

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 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, was not present. EMS Council Executive 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, James Bennett, Jack Busch, Dan Cecil, Tom Chavez, Bill Dennstaedt, Mike Makela, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Lindsay Payton, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Treena Russell, James Young

Guest Present

Jim Akramoff, Dana Bosworth Jill Collier, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Beth Hansen, Jake Jensen, Meagan McCoy, Austin Pea, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Lance Strite, Whitman Spencer, Kelly Sunagel, Dr. Allison Turpen, Kim Van Hout

EMS Office Staff Present

Chris Nielsen, Berkley Van Hout

MINUTES: Approval of March 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by Randy Olson; seconded by Dr. Jim Nania. None were opposed.

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Dan Williams

- EMS Office Website Update: The EMS Office website has been updated and the EMS office has new email addresses to move away from Spokane City email addresses. Berkley will be sending out new email addresses and ask everyone to update their contact information.
- EMS Awards May 12th: Anne and Dr. Nania thanked everyone who submitted nominations and shared that the EMS office received a record number of nominations this year.
- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence: Lindsay Payton shared an educational opportunity about Human Trafficking on May 13th at 3-5pm at Sacred Heart Medical Center. Active shooter trainings are scheduled for June 8th at SHMC, and June 12th at Holy Family Hospital. Continuing planning and training for FIFA World Cup for MCI activations. The 800 MHz Radio system project has had delays but hoping to have more updates in the next few months. Equipment is installed and plan needs to be reviewed and approved, then training will need to take place.
 - Multicare: Dana Bosworth shared that Valley hospital will have an EMS BBQ on May 7th to celebrate EMS Appreciation Week and recognize the hard work and strong

partnerships that support our EMS community. More details to follow.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for March 2026
Jack shared the financial reports with the group.
- Funding Requests
 - None

REPORTS:

- EMS Office Program Coordinator & Data Analyst: Tom Chavez/Chris Nielsen
 - Tom gave a progress report on multiple projects:
 - County OTEP 5-year plan has been completed successfully; Tom will be checking with agencies to determine specific needs for training.
 - Neonatal Resuscitation Program: The protocol committee looked into the Handtevy course, including train the trainer options and training videos. More to come.
 - Surgical Cric video is done and vetted by MPDDs. Next protocol meeting will focus on cricothyroid procedure, kits and video. A strangulation training video is also coming and will need review by MPDDs.
 - Handtevy 5-year subscription renewal was approved and paid.
 - Planning for PEAK Airway classes is in progress. Need to determine instructor pay rate and facility needs. A preference for a mix of instructors from different agencies was noted.
 - A Training calendar is being set up on the new EMS website so agencies can submit their training opportunities that are open to all county providers.
 - Work is ongoing with Stryker and local hospitals to improve ECG transmission, with the goal of sending EKGs in real time.
 - Tom revisited the verified responder program to expand access to county providers, with potential grant funding and coordination with PulsePoint; Stryker may help manage batteries. More to come.
 - SALT triage tags have been distributed to agencies.
 - Law Enforcement agencies are hosting EMS training on April 25th 9am-4pm and looking for volunteers. Reach out to Tom if interested.
 - Discussion around future training funding and budgeting. Tom will create a proposal for upcoming training opportunities to be reviewed and approved by the Council.
 - Chris shared that he attended the WAVE conference in Texas at the beginning of the month and shared the biggest takeaway was that ESO will be coming out with custom validation. This will allow the Spokane County to choose validation rules for EMS reports. Custom forms will also be offered. Chris finished the data processing pipeline and now has access to patient level data and is finding data quality issues that will be addressed. Chris and Dr. Nania reviewed dashboards on the County oversight ESO account to determine areas for periodic review.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: David Baird not present.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau not present.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt emailed report and shared; continuing to monitor for measles cases: [Current Local Measles Activity | Spokane Regional Health District](#) and measles wastewater dashboard of CDA. [WastewaterSCAN Dashboard](#). The ARI metric for Spokane remained just under the transmission alter threshold as of last week. New Administrative Officer, Danny Scalise, started on April 13th.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff shared that

they are looking to change field time for Paramedic students which would extend the amount of time students are in the field. Students will work with a preceptor in the field during the didactic portion of the course and will gradually move into team leadership roles rather than running calls initially. Jim expressed the importance that agencies understand that students will be in the field sooner and not ready to lead calls. They are working on how to identify students that are in the beginning field time stage or in the capstone stage. More information to come. Signups for clinicals are done and Jim thanked hospitals who offered opportunities for students. Applications for the next cohort are open until the end of June.

- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Today's QI meeting agenda includes:
 - Airway KPI
 - Case review referred by PSHMC.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Protocol Manual Format for Approval

Tom reformatted the protocol manual after feedback was given and shared the new format. The new format will be updated on the Spokane EMS Council website and Handtevy. Motion to approve the new protocol manual format was made by James Young; seconded by Dr. Jim Nania. None were opposed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the protocol format.
- Exigent Blood Draw Request from SPD Update

Tom Chavez shared that the protocol committee reviewed and revised the County Operating Procedure for blood draws to include WAC and RCW rules regarding exigent blood draws requested by law enforcement. The group discussed the COP and emphasized that this process does not exceed patient care. The group agreed that county wide training will be needed and suggested a possible training video to include law enforcement. The group also requested that law enforcement provide the required signature document and blood draw kits. Motion to approve the county operating procedure made by Randy Olson; seconded by James Young. None were opposed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the blood draw county operating procedure.

NEW BUSINESS:

- East Region EMS & Trauma Care Council Membership Applications for Approval
 - Kimberly Van Hout: New appointment

Motion to approve the application made by James Young; seconded by Randy Olson. None were opposed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the application.
- Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications
 - Spokane Community College Initial ESE Course (04/10/2026)
 - Spokane Community College Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/06/2026-06/18/2026 AM)
 - Spokane Community College Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/06/2026-06/18/2026 PM)
 - Providence Health Training Initial EMT-SGA Course (04/28/2026-07/29/2026)
 - Providence Health Training Initial AEMT Course (06/19/2026-12/12/2026)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:

Tom shared the additional approved skills list from the WA DOH that was approved May 2025. The list will be added to the protocol manual, and Tom noted that there are a few skills that Spokane County providers will not be allowed to do regardless of WA state approved skills. Tom will send the list to EMS agencies. Tom also shared the 'Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Induction' and Buprenorphine/Naloxone protocol for review and approval. Agencies will not be required to carry Buprenorphine, but there is a protocol if agencies choose to, and providers must be trained before administering.

Motion to approve the protocols made by Randy Olson; seconded by Dr. Jim Nania. None were opposed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the protocols. The protocols will be sent to the WA DOH for review and approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for April
 - 04/21 at 2:00p.m “Drunk or Dying.”
- Advanced Life Systems new MPDD, Dr. Allison Turpen, was introduced.
- National Telecommunicator Week was April 12-18. The group thanked 911 operators and emergency dispatchers for their work.
- **Next meeting: June 9th** (No May meeting due to EMS Awards)

ADJOURNED AT 10:55AM