

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2026, 9:00-10:30a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A/B & Zoom Virtual Meeting

Voting Members: AMR: Jack Busch (alt) *Tim Loncon*, Airway Heights: Mitch Metzger, (alt) *Mike Makela*, Advanced Life Systems: Treena Russell, (alt) *James Bennett*, Cheney FD: Jeff Anderson (alt) *Tom Jenkins*, DPVA: Amber Jones (alt) *Adena Sellars*, Kalispel Tribal EMS: *Vacant*, LFN: Veronica Mitchell-Jones (alt) *James Young*, SCFD2: Eric Olson (alt) *Lindsay Pestana*, SCFD3: Cody Rohrbach, (alt) *Bill Dennstaedt*, SCFD4: Dan Williams (alt) *Chris Wyrobek*, SCFD5: *Vacant*, SCFD8: Tom Chavez (alt) *vacant*, SCFD9: Jeff Reid (alt) *Dan Cecil*, SCFD10: Andres Steevens (alt) *Don Malone*, SCFD11: *Vacant*, SCFD12: *Vacant*, SCFD13: Daron Bement, (alt) *Josh Ambach*, SFD: Anne Raven, (alt) *Tom Williams*, SVFD: David Baird (alt) *Dr. Stephen Godfrey*, SIA: *Vacant*, SCSO: *Vacant*, SHMC & Children's Hospital: Tiarra Dreckman, (alt) *Lindsay Payton*, Holy Family: Liz Ciais, (alt) *Lindsay Payton*, Deaconess: Chris Gibbar, Valley Hospital: Richard Johnson, Community Delegate: Randy Olson, MPD: Dr. Jim Nania

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

Member Agency Representatives/Alternates & Advisory Representative Present

Jeff Anderson, Robin Albrandt, David Baird, Jim Bennett, Dana Bosworth, Daron Bement, Tom Chavez, Liz Ciais, Tim Loncon, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Cody Rohrbach, Dan Williams, James Young

Guests Present

Dr. Avi Baehr, Brett Roberts, Phil Clements, Rinita Cook, Jill Collier, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Sean Edwards, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Beth Hansen, Sierra Knutson, Tara Ohman, Brian Pulse, Jenn Rice, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Whit Spencer, Kim Van Hout

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

MINUTES: Approval of July 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Randy Olson; seconded by Tom Chavez. None opposed.

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Dan Williams

- Dan acknowledged the recent Spokane-area fires and commended the EMS agencies for their response and coordination. Despite the challenging and rapidly evolving conditions, the situation was handled well across the county.
- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence: Lindsay shared that the recent fires created an opportunity to utilize the DMCC to evacuate the VA hospital which was successful. Evacuation planning and drills will take place at St. Luke's in September. The 800 MHz radio system transition has been slow. The Spokane County Safety Alliance met last week with police and did a community debrief and discussed improvement plans.
 - Multicare: no report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for July & August 2026
Jack Busch was not present. Dan Williams shared the financial reports.

- Initial 2027 Budget Review
Jack Busch was not present. The Initial budget proposal will be emailed out for review and questions can be sent to Jack prior to the October meeting.
- Funding Requests
 - None

REPORTS:

- EMS Office Program Coordinator & Data Analyst: Tom Chavez/Chris Nielsen
 - Tom shared that some Spokane County EMS instructors attended the train the trainer NROC course hosted by Providence that was approved at the July EMS Council meeting, and that the logistics of having the class be available for all agencies need to be figured out. Tom is working on bringing PEAC Airway courses that would be available multiple times per year for different areas of the county. Tom sent a proposal for 2027 PEAC airway courses to be reviewed prior to next month's meeting. SCFD5 and Kalispel Tribal EMS have requested to be added to the county Handtevy account.
 - Chris met with the ESO product team and requested a quote for the new custom forms feature to potentially add custom countywide forms, which will be discussed at the QI meeting today. Chris will share last years stroke KPI data at the QI meeting.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: David Baird reported he was unable to attend the last meeting. Chief Cody Rohrbach shared there was a lot of discussion on wildfires and committees being developed. After action review for wildland fire to discuss fluidity of resources, mutual aid, auto aid, and working on pre identified evacuation zones/grids.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach reported a lot of construction for the new dispatch facility, with hope of moving in late fall.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present. Rinita Cook, East Region Executive Director, shared that the 2027-2029 strategic planning cycle started and that local councils will be asked to assist in some tasks. Local county councils will also need to add min/max reviews to be completed regularly. The regions were tasked with the trauma service assessment and will be working with the QI Committee to give recommendations to the DOH regarding trauma verification levels for hospitals. The next meeting is on September 9th at AMR in Spokane, and they will be discussing a grant for rural volunteer-based agencies for training equipment. Injury and violence prevention grants and EMS Course scholarship opportunities were sent out. Opioid curriculum is being reviewed by DOH, and if approved, will be distributed and available for EMS agencies to use in their education programs if they choose.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that the DOH is investigating potential contamination from glutathione treatments to firefighters and shared the following links in the chat:
 - [IAFF warns wildland firefighters about glutathione treatments after smoke exposure](#)
 - [Optimal Balance Pharmacy Issues Voluntary Nationwide Recall of Certain Lots of Compounded Glutathione](#)
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Liam Holeman not present
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania shared a presentation summarizing the Spokane-area fires response.
 - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
 - Case review referred by SHMC.
 - Stroke KPI
 - Advanced Airway Form

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- East Region EMSTCC Membership Applications for Council Approval
 - Tamara Drapeau- Reappointment
Motion to approve the application made by Dr. Jim Nania; seconded by Randy Olson

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

- Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications
 - EWU EMS Certificate Program Initial ESE Course (09/01/2026)
 - EWU EMS Certificate Program Initial SGA Endorsement Courses (9/08/2026)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The protocol manual has been updated to the new format and protocols are continuing to be updated on Handtevy. The next meeting is on Thursday, September 17th via Zoom. Tom shared a new protocol approval process, which would allow EMS Council members to review and comment on protocols prior to the Council meeting that they would be voted on for approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for September
 - Sept. 24th @ 2:00PM “Ouch, Something Bit Me: Bites, Stings, and Envenomation”
 - EMSCon Conference: May 22-23, 2027, at Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane WA
Link: [EMSCon 2027](#)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:51AM.