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: Next meeting scheduled Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.
  - Working with The Heart Institute to streamline cardiac reporting from pre-hospital to hospitals. Would affect how agencies run ESO for cardiac calls.
  - Neonatal Resuscitation Program Training: working with Chelsea Riley from Providence on setting up a training opportunity for EMS personnel. Considering a train-the-trainer

method. More information to come early 2026.

- SALT Triage Tags Update: There are two options for tags, one with an attached wrist band and one without. Need to decide which is preferred and can move forward ordering. Will be discussed at the Protocol Committee meeting.
- Training Calendar: Tom is working with agencies to create a county wide training calendar. Tom will be emailing a request for agencies to send training opportunities to be shared county wide. Along with adding a training calendar, the EMS Office has discussed creating training videos for new protocols or techniques to be shared online for agencies to share with personnel.
- Protocol Manual Format Update: The protocol manual update is completed. Tom thanked the workgroup for their work and shared the new format with the group which lists the skills of each certification level for every protocol. Tom will be sending the draft form of protocols out to voting agency representatives prior to the January Council meeting to review. The protocols will be voted on for approval at the January meeting. Tom will be working on a video explaining the new format to share with agencies.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:**

- EMS Connect Classes for December  
12/16/2025 at 2pm 'Cardiac- Rhythm strips & ECG' with Dr. Travis Dierks
- **Next meeting: Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**MEETING ADJOURNED.**