

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center Classroom D & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order. Berkley noted those present virtually on the attendance sheet, and those present in-person introduced themselves.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Mike Charter, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Mike Dawson, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Paul Priest, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Adam Richards, Chris Wyrobek

Guests Present:

James Akramoff (Providence), Dan Cecil (SCFD9), Nathan Denison (EMS Connect), Bill Dennstaedt (SCFD3), Tammie Drapeau (AMR), Linette Gahringer (Airlift NW), Deanna Jones (PSHMC), Denise McCurdy (PSHMC), Nicole Michaud-West (Multicare), Ken Mitchell (Multicare), Jaclyn Numata (Multicare), Bethany Osgood (ALTCEW), Bethany Pascoe (RediHCC), Lindsay Payton (Providence), Beth Perkins (PSHMC), Shaun Pitts (EMS Connect), Kyle Richardson (SRHD), Cody Rohrbach (SCFD3)

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of December 2022 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

➤ EMS Office Share Fees Due this month

Tom reminded agencies to submit their share fee payments to the EMS Office by January 31st.

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence Report: Adam Richards stated that staffing continues to be a challenge, and that they are continuing efforts to keep staff up to support patient volume. The Pediatric surge has slightly decreased, and there is currently lessened overflow of pediatric patients. They continue to work on hiring now that the winter graduating class is ready to begin working.
- Multicare Report: Ken Mitchell reported that they also continue to have significant challenges with staffing, and many holds in the ED continue while patients wait to be admitted.
- AMR: Paul Priest stated that staffing struggles continue everywhere, but they have been successful maintaining good staffing lately. Transport volumes have continued to increase, and the December report shows transport numbers close to Portland Oregon's numbers.
- Fire Agencies: Tom Chavez stated that there seems to be no significant issues with fire agencies staffing, as most can maintain staffing numbers without challenges.

➤ Point of order: Infectious Disease precaution

as most can maintain staffing numbers without challenges.

Tom brought up that after last month's Council meeting, there was an error with how the Infectious Disease Protocol was submitted to the state, the error being that once the EMS Council discussed the Protocol, the protocol committee made edits to the Protocol and submitted it to the DOH before bringing it back to the Council to review and approve. It was the understanding of the Protocol committee that the edits discussed by the Council would be ready to submit to the State. This protocol is currently on hold with the WA Dept of Health and was brought back to the Council today for review and discussion. Tom shared the most recent Order of the Secretary of Health Amending Order that was updated November 2022 which summarizes that every person in WA state must wear a face covering in healthcare settings. It also states that in some cases, in home settings could be considered healthcare settings if home healthcare services/hospice care is occurring. The order states "people who are not paid to provide health care, long term care, or personal care are exempt from the requirements to wear a face covering in that setting. Tom states that the conversion continues to be "when to wear a mask". Chief Jenkins of Cheney Fire stated that the Inland Empire Fire Chiefs discussed this topic at a recent meeting and are in agreement that a mask is important for suspected respiratory related illness calls, but not in agreement that a mask needs to be worn during all patient contact. After

further discussion, it was requested that the definition of healthcare setting and healthcare provider be clarified regarding EMS personnel to better understand when a mask is required. Dr. Nania included the question of whether this issue was dependent on indoor vs outdoor patient contact, or if there was a way to cover specific circumstances in a protocol. EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called a special meeting to order specifically for this topic.

Action: A special meeting for this topic will be held within one week. At least 40% of Council Members will need to attend for any vote to be made.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for December 2022
- Year-end Report for 2022

Jack presented the reports to the group.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- Behavioral Health Patient update:

Tom stated that the Department of Health has sent the Determination of General Patient Transport Destination protocol back again for more edits. The protocol committee will review and make the appropriate edits to resubmit.

- "Train the Trainer" Course update:

There has not been any movement forward on adding this program for Spokane County. The Spokane County MPD, Dr. Jim Nania, supports this program as an advanced airway management course, and states that it is similar to what local physicians have been working towards creating. Members discussed the challenge across agencies to complete the required number of intubations and wonder how to move forward with another expense on top of the expense of getting EMS personnel into ORs for intubation training, which seems to be the main concern in Airway Training. This program would ideally be a part of OTEP. The group also discussed the possibility to decrease or removing the required intubation numbers, and Dr Nania stated that he believes decreasing intubation numbers would be a mistake, and that there may need to send out formal surveys of OR experience, so that there can be improvements made for the future. The group agreed that survey would be beneficial, and Tom stated that he will create a survey that include opinions on adjusting the mandatory intubation numbers, workings towards a new local airway training course, or moving forward with the state chiefs approved course that was presented to the group last month.

Action: Tom will send out a survey to be returned in April, following the Airway KPI reports for QI.

- BLS Stroke assessment update: No new update.
- EMS Suboxone administration update:

This topic was brought up to the Council at last month's meeting, and Dr. Edminster stated that the next steps of this process would be to expand Paramedic scope of practice to allow Paramedics to administer Suboxone in the field. This will likely need to be a pilot study, which would likely be through the Behavioral Health unit, to get approved by the DOH. A group is meeting in February to discuss a plan to move forward through the behavioral health unit. If this program gets approved, Dr. Edminster would be able to design and create curriculum for those in the behavioral health unit to pilot this program, which could lead to an opportunity to expand this throughout the County.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Spokane DMCC system

Mike Lopez brought up the "hoax" active shooter situation that occurred at Lewis and Clark High School that had initial reports of multiple active shooter victims. Through further discussion it was identified that there is a need to improve the communications technology for mass care incidents of any kind. Multicare and Providence hospitals are currently working on creating a solution by adding new technology. Ken Mitchell from Multicare stated that in the original DMCC system that was last modified between 2016-2017, hospitals could accept patients without any warning, but with the recent event, recognized vulnerabilities in the matrix and that numbers needed to be updated. The DMCC plan currently in place requires many calls and radio tracking. The solution seems to be to move to a new radio system. Dr. Nania asked if DMCC was activated during this incident, and Ken stated that the phone number on the matrix was incorrect which caused a delay in activating the DMCC. By the time the incident was activated, it was already determined to be a hoax. Dr. Nania stated that external triage teams from hospitals team could be available when needed, and that there may be a need to practice this purpose. Ken included that

Emergency response teams have quarterly trainings. Ken said that the group working on updating this system will put together a report and look into updating to more current technology communication. Another update will come in the upcoming months.

➤ Hospital Tracking and Delays...: Paul Priest

Paul presented a motion to the Council for a letter from the MPD, Dr. Nania, to go to local facilities and EMS Providers addressing the need to maintain accurate hospital status in WATRAC, clarify that divert status is a request not to receive ambulances, and to inform facilities that transport agencies will no longer be waiting to give additional report when sent to triage. Paul stated that the system is overwhelmed, and we are seeing some failure points, and unnecessary delays in turnover that can be easily alleviated. Paul presented a report of OOS unit detail, which displayed over 500 bed delays for December 2022. Dr. Edminster suggested documentation that accompanies that patient in the case that they are not seen right away. After discussion, it was also stated that vitals taken during transport may need to be added to documentation, as some patients are not seen immediately. There were some questions regarding the statement 'if the patient still requests to be taken to a specific hospital, regardless of divert status, it is in the protocol, that EMS transport personnel is obligated to take the patients there' and Paul stated that he clarified this with the MPD. Adam Richard included that divert status needs to be respected as best as possible to maintain patient care in Emergency Departments. The motion has been amended to incorporate a protocol, and a letter with advisement of this protocol.

Action: It was M/S/P with the amendment to incorporate a protocol to send a letter from Dr. Nania and cosigned by EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez

➤ Trent Shelter: Dr. Joel Edminster

Dr. Edminster proposed that the protocol committee discuss creating a 'return to service' protocol. The Trent St. shelter has highlighted a system weakness, and a protocol in place that address low acuity return to service, including an alternative mode of transportation to reduce the use of non-emergency utilization of EMS resources.

Action: This topic will be discussed at the next protocol committee meeting in February.

➤ Recently Approved Training Course Applications:

- Deer Park Ambulance ESE Instructor Course (02/04/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: There are 14 protocols that are ready to be reviewed by the EMS Council and approved before March, which is when the next round of Protocols will be sent to the WA Dept. of Health. Tom will present some of them next month. The protocol committee will meet today, during the QI portion, as the QI meeting agenda was light. The Protocol committee meeting that was scheduled for January 19th is cancelled.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: No representative.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek Chief Wyrobek stated that the Chiefs met last week and discussed recruitment efforts county wide and formed a recruitment A Subcommittee, and that the annual training calendar is being created by the training committee. Revisions of the MCI chapter of the Fog is almost complete. John Leavell asked about if any RTF Training was being discussed, which Chief Wyrobek stated that it has been discussed at previous training committee meetings.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach There was no meeting in December. Cody told Adam Richards and Ken Mitchell that he would assist with any further discussions with SREC if needed regarding updating dispatch systems within the hospitals.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau The East Region EMS & Trauma Care Council met on December 14th. Tammie asked that any Spokane county agencies that use Providence's Live @ Nite to turn in their rosters to Providence so that they can verify their numbers. The East Region Council is reviewing the budget for next year and is looking at repurposing funds. If turnout for Live @ Nite is not good, they may provide those funds towards something else. There is the need for SEI's across the region, and if anyone is interested, please reach out for more information. Tammie addressed the North Spokane County response issue and said that an AMR unit was put into Station 41 (SCFD4), which seems to be working well.
- REDi Healthcare Coalition: Ashley Christoff not present.

- SRHD: Kyle Richardson not present.
 - Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Michelle Enslinger The next Advisory committee meeting will be held in March.
 - FAFB: Johnpatrick Adams not present.
 - QI Committee: Dr. Nania Dr. Nania reminded the group that the 2023 KPI Reporting dates were sent out and to get Airway KPI data ready for April. An Airway Training Cadaver lab will take place on January 23rd. All 12 spots have been reserved, and there are hopes that there will be another opportunity in the future.
- The QI meeting agenda includes:
- Protocol Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for January:
 - 01/24/23 @1800 PST “When Shit Hits the Fan” 2023 Pre-hospital Cardiac Arrest Update with Dr. Travis Dierks.
 - EMS Live @ Nite for January:
 - 01/10/23 @ 1830 PST “The ABCs of Pediatric Respiratory Emergencies” with Carrie Gigray, Paramedic, BS, MS
 - 01/26/23 @ 1830 PST “A Systematic Approach to Primary Assessment” with Daniel Ingalls, Paramedic
 - Tom stated that live meetings will continue and suggested that the EMS Council fund a meeting owl (conference meeting video and microphone) to continue having hybrid meeting models. This cost would be approximately \$1200
- Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the purchase of a meeting Owl.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order, and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Rinita Cook, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Mike Dawson, Dr. Joel Edminster, John Leavell, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Paul Priest, Dr. Jacob Rabe, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Brian Schaffer, Chris WYROBEK

Guests Present:

Bill Dennstaedt (SCFD 3), Tamara Drapeau (AMR), Michelle Ensminger (Providence), Deanna Jones (Providence), Veronica Mitchell-Jones (LFN), Beth Perkins (Providence), Shaun Pitts (EMS Connect), Dr. Ben Preiss (Multicare), Deanna Redmond (Airlift NW), Kyle Richardson (SRHD), Lee Venning (SFD)

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of January 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

➤ Hospital Status Report

- Providence report: Tom presented the report from Adam Richards, who was not present today, and stated that staffing shortages continue to be the primary challenge.
- Multicare report: Deb Walker reported that Multicare also continues to struggle with staffing.
- Transport agencies report: Paul Priest from AMR stated that things are going well.

Tom asked the group if the hospital status report should remain on the agenda each month, now that reports have been consistent each month, which the group agreed that this topic should remain, as it is helpful to know what trends are taking place at the Hospitals.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for January 2023

Jack presented the financial reports

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

- Spokane City Fire Chief, Brian Schaeffer, made a motion to form a mission statement within the EMS Council Financial Policy. The motion was brought up with the intent to identify use of the large sum of funds in the EMS Council account, along with a threshold of what shall remain in the account for future planning and saving. The Inland Empire Fire Chiefs Association has asked previously to discuss the large sum in the EMS Council Savings account as well and had intended to bring up this topic at today's meeting during the reports. After discussion, the group agreed that a workgroup be created to identify items that funds can be used towards for EMS Agencies to utilize. Some suggestions of what funds could be used for included new training courses, switching the Protocol App to HandTevy for all Spokane County EMS providers, regular Airway

Training Cadaver labs, and a Verified Responder Program that Dr. Nania has been working on. The goal of adding a mission statement is to address what agencies are receiving from the funds that they pay into each year for their providers.

Action: It was M/S/P to create a workgroup to meet with the Council Executive Board to develop a strategic plan and mission statement of what the savings account funds will be used for, and how much will need to remain in the savings account.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ Behavioral Health Patient update

Tom stated that the Determination of Patient Destination Protocol has been passed by the DOH and brought up that the Medical Writer that the EMS Office has been using no longer has the capacity to edit the approved protocols before they are posted to the App and EMS Office website. Tom stated that with the new EMS Office website update that took place at the end of last year, he can now access Word Press and edit the protocols. Tom has met with the medical writer, who has agreed to assist in training him to use Word Press for future protocol edits. Tom also brought up the option to switch from the currently protocol App to HandTevy, which would be more efficient for providers in the field. The protocol App will remain the same unless the group decides to go with something else.

➤ Hospital Letter

A letter was sent to local hospitals and transport agencies from the Chair, Tom Chavez and Medical Program Director, Dr. Nania, addressing the motion from last months meeting to provide Field Medical reports to move patients to triage sooner to get EMS transport back into the field. Paul Priest from AMR stated that the reports are being printed now with highlighted required fields and will begin implementing these reports once the prints are available. After further discussion, it was confirmed that the EMS reports are available on the Hospital EMR, just in a different tab than the triage notes. Dr. Rabe (Multicare) stated that most Physicians do not know that the EMS report is available and stated that he will bring this information to the next meeting. **Action:** Dr. Nania will send a letter with a description of how to access the EMS transport report for hospital personnel.

➤ Min./Max Update

Tom updated the group on the status of the Min/Max number assessment that began in June of 2022. After a lot of developments and discussions, Rinita Cook of the East Region EMS and Trauma Care Council recommended postponing the min-max assessment until the transport challenges in the North Spokane region are resolved. Rinita stated that a plan is in place with the DOH and North region transport agencies and explained that if there becomes a vacant response area, the DOH is required to open that area and take applications, which would affect min/max numbers for other agencies. Once the Min/Max assessment can resume and is complete, it is important that County councils are completing a Min/Max assessment every 2 years based off geographics and population growth of the area.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ EMS Training Program Applications for approval by EMS Council:

- SVFD Initial EMT Training Program

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the Training Program

➤ Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications:

- EMS Connect- Initial EMT-SGA Course (02/21/2023-03/27/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: The protocol committee will meet today during the QI portion. The following protocols need to be approved by the Council before they can be sent to the Department of Health in March.

- Acute epistaxis
- Asystole
- CPAP
- Adult Epinephrine
- Pediatric Epinephrine
- Excited Delirium
- Chest Discomfort (ACS)

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

REPORTS:

- **EMS WAC Revision:** Rinita Cook stated that they are currently working to create a Notice of public meeting (CR-102) to review recent work on Chapter 246-976 which is required to be open for review for 30 days. Once the 30 days is completed, they will move to CR-103 which will also take about 30 days. She said there is an anticipated start date of March 2023, but this is expected to change. WEMSIS rules are also being prepared for public review, which will discuss prehospital rules. Rinita will send the public meeting links once they are available.
- **Inland Empire Fire Chiefs:** Chris Wyrobek reported during the Treasurers report, as the Fire Chiefs wanted an update of the financial plans for the large sum of funds in the Council savings account.
- **SREC Board:** Cody Rohrbach reported that they are looking into options for a new CAD system and stated that there are good options available. They also continue to work on a feasibility study for a new dispatch center to accommodate the growth in the county, and to locate additional staff. They have expressed interest for a specific location with the County Commissioner and are looking into requirements for this location.
- **East Region EMS & TCC:** Rinita Cook reported that the 2023-2025 strategic plan was completed and will be submitted to the DOH this month for review. The Council is working on Injury Prevention proposals, as some facilities have asked for support in injury and violence prevention, and there were funds left over in that budget. If agencies are interested in getting funds for IVP, please reach out to Rinita. The Council also continues to discuss plans for funding for education, as the DOH requires 50% of funds towards programs for EMS education and IVP. The East Region Council continues to provide funds for EMS Connect, and Providence 'Live at Nite'. Rinita reminded agencies that are utilizing Live at Nite sessions to submit their rosters, as attendance has decreased, and they want to confirm if this remains a good use of funds. Information for Conference Scholarships will be sent out this month.
- **REDi Healthcare Coalition:** Ashley Christoff not present.
- **SRHD:** Kyle Richardson sent a report to Berkley which stated that somebody had asked at last months meeting if anybody is monitoring Covid-19. Kyle provided information of how to access this information which include SRHD monthly newsletter, a [Case Data link](#), and that the SRHD Epidemiology Department indicated that wastewater data is a good metric to watch.
- **Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training:** Michelle Ensminger not present.
- **FAFB:** Johnpatrick Adams not present.
- **QI Committee:** Dr. Nania
The MPDs met recently and discussed Trauma triage tools and stated that these will be revised by a subcommittee. Dr. Nania stated that Thurston County have EMTs in Hospital triage areas which has been helpful in initiating patient treatment. He also attended the NAEMS conference and stated that Physicians and Paramedics discuss many contemporary issues in EMS. The EMS Council funded another Cadaver Lab in January that had 12 students. Dr. Nania is hoping to do another in June and asked that the Council consider funding the tools required for future labs.
- Today's meeting agenda includes:

- Protocol Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for February:
 - 02/27/2023 1700PST ‘Stroke Assessment and Care in the Field of EMS’
- EMS Live @ Nite for February:
 - 02/13/2023 “Pulmonary Diseases” with Jacob Rabe MD
 - 02/28/2023 “Managing Dementia in the Field” with Amberley Havercroft, RN, BSN
- Tom stated that the EMS Council has been addressed by AMR that they are working to implement using 4-point soft restraints on gurneys on a voluntary basis for Behavioral Health transport calls due to increased safety concerns and incidents with medics. There was concern from some members regarding the current protocol that is in place for Restraints and that voluntary status could change once patients are in transport and one on one with a provider. There was also concern about the criteria that is in place to be placed in restraints. Paul Priest from AMR stated that patients have been compliant so far. It was suggested by the group to consider having more than one provider in the back during transport and to use restraints only when it is a clearly necessary. Dr. Maika Dang emphasized that there needs to be clarity of whether the patient has decision making capacity. Tom brought up the Restraints for Aggressive or Violent Patients protocol, which states that restraints for patients who pose a threat to themselves, or others is indicated as a last resort. Law Enforcement continues to show up to behavioral health calls to help with escalated situations. Chief Wyrobek stated that he can bring this to the Inland Empire Chiefs Association to discuss this further and will be in contact with AMR with any suggestions or concerns that come up.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center Classroom B & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Mike Dawson, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Chris Gibbar, Amber Jones, Veronica Mitchell-Jones, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Anne Raven, Adam Richards, Cody Rohrbach, Dan Williams, Chris Wyrobek

Guest Present:

Deb Bried (Multicare), Bill Dennstaedt (SCFD 3), Tiarra Dreckman (Providence), Tamara Drapeau (AMR), Michelle Ensminger (Providence), Kris Hansen (WADOH), Richard Johnson (Multicare), Deanna Jones (Providence), Lori Markham (SREC), Denise McCurdy (Providence), Nicole Michaud-West (Multicare), Mike Nokes (SCFD 4), Beth Perkins (Providence), Doug Presta (CWU), Kyle Richardson (SRHD), Temple Yardis-Arnold (Multicare), James Young (LFN)

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of February 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

- EMS Awards Nominations due March 31st to the EMS Office
Tom reminded everyone to send their nominations for EMS Awards to Berkley. Dr. Nania included that the Medical Society will be presenting an AED to the Paramedic of the year award winner.
- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence report: Adam Richards stated that they continue to work aggressively on staffing and that he has noticed an increase in social work admits. Approximately 80 beds are being occupied by patients who are ready to be discharged but do not have anywhere to go due to full capacity and low funding for long term care facilities. Providence has worked with legislators and local resources in an attempt to resolve this issue, but the challenges with healthcare funding have made it difficult.
 - Multicare report: Richard Johnson, the new ED Manager at Valley Hospital, reported that they are working on implementing a process with EMS to standardize patient hand off from EMS to the ED. Temple Yardis-Arnold (Deaconess) stated that they are working on the same process with EMS. Dr. Nania asked for feedback regarding if Physicians have been able to find and access EMS reports on their EHR. Jaclyn Numata (Deaconess) had sent an email stating that most personnel knew about this option but were not using it, and that they have begun using it more. Deb Walker (Valley) stated that reports are not always crossing over and emphasized that if the incorrect CSN number is added, that they will not have access to the report. Jack Busch (AMR) stated that they have seen a 10-hour reduction in ED bed delays since implementing this process. Deer Park Ambulance is working to submit the same reports into EPIC.
- Min/Max Assessment
Tom met with the WA Dept. of Health and Rinita Cook (East Region EMS & TCC) on March

13th to discuss the ongoing transport issues in the north region of Spokane County. The DOH has requested that Spokane County resume collecting min/max data to be submitted. Tom and Rinita will review the data and present it to the Council before submitting it to the DOH. The data that has been collected represents min/max numbers through September of 2022. Tom explained that he will need data from November 2022- present, specifically from the north region transport and fire agencies, because this is the primary area being affected. Tom will send an email with a time frame of when this data needs to be submitted by.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for February 2023

Jack presented the reports to the group. Randy Olson asked the group to consider a plan to protect the funds in the savings account after the recent closing of the Silicon Valley bank, considering that amounts only up to \$250k were protected. Tom stated that the council will discuss creating a finance committee to discuss this topic later in today's meeting.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ The Airway Train the Trainer discussion

Tom acknowledged that there will be a class in Wenatchee held by the Fire Chiefs Association to present the 'Train the Trainer' course that was presented to the Council a few months ago. There was continued discussion that Spokane County wants to provide its own customized airway course that local Physicians are willing to assist in creating. Dr. Nania explained that this Fire Chiefs approved course is already established, and that Spokane County can customize it and would not have to put in as much work into creating a brand-new course. Some concerns were brought up about who would be able to teach this course, as some members believe that Airway training should be led by Physicians only. It was suggested to send a few representatives to attend this course in Wenatchee on May 24/25 to explore if this would be a good option for Spokane. Dr. Dang suggested a separate meeting with stakeholders of this process to discuss a plan of how an Airway training course would be implemented in Spokane County and believes that there is a good opportunity to get universal airway training to all agencies. It was also suggested that it would be an appropriate use of Council funds to sponsor individuals to attend the course in May. Dr. Nania shared concern that there aren't enough Physicians to teach airway courses regularly, and that sending Paramedics to learn to teach Airway courses would be beneficial and would put an airway expert at most agencies. Tom stated that he will send the approximate total of what it will cost to send individuals to this course in May, and the group agreed that the use of Council funds to sponsor one Physician, two Paramedics and one EMT to attend is appropriate. Tammie Drapeau emphasized that having a training course that was set up by the Council would be beneficial in training all personnel the same. Tammie agreed to send information from Counties that are already implementing county wide training.

Action: It was M/S/P to send one Physician, two Paramedics and one EMT to the train the trainer course which will be funded by the Council.

➤ Patient Restraints

At last month's meeting, there was a discussion that AMR was working on a policy to implement using restraints for behavioral health patients and possibly sending two riders in ambulances during behavioral health patient transport to ensure the safety of providers after having multiple instances of dangerous scenarios for their crew. Concerns were brought up regarding if this followed the County Protocols, which Tom Chavez suggested that this topic be discussed by the protocol committee. Chief Wyrobek acknowledged that this proposed procedure is in conflict with a current standard protocol and there needs to be a formal request to review the current protocol. The Council cannot give a blanket statement that an extra rider can ride along with every behavioral health transport, as this would affect many agencies ability to continue full

operations. Jack Busch supports a formal request to review the Patient restraint protocol. Tom asked AMR to provide specific instances in order for the Protocol committee to make the best recommendations. It was also brought up that any change to this protocol will need to be vetted by legal counsel, as the use of restraints may be in violation of patients' rights.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Finance committee creation
- Tom shared that a work group was created after the February Council meeting to discuss the accumulation of Council funds, and to create a plan of what these funds will be used for in the future. After reviewing the bylaws, it was acknowledged that the Council needs to have a finance committee, in addition to having a Treasurer. Tom proposed that the council have a financial committee report at future meetings in addition to the treasurer's report, and that the Council Treasurer position, currently held by Jack Busch, would be the chairperson of the Finance committee. The Executive council will meet to discuss the direction of a finance committee, but Tom stated that the EMS council needs to create a mission statement that will guide the EMS council and its finance committee. Jack made a motion to have the finance committee take part as a mission statement committee. Chris Wyrobek amended the motion to include that the finance committee also take part in short- and long-term planning, and all financial responsibility for the EMS Council. Jack stated that the finance work group met and created a list of goals which includes establishing a mission statement, annual budget proposals, review and edits of the bylaws as appropriate, create a 2-, 4-, and 6-year strategic plan, and identify investment strategies. The first official meeting of the finance committee will focus on creating a mission statement and a 2-year strategic plan. The finance committee will be made of up the same members who attended the original work group meeting. Tom also asked the group to send any ideas for a mission statement to Berkley.

Action: It was M/S/P with for the finance committee to create the EMS Council mission statement with the amendment of the finance committee being responsible for all fiscal planning for the EMS Council.

- County wide Handtevy app
Tom Chavez brought up that the finance work group discussed the cost of a county wide Handtevy program that would be funded by the Council. Most agencies, with the exception of Cheney Fire Department and Spokane County Fire District 3 already use Handtevy independently. Tom suggested that this would create a seamless transition between agencies for patient records, and protocol updates if the EMS Council was the 'parent' of this application. Tom shared the quote that he received from Handtevy which included a one-time set up, as well as the annual cost which was quoted to cost \$39,460. Each year after that would cost about \$31,820 which would be the contracted rate for 3 years. Tom explained that agencies that have already paid for their agencies individual Handtevy access would either finish their contract, then later filter into the EMS Council account, or suggested a possible reimbursement. Tom will ask the vendor what they can do for the agencies who have already paid. Dr. Nania asked if the EMS Council could withstand this amount annually, which the finance work group decided that it was sustainable. Anne Raven (SFD) made a motion to move forward with the discussion of a county wide Handtevy account.

Action: It was M/S/P to move forward with discussion a County wide Handtevy account with an attempt to renegotiate or receive reimbursement options from the vendor for agencies that have already paid.

- Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications:
 - EMS Connect- Initial EMT-SGA Course (03/28/2023-04/17/2023)
 - SCFD9- Initial IV Therapy Endorsement Course (04/08/2023-05/11/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: Protocols for approval by Council:
 - Unstable Narrow Complex Tachycardia

- LVAD
- Pulmonary Edema
- Spinal Motion Restriction
- Stable Narrow Complex Tachycardia
- Stable Wide Complex Tachycardia
- Unstable Wide Complex Tachycardia
- Vfib. Pulseless Vtach

Action: It was M/S/P to approve protocols with the exception of the Unstable Narrow Complex Tachycardia and Unstable Wide Complex Tachycardia protocols, which will be sent back to the Protocol committee to edit.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: No representative
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek
They continue working on the hiring and have 5 academies between career and volunteer positions, and the Training division remains very busy. Wildland season is approaching as well which also is requiring training. They are working on a process to simplify burn restrictions for the public to better understand as there are conflicts between local, county, state restrictions. The FOG revisions are continually ongoing, as they are consistently reviewing the many chapters.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach
Chief Wyrobek gave the SREC Board report and stated that the 2-week radio updated went well, and that work towards new CAD system updates continue.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau
No new report. Tom reminded that group that Min/Max data collection will resume, and Tom will work with East Region EMS & TCC to get the data reviewed.
- SRHD: Kyle Richardson
The Medical Reserve Corps of Spokane County's last day providing medical triage at TRAC was March 9th. The Camp Hope/TRAC emergency proclamation ended on March 3rd. SRHD's immunization team has been doing immunization outreach and various shelters, providing COVID-19, Flu and adult vaccines.
- RediHCC: Kristina Hansen
The REDi Health Care Coalition's contract ended at Spokane Regional Health District on March 3rd. An email was sent out to the Coalition members and partners from Travis Linares-Hengen from DOH announcing changes to who to contact about REDi and Health Care Coalition work. The administrative body and fiduciary component for the Health Care Coalition are temporarily with DOH/Healthcare Preparedness Program. The Health Care Coalition has not folded. The membership and partnerships remain in place. Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) grant deliverables are required to complete. One of the activities is the Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE). Kristina and the exercise designers are wanting to partner with EMS agencies across the Health Care Coalition to exercise and identify the gaps in our system including prehospital. Reporting these gaps will help inform future work and inform ASPR about what is needed in our Rural Communities across the state. The Northwest Healthcare Response Network has taken on statewide activities to maintain for the Health Care Coalitions. The activities include: WATrac, Statewide Situational Awareness and Situational Reports for Healthcare, Engaging with Stakeholders across the state to develop the report further, Communications Drills, Hazards Vulnerability Analysis (HVA), and Engaging with Coalition members and Stakeholders across the state to inform the HVA for each region. Please contact redi-info@nwhm.org for any questions regarding the statewide activities identified above.

Please contact Kris Hansen at Healthcare.Prepare@wa.gov for partnerships and information regarding REDi Health Care Coalition, ASPR grant deliverables and activities, and attending meetings that REDi employees would have attended

- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Michelle Ensminger
The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held March 30th at 9:00 am.
- FAFB: Johnpatrick Adams not present.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Today's meeting agenda includes:
 - Adult Case Review referred by PSHMC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for March:
 - 03/20/2023 @ 1700 "Lines/Tubes and Catheters" Register online:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/583991736932071261>
- EMS Live @ Nite for March:
 - 03/14/2023 @ 1830 PST "Dealing with Death and Dying in EMS" with Crystal Garcia, RN, BSN
 - 03/30/2023 @ 1830 PST "TBD"
- Central Washington University: Doug Presta
 - March 24th -26th CWU Conference. Registration still open.
- EMS Journal Club
 - Dr. Maika Dang and Dr. Joel Edminster are hosting a meeting at Lumberbeard Brewing on March 18th at 7pm to discuss an article on Dual Sequential Defibrillation
- Diversion status
 - Anne Raven brought up a concern with the downtown hospitals frequently being on divert at the same time, and that patients that don't have accessible transportation once discharged are taken to hospitals further away and are struggling to return home. This is specifically a concern for the homeless population who frequent the downtown area. Anne brought up a specific instance with the BRU, that crews did not want to take a patient to the ED on divert, regardless that it was on the Hospitals campus. The EMS Council Chair and Medical Program Director created and sent a letter to hospitals to address this issue, which addressed that the County EMS protocols suggest that patient destination is to be determined by the patient and/or transport agencies. Members of the group stated that this letter was a step in the right direction, and Tom emphasized that as long as communication remains open on this topic, there is opportunity to work towards improvement.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center Classroom D & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Dave Campanella, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Chris Gibbar, Amber Jones, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Adam Richards, Cody Rohrbach, Brian Schaeffer, Dan Williams, Deborah Walker, Chris Wyrobek,

Guest Present:

Jim Akramoff (Providence), Patrick Bavaro (HandTevy), Ashley Christoff (NWHRN/WATrac), Jill Collier, Rinita Cook (East Region EMS & TCC), Dr. Scott Cosner (HFH), Mike Dawson (SFD), Bill Dennstaedt (SCFD3), Tamara Drapeau (AMR), Michelle Ensminger (Providence), Howard Johnson (MultiCare), Denise McCurdy (Providence), Nichole Michaud-West (MultiCare), Diane Morgan (MultiCare), Bill Nokes (SCFD 4), Mike Nokes (SCFD 4), Jason Norris (DOH), Jaclyn Numata (MultiCare), Beth Perkins (Providence), Jake Pirtle (MultiCare), Doug Presta (CWU), Kyle Richardson (SRHD), David Sewell (Airlift NW), Hailey Thacker (DOH), Lee Venning (SFD), James Young (LFN)

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of March 2023 Minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

- EMS Awards Presentation: Tuesday May 9th

The Executive Committee met and have chosen the award winners. The awards presentation will be held after a brief Council business meeting on May 9th. The location is to be determined, and Berkley will send more information once a location is decided. The meeting schedule for that day will be as follows:

9:00-10:00 a.m. QI Committee

10:00-10:15 a.m. Council Meeting

- Hospital Status Report

- Providence report: Adam Richards stated that Providence is no longer requiring that masks be worn for personnel not involved in direct patient care. Mike Dawson asked if transport agencies should request that their crews wear a mask when delivering patients to the hospitals, and Tom reminded the group that the EMS protocol states that EMS will follow the facilities guidelines. Adam sent out an email stating that Providence will not be requiring EMS personnel to change their current practice but will continue to encourage masking and provide masks for any providers.
- Multicare report: Jaclyn Numata stated that the ER is requiring nurses to wear masks for respiratory patients.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for March 2023
Jack presented the financial reports

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

➤ Finance Committee report:

The Finance Committee had their first meeting last month and discussed a mission statement and vision statement for the EMS Council and finance committee. Jack presented the proposed mission statement to the group to be reviewed and voted on. The Finance committee also discussed creating a 'rainy day' account which would hold a minimum of two years' worth of the annual operating expenses for the Council, and to create a capital expense fund for larger one-time purchases. Jack explained that he is working on a new funding request process for council members, which would require all funding requests to be submitted to the finance committee for review, and if approved would then be brought to the Council for approval.

Action: Its was M/S/P to approve the following mission statement for the EMS Council: The Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council will work to reduce death and disability from sudden or serious injury and illness in Spokane County through the development and coordination of a comprehensive, progressive, and collaborative EMS system.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Patient Restraints:

This topic was brought up at the last Council meeting, and AMR has agreed to provide data on the areas where they have implemented this strategy. Once this data is received, the Protocol Committee will move forward with reviewing the patient restraint protocol.

- Min/Max Update:

Tom Chavez thanked everyone for completing and submitting their min/max assessments. Rinita Cook from the East Region EMS&TCC prefaced that the East Region Council, Spokane County EMS Council, WA Department of Health, and North Spokane EMS agencies have been in conversation for approximately 2 years regarding the transport situation in the North Spokane area. Rinita requested that the Spokane County Council review the min/max data and decide today to increase the number for ALS services based on the presentation regarding the trauma response area 3201, which encompasses Spokane County Fire District 4 boundaries. Currently, Spokane county has a min/max of 1 BLS license and 2 ALS licenses. Rinita shared a comparison of Spokane County vs Snohomish County, which showed that Spokane County had a larger number of 911 transports, but a much smaller number of AMBV services and ambulance vehicles. The recent data that was submitted shows a significant amount of 911 transports that Fire District 4 was unable to respond to, which resulted in transport from an outside agency. It was identified by the East Region Council, and the WA Department of Health that agencies were out of compliance with the regional EMS and trauma care plan. Spokane County Fire District 4 has submitted an ALS level ambulance verification service application, which would require a min/max increase for Spokane County. This topic will be brought to the East Region EMS Council on May 3rd. Mike Nokes (SCFD4) stated that the application is to remain in TRA 3201 and provide backup ALS services to AMR in that area. A concern of non-compliance with the regional plan and WAC relating to response in TRA 3201 came up during this discussion, which has been brought up to the Department of Health. Deer Park Ambulance included that they would remain available to respond if requested, and that they intend to increase interfacility transport. Rinita stated that all min/max data that was submitted for May 2021-November 2022 was reviewed by the DOH and determined significant gaps in response and that there is a need to look at services needed for this response area. Jason Norris from the Department of Health provided a link for the EMS agency trauma verification process for anyone who would like to review.

<https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs/530149.pdf?uid=643587e660a07>

Action: It was M/SP to approve the increase of the ALS min/max number by 1 with the amendment to include that the increase would be specific to TRA 3201.

- The Airway Train the Trainer discussion:

3 Paramedics and 1 EMT were selected to attend the Airway Train the Trainer Course in Wenatchee, WA on May 23rd - 24th. The attendees will meet with Dr. Nania and Tom Chavez to discuss the guidelines of what Spokane County would need for the possibility of adopting this program. Tom encouraged any Physicians to join this meeting to discuss their expectations and questions. There is still concern regarding funding a County-wide airway course, the experience and quality of airway training, and the time commitment of this course. Dr. Nania stated that if this course seems beneficial from the attendees, the group could create a clear plan on how to implement the course locally. Tom states that the plan is to send 4 ambassadors to the course with a set of parameters to get preliminary questions answered. The ambassadors will then report what they learned. If they are in support of this course to be implemented county wide, then the Council and local physicians can discuss the next steps.

- **HandTevy Update:**

A county wide HandTevy program was discussed at last month's meeting and a plan was made to request reimbursement for agencies that have already paid their subscription for the year. HandTevy has agreed to reimburse agencies a pro-rated amount once a purchase date is decided. Tom explained that the set-up fees are required for all agencies so that they can access individual accounts under the County. New clients (agencies) that do not currently used HandTevy will have higher set up costs. The Council is being offered a discounted rate if they agree to a 3-year term. Patrick Bavaro from HandTevy attended the meeting to answer any questions. Patrick stated that a migration to the new system will take place in the next 45-60 days, and that set up fees cover the integration from the old system to the new system. Tom stated that because this topic was brought up before the finance committee was created, this purchase would not go through the committee. Jack Busch, finance committee chair, quickly reviewed the budget and stated that this purchase is sustainable.

Action: It was M/S/P to purchase a County wide HandTevy program with EMS Council funds. Tom Chavez will move forward with this process and send an update once information is available.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications:

- Providence Health Training Initial EMT- Supraglottic Airway Endorsement Course (04/18/2023-08/03/2023)
- Providence Health Training Initial ESE Instructor Course (04/20/2023)
- SVFD Initial EMT-Supraglottic Airway Endorsement Course (04/19/2023-06/01/2023)
- SVFD Initial ESE Instructor Course (04/28/2023)
- Providence Health Training Renewal ESE Instructor Course (05/05/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- **Protocol Committee update:**

The following protocols were approved by the WA Department of Health:

- Adult Seizures
- Pediatric Seizures
- Midazolam
- Infectious Disease

The Infectious Disease protocol was approved by the Dept. of Health, and because of new State masking guidelines, the protocol was slightly changed to state that EMS responders shall don medical gloves, eye protection, and consider an isolation mask, and that EMS responders shall abide by the healthcare facilities requirements for wearing a mask. Dr. Edminster asked to include a note including a statement based on the Secretary of Health updates in the case of a future

pandemic. A vote was taken to modify the protocol to state that Spokane County EMS will comply with the Secretary of Health order while it is in effect.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the edits to the protocol. Tom will submit this version to the WA Dept. of Health.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: Mike Lopez stated that the revisions will be completed by the end of the year.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek reported that a workgroup was created to look at the process for burn restrictions and how to communicate those restrictions with the public for better understanding. Wildland refreshers and recruit academies are ongoing and completing a lot of training. The FOG revision continues, and Chief Wyrobek asked about a review of triage protocols. Tom stated that he will bring this to the protocol committee and report back to the fire chiefs.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach stated that they are continuing the process of a new CAD system and have 5 submissions that they will be looking at and hoping for a decision soon.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau reported that a special meeting for strategic planning took place on May 31st. A Special meeting to approve the final draft of the strategic plan will be held on May 3rd.
- SRHD: Kyle Richardson: no report.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Michelle Ensminger stated that the last meeting held in March had good attendance, and the application for 2023-2024 for the Paramedic course is now available. The current class has had good field involvement, and Michelle thanked SFD and AMR for their contribution. There are open position for EMS Instructors on the Providence job portal.
- FAFB: Johnpatrick Adams: no report.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Today's meeting agenda includes:
 - Airway KPI data reporting

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for April:
 - 04/12/2023 @ 1700PST "Keeping your Head & Neck in the Game" with Dr. Stanton
Register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6578467559201982301>
 - Dr. Travis Dierks asked agencies if they have supplies that they can donate or need to get rid of for upcoming EMT courses, please reach out to Dr. Dierks or Shaun Pitts
- EMS Live @ Nite for April:
 - 04/11/2023 @ 1830PST "Language Matters" with Carrie Gigray, Paramedic, BS, MS
 - 04/27/2023 @ 1830PST "Simple" Complicated Falls with Oliva Logan, Paramedic, BS.
- WSU Cadaver Lab for Airway training is being set up for June. Berkley will send an email with more information once it is available.
- Chief Schaeffer presented a pin to Dr. Joel Edminster and gave a short speech to recognize Dr. Edminster continued service with Spokane Fire Dept.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
Spokane Valley Fire Administration

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley notes those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Mike Lopez, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Gino Palomino, Dr. Jacob Rabe, Anne Raven, Adam Richards, Cody Rohrbach, Brian Schaeffer, Dan Williams, Chris WYROBEK

Guest Present:

Jim Akramoff, Jill Collier, Mike Dawson, Tamara Drapeau, Denise McCurdy, Nicole Michaud-West, Diane Morgan, Mike Nokes, Jaclyn Numata, Jake Pirtle, Dr. Ben Preiss, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, James Young

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of April 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

➤ EMS Awards for 2022 service:

The awards presentation took place following a short Council business meeting.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve suspending the regular meeting process to make time for the awards.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for April 2023

Jack presented the financial reports

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

➤ Finance Committee: Jack Busch

Jack shared that there will be new funding request process for agencies and/or individuals wishing to get projects funded by the Council. A funding request form will become available, and once completed, will be presented to the finance committee. If the request gets approved by the finance committee, it will be presented to the Council, along with all documentation, for approval. All requests will need to be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the monthly Council meeting which the project is intended to be presented at. All annual or multiyear proposals will need to be submitted before the following years annual budget is approved. The funding request document will be available on the EMS website, and Berkley will send out a notice once the document becomes available.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ HandTevy Update:

Tom shared that the Council funds for this project have been submitted, and that all agencies should have been contacted by HandTevy.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications
 - EMS Connect- Initial ESE Instructor Course (05/25/2023)
 - EMS Connect- Refresher ESE Instructor Course (05/26/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:
Recently approved protocols will be sent to all EMS Agencies and will be updated on the App and on the EMS website soon.

REPORTS:

No reports due to the EMS Awards.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for May:
 - 05/09/2023 @ 1700 PST “No Pressure... Nothing Shocking, About Shock”
 - Register online: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7212098518744161117>
- EMS Live @ Nite for May:
 - 05/09/2023 @ 1830 PST: TBD
 - 05/25/2023 @ 1830 PST: TBD
- WSU Cadaver Lab: June 7th. Berkley will send information once it becomes available.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom C

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, John Leavell, Dr. Jim Nania, Paul Priest, Anne Raven, Adam Richards, Cody Rohrbach, Dan Williams, Deborah Walker, Chris Wyrobek

Guest Present:

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, Dan Cecil, Ashley Christoff, Mike Dawson, Tamara Drapeau, Emily Fleury, Tom Jenkins, Deanna Jones, Denise McCurdy, Nichole Michaud-West, Ken Mitchell, Mike Nokes, Jaclyn Numata, Bethany Osgood, Lindsay Payton, Beth Perkins, Jeff Reid, Dillon Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, Dan Ward, James Young

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of May 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

➤ Nominations for Vice-Chair

The Vice-Chair, Gino Palomino, has submitted a notice to the Executive committee that effective July 1st, he will be resigning from his position as the EMS Council Vice-Chair, as he is retiring. Duties of the new Vice-Chair will become effective July 1st and will end December 31st. The Vice-Chair will take over the Chair position beginning January 1st. A 30-day notice is required if the Vice-Chair cannot fulfill the duties of the Chair position, and another election for Vice Chair and Chair would take place at the annual meeting in December. Tom Chavez opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair, and Mike Nokes (SCFD4) nominated Chief Chris Wyrobek. There were no other nominations.

Action: Chief Chris Wyrobek accepted the nomination.

➤ EMS Award: Outstanding Lifetime Service:

Tom acknowledged Dr. Greg Cover and presented an award for Outstanding Lifetime Service. Dr. Cover was unable to attend the EMS Awards presentation in May.

➤ Hospital Status Report

No report given from Providence or Multicare.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

➤ Financial reports for May 2023

Jack presented the financial reports.

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

➤ Finance Committee

A funding request form was submitted to the finance committee to review and give feedback to decide if the project could be funded by the EMS Council. The Finance committee will meet to review the request and will share their recommendation at the July 11th Council Meeting. The funding request form will soon be added to the EMS website, and Berkley will send a notice

when it becomes available.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ Airway Train the Trainer Course:

Four Spokane County EMS personnel attended the Airway Train the Trainer Course in May and submitted an evaluation of the course to the County MPD, Dr. Nania, and Council Chair, Tom Chavez. Tom shared a summary of the evaluations, which suggested that this course could be implemented in Spokane County. The individuals who attended were given material to be able to teach local EMS personnel who are interested in becoming trainers of the course. There was discussion of whether physicians or paramedics should be teaching this course, with an emphasis that the techniques being taught would need remain consistent between all agencies. It was recommended that there be physician oversight of the course material, and that physicians and paramedics could teach the course once consistent material was decided. It was also suggested to complete a funding request for the EMS Council to host a training course for 1-2 paramedics from each agency, and Physician Advisors so that every agency has a trainer. A motion was made to discuss setting a quarterly meeting for Physician Advisors to discuss the course material and protocols that need to be reviewed before bringing them to the Council for approval. Council member Chris Wyrobek made an amendment to the motion to discuss this topic during the Protocol committee meeting that met following the Council meeting.

Action: It was M/S/P to discuss the option of a quarterly meeting to work on protocols and review the material for the Train the Trainer course, with the amendment to move the discussion to the protocol committee meeting.

➤ Handtevy update:

All Spokane County agencies have started transitioning to the County-wide HandTevy account. Tom will send a tutorial for agencies to review.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ Grant Funding for Dementia Training Development:

Bethany Osgood from Aging and Long-Term Care of Eastern Washington shared a presentation regarding the Legislative Grant Funding for Dementia Training development for First Responders in WA State and asked the Council for assistance in moving forward to implement State-wide training. Berkley will be sending the information via email to review, and feedback can be sent to Bethany.

➤ SCFD4 AID application:

Spokane County Fire District 4 has completed and submitted an application to the WA Department of Health requesting an upgrade from Aid service verified license to an ALS ambulance service verified license in Spokane County. The approval of a min/max number increase was passed at the April meeting. The group reviewed and discussed questions pertaining to the application, which included questions about mutual aid. Chief Wyrobek stated that “Mutual aid between a private, for-profit transport organization and a fire service in Spokane County does not exist. Mutual and Automatic Aid agreements exist between fire service agencies, however mutual aid is not a component of the ASB contract to my knowledge”. The East Region EMS and Trauma Care Council will review the application on June 14th and submit feedback to the Department of Health within 45 days.

➤ Advanced Life Systems Inc. Inter-County Medical Control Agreement:

Dr. Nania shared that a Yakima County Ambulance service, Advanced Life Systems Inc., is requesting inter-facility transport in Spokane County while continuing to practice under Yakima County Protocols. Dr. Nania stated that if a transport agency was going to be stationed in Spokane County, but follow different county protocols, that it would need to be endorsed by the Council. After discussion, it was a unanimous decision that the document will need to be amended, as the Council does not support an agency working under a different counties protocols

while being stationed in Spokane County, as it would be challenging to adapt to and could have an impact on patient care.

Action: This document will not be signed. Dr. Nania will review, and discuss amending the document with the WA Department of Health

- Recently Approved EMS Training Course Applications
 - SVFD: Initial ESE Instructor Course (06/14/2023)
 - Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA Course (06/08/2023-09/09/2023)
 - Providence Health Training: Refresher EMT Course (06/08/2023-06/12/2023)
 - Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA Course (06/12/2023-09/06/2023)
 - SCFD4: Initial ESE Instructor Course (07/19/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:
Updates to the Protocol manual were completed on May 17th. Some formatting issues on the protocol app and website have been fixed. The Protocol committee will meet today following the Council meeting.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: no representative
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek: no new report
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach: SREC continues to evaluate options for a new CAD system. They are currently touring other dispatch facilities to evaluate real world application of CAD to help with the final determination. SREC received request from Cheney PD, and the SREC Board unanimously approved request. SREC and Cheney are currently working on SLA.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau: The next meeting is June 14th.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt: SRHD provided adult vaccines during the pride celebration and had a successful turnout. They are coordinating with partners for wildfire smoke and extreme heat preparation and are participating with emergency management planning.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff: Applications for Paramedic school are still being accepted. A lot of applications have come in, and some applicants may be turned away this year. Interviews will begin in July.
- FAFB: John Patrick Adams not present.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - CARES report: Dr. Nania shared the CARES summary with the group.
 - Cadaver Lab Evaluation: The most recent lab took place on June 7th. Another lab is being planned for November. Berkley will send out notice when a date is determined.
 - The meeting agenda includes:
 - Protocol Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for June:
 - 06/08/2023 @ 1700 “Dropping into Waveform Basics” with Dr. Casey Patrick
Link to register and join:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2373113760641880150>
- EMS Live @ Nite for June:
 - 06/13/2023 @ 1830 PST:
 - 06/29/2023 @ 1830 PST: Case review with BLS providers
- Providence: Lindsey Peyton stated that Providence will be having an Active Shooter training on June 22nd at 1pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dr. Greg Cover, Dr. Maika Dang, Bill Dennstaedt, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Joel Edminster, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, John Leavell, Randy Olson, Dr. Jim Nania, Paul Priest, Anne Raven, Adam Richards, Cody Rohrbach, Dan Williams, Deborah Walker

Guest Present:

Jim Akramoff, Joshua Cast, Dr. Scott Cosner, Ashley Christoff, Tamara Drapeau, Emily Fleury, Mike Forbes, Tom Jenkins, Timothy Johnson, Deanna Jones, Don Malone, Denise McCurdy, Ken Mitchell, Bethany Osgood, Lindsay Payton, Beth Perkins, Jeff Reid, Deanna Redmond, Christian Rorie, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, James Young

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of June 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

- EMS Office new location: 1610 N. Rebecca St. Spokane WA, 99217
Berkley will send notice once the transition to the new office is complete. The EMS Office will be moving to digital copies due to a decrease in storage space and to streamline processes. EMS Agencies that are submitting certification applications should only send the MPD signature form to the EMS office and mail the rest of the application directly to the Department of Health.
- Hospital Status Report:
 - Providence: Adam Richards stated that Holy Family Hospital is getting an MRI replacement and the Ambulance loop will be blocked for approximately one hour. Adam will send an email to agencies to give notice.
 - Multicare had nothing new to report.
 - Fire/Transport:
 - Paul Priest (AMR) stated that AMR is in the middle of Labor negotiations, and that they remain busy with transport activity.
 - Dan Williams (SCFD4) reported that SCFD4's ALS transport license is active with the state and that they are moving forward. He thanked everyone for their support in the process.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for June 2023
Jack presented the reports.
Action: It was M/S/P to approve the reports
- Finance Committee
 - Funding Request: Tech Rescue Pt Packaging:
The finance committee met and discussed the funding request that was submitted last month and had returned the request with some questions. Mike Forbes was present to

answer any questions that the Council had. This request is for a one-time cost of approximately \$32k for technical rescue equipment for SCFD 9, SFD and SVFD to utilize. Dr. Nania asked how the agencies came to consensus on what equipment to use, and Mike explained that the agencies have been through joint training with different equipment. Tom asked if this equipment would be available for other agencies and response areas, which Mike stated that a request for this equipment would go through the same standard process as any mutual aid request. Mike also stated that if approved, he would create a tutorial of the funding request and project for other agencies that may be interested in requesting funding for similar equipment for their agency in the future. The Finance committee chair, Jack Busch, stated that this request was attainable to be supported by Council funds.

Action: it was M/S/P to approve the request. The Spokane County EMS Council will fund the requested Tech Rescue package.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ Surge of Patients Pre-Hospital: Denise McCurdy

Denise reported that she met with Sacred Heart ED leadership and AMR a few months ago to discuss a surge of trauma patients in the ED that don't meet MCI standards. Denise asked the Council to discuss and create a plan to disperse less critical patients to other local hospitals, as to not overwhelm Sacred Heart ED. Lindsay Payton stated that the goal is to avoid having any single hospital inundated with patients while they are not at the point to activate DMCC. It was suggested that training within transport agencies could organize this message better, but overall it is the role of the officers/supervisors on scene to decide where patients go. It was also suggested that practicing small scenarios would assist in better preparedness for MCIs. Dr Joel Edminster stated that "the policy would be to give patients a choice of what hospital to go to, but 5-6 critical patients who would bypass triage would be sent to the highest trauma center." Dr. Maika Dang explained that two separate incidences around the same time brought a lot of patients into Sacred Heart ED, and he advised that open communication between hospitals and transport could help in future situations. Denise asked how dispatch plays a role in these situations, but there was nobody from dispatch in attendance. Jack Busch suggested working with Incident Command on scene to notify dispatch about multi patient incidents and have dispatch contact hospitals. Ken Mitchell stated that he works with the DMCC team at Deaconess hospital and offered to give an update on the DMCC process or visit any agency to give a presentation for knowledge and training. Chief Tom Jenkins reminded the group that the Fire Chiefs have the County FOG and have reviewed the mass casualty chapter and expressed the need for better communication between transport and hospitals, and suggested getting back to regional trainings to get refreshed on the FOG. Tom added that regional training used to practice with DMCC and should be resumed. Dr. Nania brought up that that the WA state MPDs are working on updating trauma triage guidelines, but these won't be vetted until the fall.

Action: The group agreed that the DMCC should attend a council meeting to discuss training and that agencies conduct training to improve communication with the hospitals by having crews contact the appropriate hospital prior to transport.

➤ Advance Life Systems: Yakima County Inter Facility Transport Update

After the Council meeting in June, Tom sent a letter back to the WA Department of Health letting them know of the council's discussion but has not heard back from the DOH or Advanced Life Systems. Dr. Joel Edminster stated that A.L.S personnel were in the ER passing out information. Tom will reach out to the Department of Health again.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ Initial Review of 2024 Budget

Jack Busch shared an initial proposed 2024 annual operating expenses budget and discussed each

line item. With income increases, the Council would have over \$2,000 to put into a separate savings or investment account, which has been discussed at past meetings. Dr. Nania asked about keeping a line item for the verified responder program, which Jack explained there was not enough information about when the funding would take place, but that funds are available to budget for this project when the time comes. If you have questions, please reach out to Jack. The final budget proposal will be voted on at the September meeting.

➤ Julota Presentation: John Leavell

John attended EMS World last October and learned about Julota- a program intended to connect all community providers together. SVFD has had Purdue University intern, Christian Rorie, working with this program over the last year. Christian gave a presentation and explained the goal of Julota in Spokane County is to reduce the emergency response burden of excessive 911 service users, advance patient care continuity, and improve communication between organizations. These areas of need were determined by a survey taken within SVFD. Proposed partners of this program would include first responders, mental health and substance abuse programs, long term care, and transport services. Christian explained that the more partners that are involved, the better the outcome of this program. Following the presentation, John Leavell opened the floor for questions. Jack Busch asked if anyone else in WA state is utilizing this system, and Christian answered that there are about 50 EMS agencies currently using Julota. There were also questions regarding if there was data to show a reduction in 911 calls, or to prove the program effectiveness, which Christian stated that other agencies in WA have shared their data which have shown a decrease in costs after adopting this program. Tom Chavez suggested that SVFD submit a funding request form to the Finance Committee to be reviewed. Anyone wanting more information should reach out to John Leavell or Christian Rorie, or go online to www.julota.com

➤ EMS Training Program Applications for Council approval:

- SCFD3: Renewal of Current EMT Training Program

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

➤ Recently approved EMS Training Course Applications:

- EMS Connect: Initial EMT-SGA (07/24/2023-08/28/2023)
- Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA (08/24/2023-12/16/2023)
- Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA (09/01/2023-12/21/2023)
- Spokane Community College: Initial EMT-SGA (09/20/2023-12/14/2023)
- Spokane Community College: Initial EMT-SGA (09/20/2023-03/14/2024)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

➤ Protocol Committee update: Next meeting is Thursday July 20th at 0900

- There is still discussion on having a MPD / Physician Advisors led meeting once per quarter to streamline the protocol process and have all Physicians present at quarterly meetings.

REPORTS:

➤ EMS WAC Revision: no representative

➤ Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek was not present. Chief Jenkins gave report and stated they are geared up for wildland fire season. Chief Jenkins asked Chief Rohrbach if he had anything to add, and Chief Rohrbach stated that fire potential in the NW is the highest in the nation and is predicted to continue through September. Mobilization and Incident Management team deployment is ongoing.

➤ SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach: The Board of County Commissioners is discussing the potential new dispatch facility to be collocated with the Sheriff's and Fairchild Airforce Base shooting range. This project continues to get preliminary support and funding is well established. SREC is

close to a final decision for a new CAD system, and they will be traveling to different states to see real life applications of different systems. There will hopefully be a decision in September.

- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau: The last meeting was in June and the election of officers took place. The SCFD4 ALS license and Strategic plan were approved.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt was not present, and sent report to Berkley: On June 29th, provided Preparing for Hot Weather- A Community Discussion. A one-hour discussion that provided the opportunity to receive and share information with community partners who have a shared goal of preparing their communities for staying safe and healthy during hot weather. Big thank you to Sarah Nuss for her presentation on lessons learned from a local municipality perspective.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff: Interviews for the first round of Paramedic students taking place now. They are taking applications through September. If interested, send applications to Jim.
- FAFB: John Patrick Adams not present.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
Shared the JAWS report from CARES which shows resuscitation rates and emphasized that our EMS personnel are doing a good job.
 - The meeting agenda includes:
 - Trauma KPI
 - Case Review referred from SCFD10

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for July:
 - 07/11/2023 @ 1700 PST “Run Review/Ask the Medical Director Panel”
 - EMT Courses available. If interested, reach out to Dr. Dierks or Shaun Pitts
- EMS Live @ Nite:
 - On a break and will return to classes in September.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:53AM

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom C

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Chris Gibbar, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, John Leavell, Don Malone Dr. Mike Metcalf, Dr. Jim Nania, Mike Nokes, Paul Priest, Anne Raven, Brian Schaeffer, Dan Ward, Dan Williams, Jay Wilkins, Chris Wyrobek, James Young

Guest Present:

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, Dr. Scott Cosner, Ashley Christoff, Tamara Drapeau, Emily Fleury, Jake Grant, Deanna Jones, Stephanie Leaver, Denise McCurdy, Jaclyn Numata, Bethany Osgood, Beth Perkins, Dr. Ben Preiss, Treena Russel, David Sewell, Haley Karnitz, Deb Walker, Kristen West

EMS Office Staff:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of July 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

Tom introduced Jason Wilkins who will be representing SCFD8.

- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence reported an increase in positive Covid numbers amongst staff and patients.
 - Multicare: Chris Gibbar stated that they are also experiencing an increase in positive Covid cases, and that most admissions are not Covid related, but the positive Covid tests are incidental findings. They continue to regularly test staff, and some behavioral health units have requested that patients be tested as well.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for June 2023
Jack presented the reports to the group
Action: It was M/S/P to approve the reports
- Finance Committee
 - Funding Requests
 - EMS Checklist- Brian Schaeffer reports that SFD withdraws requests. HandTevy app will include this same checklist for providers. If agencies need assistance, reach out to Tom Chavez.
 - Pharmacist Request: The funding request was submitted by Dr. Maika Dang in August to propose the EMS Council contract with a licensed pharmacist to provide consultative services. The request proposed a cost of \$1,000 annually. Brian Schaeffer brought up that he has a contact at WSU Pharmacy School that would be willing to help at no charge. Tom Chavez will reach out to Chief Schaeffer's contact, and this request will be discussed again at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- SCSO ESSO Renewal Application: Approved by Council

This application was submitted in July following the July Council meeting. Because the Council does not meet in August, the application was approved by the Council via an electronic vote to keep the process moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Final Review of 2024 Budget
Tom shared the draft of the 2024 Council budget which was approved at the July Council meeting.
Action: It was M/S/P to approve the 2024 budget
- City Wide Stroke Distribution: Dr. Getz (Providence)
Dr. Getz was not present at the meeting. Tom Chavez summarized the concern that Dr. Getz had planned to discuss regarding the distribution of stroke patients throughout Spokane County. Providence Sacred Heart hospital receives the majority of stroke patients. Tom remind EMS agencies that other local hospitals are able to take Level 1-3 stroke patients. Dr. Getz will be present at the next meeting to discuss this topic more.
- Trauma Activation Updates: Denise McCurdy
Denise shared a Level 1 trauma activation criteria document with the group and emphasized the importance of receiving information regarding the patient prior to arrival to ensure that the on-call trauma surgeon has arrived. Valley Hospital stated that their trauma activation criteria is very similar to the document that Denise shared. Dr. Nania brought up that a new trauma activation tool should be finalized this year and that there will be a state-wide educational program to learn the new activation tool.
- ALTCEW Grant Funding Opportunity: Bethany Osgood & Kristen West
Kristen West presented that ALTCEW has remaining Federal COVID funds to spend before April 2024 and are looking to host immunization events in Spokane County and 4 other surrounding counties. Please email Kristen at Kristen.west@dshs.wa.gov if your agency is interested in hosting an immunization event.
- Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS): Dr. Dierks
Cheney Fire Department and Spokane County Fire District 3 proposed a trial of ultrasound devices in the prehospital setting for medics to have IV access, FAST exam, and cardiac exam capabilities. The plan is to have 10-20 Paramedics trained, and if successful, to add this to the County Protocols. Tom asked if it can be used to see tube placement- Dr. Dierks stated that it can, and added that this tool could also help destination decisions.
Action: This topic will be discussed within the Protocol Committee.
- SALT Triage: Dan Ward
Dan Ward was not present. Tom Chavez summarized a presentation brought forward from Spokane Valley Fire Department regarding SALT triage to discuss the possibly of adapting SALT in Spokane County. There will be a presentation at next month's meeting to discuss START vs SALT triage to decide if Spokane County is interested in changing the County wide triage tool. County wide trainings would take place if a new triage tool was implemented.
- East Region EMS & TCC Council Membership Applications for EMS Council Approval:
 - Denise McCurdy: reappointment
 - James Akramoff: appointment
 - Tamara Drapeau: reappointment**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the East Region EMS &TCC Membership Applications.
- EMS Training Program Applications for Council Approval:
 - SCFD9: Renewal of Current EMT Program
 - Eastern Washington University: Initial EMT Training Program**Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the Training Program Applications
- Recently approved EMS Training Course Applications:

- Providence Health Training: Initial AEMT Course (09/08/2023-12/22/2023)
- Providence Health Training: Refresher ESE Course (09/15/2023)
- Providence Health Training: Refresher Paramedic Course (10/05/2023-10/07/2023)
- Providence Health Training: Refresher ESE Course (11/17/2023)
- Providence Health Training: Initial Paramedic Course (10/16/2023-12/31/2024)
- Providence Health Training: Initial EMT- IV Therapy Endorsement Course (10/16/2023-11/30/2023)
- SCFD4: Initial EMT- SGA (11/08/2023-02/10/2024)
- Deer Park Ambulance: Initial EMT-SGA (10/02/2023-12/11/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: Council approval was required for the following protocols:
 - Unstable Narrow-Complex Tachycardia
 - Allergic reaction and Anaphylaxis
 - Coma of Unknown Origin
 - Excited Delirium
 - Head Trauma
 - Norepinephrine
 - Pulmonary Edema
 - Unstable Wide-Complex Tachycardia
 - Fentanyl
 - Pediatric Seizures
 - **Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the protocols, with the exception of Coma of Unknown Origin, Head Trauma, and Pediatric Seizures protocols, which will go back to the Protocol Committee for more discussion. These 3 protocols will be brought back to the Council before March for approval.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: no representative
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present. Jason Wilkins stated there is nothing new to report
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau: The next meeting is in October.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt: There has been an increase of COVID in long term care facilities. Robin thanked the group for sharing the invitation to Health Equity in Disasters task force, and shared that the MRC supported at the disaster assistance center following the wildfires last month.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff: The next Advisory Committee meeting will be in October, and the next Paramedic class also begins in October. Jim introduced the new lead paramedic instructor, Haley Karnitz.
- FAFB: John Patrick Adams not present
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Summary of Trauma KPI data: Dr. Nania shared a presentation of the Trauma KPI data that was reported at the July QI committee meeting.
 - The meeting agenda includes:
 - Stroke KPI data
 - Case review referred by MultiCare

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for September:
 - 09/13/2023: Toxicology & Overdose Management

- October: Hypothermia & Altered Mentation
- EMS Live at Nite: Continuing with support from Life Flight. Class 09/11/2023 at 6:30P.M

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom C

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkey noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present:

Jack Busch, Dan Cecil, Tom Chavez, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Joel Edminster, Tom Jenkins, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, John Leavell, Dr. Mike Metcalf, Dr. Jim Nania, Mike Nokes, Randy Olson, Paul Priest, Adam Richards, Dan Williams, Jay Wilkins, James Young

Guest Present:

James Akramoff, Josh Ambach, Craig Bakker, Ashley Christoff, Tamara Drapeau, Dr. Daniel Getz, Dr. Madeline Geraghty, Ken Issacs, Deanna Jones, Dr. Louisa Lavy, Ken Mitchell, Jaclyn Numata, Jake Pirtle, Dillon Russell, Leah Salmon-Conroy, Dan Ward, Deb Walker

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of September 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

- Hospital Status Report
 - o Providence: Dr. Daniel Getz reported that between Sacred Heart and Holy Family there are approximately 1000 beds filled. Both hospitals continue to struggle with staffing and have received funding for travelers through the winter. Hospitals are committed to staying off divert as much as possible and continue to work through better distribution of stroke patients to all hospitals. As of October 2nd, they have implemented plain language alerts throughout the hospitals.
 - o Multicare: Ken Mitchell stated that they have been experiencing some challenges with throughput of psych patients. ED leadership has been speaking with providence to plan a 3-day trail of no divert. Possibility of bringing masks back to hospitals has also been discussed.
 - o Transport: Jack Busch stated that AMR has had record transport numbers recently.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for September 2023

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the reports.
- Finance Committee
 - Funding Requests
 - Pharmacist contract update: Tom Chavez summarized that the Council has discussed the possibility of acquiring a pharmacist contact as a resource for the Protocol Committee and have two pharmacists willing to assist. After discussion, it was agreed that the position could be a volunteer opportunity and can develop into a paid opportunity as it evolves, as both contacts have expressed willingness to be a resource for an as needed basis at no expense. Action: It was M/S/P to reach out to both pharmacists to attend the next protocol committee meeting and to discuss having both pharmacists as a resource.

OLD BUSINESS:

- City Wide Stroke Distribution: Dr. Daniel Getz (Providence)

Dr. Getz reported challenges with stroke patient distribution, as most stroke patients are transported exclusively to Sacred Heart which has caused challenges with throughput and care of other non-stroke patients. Dr. Getz emphasized that Holy Family and Deaconess can also offer high quality stroke care, as they are both level 2 stroke centers. Providence has expanded intervention to help with patient transport as

needed for high level stroke patients and are eager to get EMS agency assistance and support in improving stroke patient distribution. Dr. Louisa Lavy (Providence) spoke about stroke volumes changing considerably over the last few years and that Neuro beds are limited, which has resulted in stroke patients receiving care in the ED which can put patients at higher risk. EMS should be referring to LAMS scores as a triage tool to determine patient destination. Dr. Madeline Geraghty (MultiCare) stated that Hospitals are required to meet a certain number of stroke cases in order to keep stroke accreditation and emphasized that Deaconess is a DNV certified stroke center. Another matter that was brought up was that when stroke patients are holding beds are Sacred Heart on the Neuro floor, other neuro patients must be transported across the state. Dr. Maika Dang (AMR) shared that EMS transport crews have been deterred from other local hospitals when transporting stroke patients and requested support from all hospital leadership for stroke patient distribution to other hospitals. Concern regarding 'denying' patients of higher level of stroke care was brought up, but the goal is to get patients to Deaconess and Holy Family. Deanna Jones stated that Level 2 Stroke centers have a Neurology Provider available 24/7. Mike Nokes brought up that Spokane County is not the only county bypassing other hospitals to get to Sacred Heart, and that this discussion needs to include other counties that transport to Spokane County for higher level stroke centers. Suggestions included rewording the Protocol for better distribution guidelines, and Dr. Dang stated that if there was a way to filter stroke patients by zip code and get data to describe where the more appropriate destination would have been, that would be beneficial for EMS transport agencies to review and train crews with. It was also suggested that EMS ask patients where they get their primary care to determine destination. For example, if they are a MultiCare patient with a LAMS less than 4 they would go to Deaconess.

➤ POCUS (Point of Care Ultrasound)

The Protocol Committee discussed this topic at the last meeting in September. The consensus was that individual agencies can use this device with MPDD oversight without a Protocol being done for training purposes. The Protocol Committee will continue to work on a protocol and will bring it to the Council for approval to use County wide.

➤ SALT vs START triage

Tom Chavez shared a video presentation from Pierce County that described SALT triage. Currently, the County FOG and Protocol Manual use START triage, but have interest of changing to SALT. Tom opened the floor for discussion, and it was expressed that SVFD, MultiCare and Providence have begun to teach SALT. Dan Ward from SVFD stated that they have received training materials from Pierce County and are willing to share the material and assist with trainings for any interested agencies. SVFD have two trainings coming up in November. Dr. Dang made a request for a county wide drill to include hospitals, prehospital EMS and the DMCC.

Action: It was M/S/P to have the Protocol committee adopt SALT and recommend to the Inland Empire Fire Chiefs Association to adopt SALT in the County FOG. Once a protocol is created, it will come back to the Council for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

- DMCC: Ken Mitchell shared that the DMCC has been consolidating its transfer centers, and that the previous numbers to activate the DMCC are no longer in service or go to Tacoma. Deaconess Hospital is going to check in quarterly to update bed numbers to help create an accurate list. The intent of these number changes is to focus on the importance of distribution of patients across all hospitals based on injury. Ken stated that initial numbers should be 95% accurate of what 2 hospitals can take immediately.
- Recently approved EMS Training Course Applications:
 - Providence Health Training: Refresher EMT Course (11/13/2023-11/18/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: Protocols for Council approval:
 - o Pediatric Seizures
 - o Head Trauma (renamed to Traumatic Brain Injury)

Tammie asked if updated protocols will be going out to everyone- but having pushback. Tom reached out to Patrick to fix. Should be going through the EMS Council account.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the protocols. These will be sent to the state for review for approval.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: no representative.
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present. Jay Wilkins gave report: They are working on an after action report regarding the Gray and Oregon road fires. Keep an eye out for the AAR for updates. There were challenges regarding evacuations in the affected areas. ➤ SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach: not present
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau: The next meeting is Wednesday, October 11th at AMR and an annual case review from St. Luke's will be discussed.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt not present. The report was sent via email:
 - COVID is on the rise again. We have several facilities in outbreak status. Please let us know if you would like to receive the weekly Long Term and Congregate Care COVID 19 Update sent out by our Epi program.
 - COVID vaccine has been commercialized and the supply of the new vaccine is limited due to availability from manufacturers and supply chain constraints, but we are hopeful we'll see more supply within the next few weeks.
 - SRHD's focus remains on providing vaccine to those who are uninsured or underinsured.
 - MRC continues to be active in supporting our vaccine clinics, community events, QPR and Naloxone trainings.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff: The Advisory committee meeting will be October 12th. The next cohort begins on October 16th with 26 students and a waitlist, as they could not take everyone who applied.
- FAFB: John Patrick Adams not present.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Summary of Pre-Hospital Stroke KPI data
 - Two Case Reviews

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS: ➤

- EMS Connect Classes for October:
 - Hypothermia & Altered Mentation
- Providence Live at Nite Classes for October:
 - October 10th @ 6:30 P.M "Fatigue in EMS" with James Akramoff, Paramedic/SEI
- Vice Chair and Chair Nominations for December:

Tom Chavez shared that Chief Wyrobek has resigned from the Vice Chair position. The Council will need to fill the Vice Chair and Chair position prior to January. Elections will be held in December. Please send any nominations to Berkley.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom A & Zoom Virtual Meeting

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/ Ex-Officio Present:

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, Jack Busch, Tom Chavez, Ashley Christoff, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Chris Gibbar, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Paul Priest, Anne Raven, Adam Richards, Deb Walker, Jason Wilkins, Dan Williams

Guest Present:

Daron Besment, Tamara Drapeau, Emily Fleury, Deanna Jones, Dr. Louisa Lavvy, Don Malone, Denise McCurdy, Mike Nokes, Bethany Osgood, Beth Perkins, Shaun Pitts, Treena Russel, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, Dan Ward

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of October 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR’S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence: Adam Richards reported that they continue to focus on staffing. Mostly seeing standard flu and RSV related illnesses as the winter months persist There have been occasional Covid outbreaks, but overall have had minimal exposures as the hospital acts quickly and aggressively with masking to reduce exposure. Recommending that people wear masks and stated that the Hospital always have masks available. Providence is also working on a No Idling policy specifically for the ambulance bays. Adam stated that he will share this information as it becomes available.
 - Multicare: Deb Walker stated that there have been more changes in leadership. Deb will reach out to management to request that a representative attends future Council meetings. Ron Pullen is MultiCare’s OR director and Agencies can reach out to him for OR access at ron.pullen@multicare.org
- Chair and Vice Chair Nominations:

Tom thanked Adam Richards, current Executive Chair, for his assistance and support to the Council over the years as his term is ending in December. The Chair and Vice Chair position will need to be filled at the December meeting. Tom opened the floor for any nominations. Jason Wilkins nominated Anne Raven for Chair position and Anne accepted the nomination. Dan Ward nominated Dan Williams for Vice Chair position and Dan Williams accepted the nomination. Randy Olson nominated John Leavell for Vice Chair position. John Leavell was not present at the meeting to accept the nomination. Voting will take place at the December meeting.
- EMS Office update:

The EMS Office will begin sending Share Fees Invoices beginning in December. Please review and update agency rosters by December 1st.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for October 2023

Jack Busch shared the reports with the group.

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

➤ Finance Committee

- Funding Requests

- Train the Trainer proposal: Tom Chavez stated that a formal proposal for an Airway Train the Trainer course has not been submitted to the Finance Committee yet. This is a request for EMS Council funds to support the WA Fire Chief's approved Airway Train the Trainer program to host a course in Spokane County. Four Spokane County EMS Council representatives attended this course in May and believe it would be beneficial to bring to Spokane County. This course would require 16-20 individuals to attend a 2-day course with course materials and equipment provided. The next course would be in March 2024. A proposal needs to be approved by December and would cost approximately \$8,000. Tom opened the floor for discussion. Dr. Nania stated an Airway course for Spokane County has been highly requested and that this course can assist in Paramedics receiving credit towards their intubation numbers for certification renewal. Adam stated that the OR is at max capacity for intubations as they continue to try to get paramedics in, but agencies need to plan accordingly. Concern regarding 'chasing a number' and possibly falsified numbers was brought up, with the request that the MPDD of each agency would review individuals and approve based on their performance and knowledge. It was agreed upon that agencies want OR access to remain accessible but request alternative options to meet the requirements. Dr. Nania stated that the DOH does offer the option of an MPD approved airway training course to be used in lieu of intubation numbers.

Action: it was M/S/P to create a funding request for an Airway Train the Trainer course to be funded by the EMS Council.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ Triage Transport Destination Procedures Form: Dr. Maika Dang

Dr. Dang shared a Triage and Transport Destination form and requested approval from the Council and Spokane County MPD, Dr. Nania, for EMS crews to keep on hand and share with local hospitals to create clear communication for how transport destination is decided. A few members attended a meeting at Deaconess North FSED and stated that Deaconess North is not able to take combative restrained behavioral health patients due to a lack of resource and concern for patient and provider safety. All local hospitals can accept involuntary psych patients. Adam Richards stated that he would take the document to Providence Hospitals. Tom Chavez stated that the Medical Director of Deaconess North FSED, Dr. Ben Preiss, reviewed the document and agreed to draft a proposal for next protocol meeting.

Action: The Protocol committee will continue to work on this document and create a protocol.

➤ Lights & Sirens data

Tom Chavez and Dr. Nania reviewed data from SREC and shared the reports with the group. The goal of looking into this data was to get a sense of what the general goal is and decide when it is appropriate for crews to transport with lights and sirens. SREC data concluded that Spokane County agencies go code response 50% of the time prior to patient contact. Dr. Nania requested AMR data of code transport to the hospitals. SREC offered a tour to anyone who is interested in seeing how they operate. Tom Chavez emphasized that Agencies need to learn how the system works. The goal is to have better understanding of the process and to make improvements.

➤ Divert Special Meeting

Tom Chavez shared that he and a few other members attended a meeting at Deaconess North FSED and had a lot of discussion regarding divert. Tom requested that the Council set up a special meeting with Council members and Hospital representatives specifically to discuss the topic of Divert and plan for improvement. There was discussion about how divert needs to be posted to WATrac to be considered on divert for EMS. David Sewell explained that the divert process is different at each hospital and that some require 'permission' before they can enter status change into WATrac. David suggested a standardized process for all hospitals could be helpful. Dr. Maika Dang emphasized that support needs to go out stating that if divert status is not updated in WATrac that hospitals cannot be considered on divert, and reminded that divert is a courtesy, and if ambulances need to arrive to a specific hospital while on divert that they have that right. Dang created a presentation about divert and offered to present at the next meeting. Ashley Christoff, the WATrac system administrator, stated that if there is any requested data to please let her know and she can send it. You can reach her at her email

Ashley.christoff@nwhrn.org

Action: A special meeting will be held with Council members and Hospital representatives to discuss divert. The meeting date and time will be emailed out once decided.

➤ East Region EMS & TCC Council Membership Applications for EMS Council approval:

- Beth Perkins
- Bethany Osgood

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

➤ Recently Approved Training Course Applications:

- EWU Initial EMT-SGA Training Course (01/10/2024-03/23/2024)
- SCFD9 Initial EMT-SGA Training Course (01/09/2024-03/30/2024)
- SCFD9 Initial ESE Instructor Training Course (12/13/2023)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update: One of the Protocols was sent back from the Department of Health for edits. Tom shared the edits and will send this back to the DOH for approval.
- HandTevy app: Tom brought up that he has been in contact with the HandTevy representative and everyone's HandTevy app should get the next protocol update. There were issues prior to allowing all agencies to have access. Once the protocols are up on the website, they will be added to HandTevy app.
- New protocol for approval: Methylprednisolone
- Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the protocol. Tom will send to DOH for approval.
- The next protocol committee meeting will be Tuesday, November 21st at 0900-1100 via Zoom. Anne Raven requested to discuss Acetaminophen at the next Protocol Meeting.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: no representative
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present. Chief Jason Wilkins gave report and stated there is nothing new to report.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach not present
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau: The East Region EMS & TCC met last month and had an outstanding case review from St. Lukes. They worked on Training and Education budgets for areas outside of Spokane and have EMT course opportunities for rural communities. If outlying areas in Spokane are interested, they can apply. Rinita Cook sent an email with the information.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt reported that SRHD provided psychological first aid training to MRC volunteers and partners on Nov 13. The DOH is conducting a survey with REDiHCC members and vested partners. The results will guide in the search for new, sustainable healthcare coalition models. This survey is only a first step in the process. The options presented in this assessment

are meant to generate topics for future conversions and meetings, and to encourage new ideas. Please complete this survey by Wednesday, Nov 22. Link to survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N3WG6DF>

- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff: Had the first 5 students from the last cohort meet with Dr Rabe and complete training. All 5 students passed their National Registry exam and are now working in the field. A few more students will finish this month.
- FAFB: John Patrick Adams not present.
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania
 - Airway Cadaver Lab summary: Dr. Nania shared a summary of evaluations from the recent Airway Cadaver lab that was held on November 8th. 8 different agencies sent individuals to this lab and all reviewed information prior to the lab. Some improvements would be to use equipment that is currently being used in the field. Dr. Nania suggested that it would be best if agencies had the same kits and followed the same procedures. There is a possible upcoming cadaver lab in March.
 - **The meeting agenda includes:**
 - ACS data reporting

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for November:
 - 11/06/2023 5:00p.m “Infectious Diseases” with Dr. Stanton
Link to register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2139213556092526683>
 - 12/19/2023 at 5:00pm. EMT and AHA courses available. Reach out to Dr. Travis Dierks or Shaun Pitts to register.
- Providence Live at Nite Classes for November:
 - 11/14/2023 6:30p.m “Crisis Intervention training” with Cassie Brantingham.
- WATrac Updates:
Ashley Christoff stated that WATrac is in process of implementing updates which included SMS notification updates. An email went out requesting EMS partners to set up text messages to make sure it works.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

Spokane County EMS & Trauma Care Council
Annual Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Spokane Fire Training Center, Classroom D

EMS Council Chair, Tom Chavez, called the meeting to order and Berkley noted those present on the attendance sheet.

Members/Alternates/Ex-Officio Present: Attendees:

Jack Busch, Dan Cecil, Tom Chavez, Dr. Maika Dang, Dr. Travis Dierks, Dr. Cody Laverdiere, Dr. Jim Nania, Randy Olson, Paul Priest, Dr. Jacob Rabe, Anne Raven, Jeff Reid, Jason Wilkins, Dan Williams, James Young

Guest Present:

Jim Akramoff, Robin Albrandt, Ashley Christoff, Scott Cosner, Tamara Drapeau, Emily Fleury, Chris Gibbar, Deanna Jones, Jenni Jones, Stacy Kitchens, Don Malone, Denise McCurdy, Ken Mitchell, Jaclyn Numata, Lindsey Peyton, Beth Perkins, Jake Pirtle, Dr. Ben Preiss, Cody Rohrbach, Leah Salmon-Conroy, David Sewell, Deborah Walker, Dan Ward

EMS Office Staff Present:

Berkley Van Hout, Office Administrator & County Coordinator

MINUTES: Approval of November 2023 minutes

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

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Tom Chavez

- Hospital Status Report
 - Providence: Scott Cosner (Holy Family) reported an increase in admissions due to respiratory illnesses.
 - Multicare: Ken Mitchell stated that Multicare is also experiencing high census and an increase in respiratory viruses and flu admissions.
- Handtevy Update: Tom reported that he continues to be in contact with Handtevy IT to resolve the issue that agencies cannot access the updated protocols that are submitted by the EMS Council account and stated that Handtevy is working on changing their process so that the EMS Council can act as the main account for all Spokane County agencies, as it was originally intended when the app was purchased. The Protocol committee Chair will be the administrator for the EMS Council account, and one admin from each agency will be able to make changes in the future. Tom will send an update once all issues are resolved. Recently updated protocols have been updated on the EMS website and the protocol app, which agencies will continue to have access to until May 2024. The HandTevy app should be finalized by January.
- EMS Office Update: Share Fees invoicing has begun. Payment is due in January.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack Busch

- Financial reports for November 2023
 - Financial reports for Year to Date
- Jack shared the reports to the group.
- Action:** It was M/S/P to approve the financial reports.
- Finance Committee
 - Funding Requests
 - Airway Train the Trainer
- The finance committee chair, Jack Busch, reviewed the request and stated that

funds are available but there is a commitment that needs to be fulfilled by agencies for the EMS Council to fund this. The Council funds would go towards training the trainers who would then teach airway courses in Spokane County. The train the trainer course requires approximately 20 hours of instruction and agencies need to provide information of who would attend and how often trainings would occur. The group discussed establishing KPIs for each agency and a county wide airway registry to track what is being taught in the class and what is occurring in the field to be able to adjust courses as needed. Instructors would be required to teach 2 courses per year to stay up to date and would receive updates as the course is modified or updated by the state. Instructors will need to be recommended by each agencies Physician Advisor, and there is a requirement to have a minimum of 16 total instructors to attend a course in March. The deadline to enroll in this course is January 31st, 2024.

Action: Tom will get a letter out with the course information and begin the signup process.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ Divert Special Meeting:

A special meeting to discuss Hospital diversion was held on December 6th with EMS Council representatives and hospital representatives in attendance. Dr. Maika Dang presented divert data at the special meeting and the group discussed options to improve the current system. A small workgroup was created, and hospital representatives agreed to meet with their staff and administration to discuss the idea of a no divert trial from January-March 2024. Another divert meeting will be held on December 15th at 9:00a.m.

➤ Triage Transport Destination Procedures:

The Protocol Committee amended the document that was presented at the November Council meeting to be added to the County Operating Procedures. Tom shared the updated document to the group for Council approval. Dr. Dang reminded the group that these procedures are already listed in the WA State protocols. Jack Busch confirmed that this does not replace the Triage and Transport Destination guidelines, and Tom confirmed that it does not. This document is an operational guide of current state protocols which should be easier for EMS providers to follow. Jason Wilkins brought up that because Valley Hospital is not listed on the document, that they would not be receiving any stroke patients by ambulance and Tom confirmed. Wilkins asked if patients requesting to go to Valley and are a LAMS of 3 or less if they still need to go to a level 1 or 2 stroke center. Maika Dang stated that Valley is a level 3 stroke center and if a patient is 15 minutes or less to a level 1 or 2 center, the level 3 center will be bypassed.

Action: It was M/S/P to approve the document be added to Spokane County Operating Procedures. The County Medical Program Director, Dr. Nania and the Council Chair, Tom Chavez, will sign the document and it will be sent out to EMS crews and hospitals.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ Vote for Chair & Vice Chair EMS Council

Nominations took place at the November meeting, where Dan Williams and John Leavell were nominated for Vice Chair, and Anne Raven was nominated for Chair. John Leavell was unable to accept the nomination, as he is entered a new roll at SVFD beginning in January. Dan Williams accepted the nomination for Vice Chair, and Anne Raven accepted the nomination for Chair. There were no other nominations.

Action: Dan Williams will begin duties as Vice Chair beginning January 1st, 2024. Anne Raven will begin duties as Chair beginning January 1st, 2024. Tom thanked the nominees and will get in contact with them before their term begins.

➤ BLS: Dr. Travis Dierks

BLS representative, Dr. Travis Dierks, stated that BLS providers have brought forward concerns and feelings of being disengaged with the Spokane County EMS Council and feel that the EMS Council is set to improve ALS related issues. Dr. Dierks shared comments from BLS providers, and the consensus was that there is not a lot of engagement from BLS providers because the Council does not focus on BLS related issues. There is also a lack of clarity for BLS providers with the Spokane County Protocols. WA State Protocols provide a list of approved BLS interventions that are not clearly listed in the Spokane County Protocols, which causes confusion for what BLS providers are allowed to do. Dr. Dierks suggested adding a BLS agenda item to the monthly Council meetings. Anne Raven asked if the protocol manual could include a scope of practice list for EMTs and AEMTs and Tom shared the additional approved skills and procedures for EMS providers from the protocol manual which is in Appendix C. A BLS line item will be added to future meeting agendas.

- Frostbite: Dr. Luis Manriquez: not present. This topic will be added to the January meeting agenda.
- Shop Talk: Stephanie Thoet not present
Jim Akramoff reported for Stephanie. Stephanie is a licensed therapist that specializes in first responders and hosts debriefing sessions called Shop Talk which are open to all responders. Dan Ward stated that SVFD was able to get a meeting set up with Stephanie a few years ago and encouraged everyone to attend.
- Training Program Applications for EMS Council Approval
 - EMS Connect: Amendment of Current Program
Action: It was M/S/P to approve the application
- Recently Approved Training Course Applications:
 - Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA Course (01/04/2024-03/31/2024)
 - Providence Health Training: Initial EMT-SGA Course (01/02/2024-04/20/2024)
 - Spokane Community College: Initial EMT-SGA Course (01/03/2024-03/14/2024)

PROTOCOL COMMITTEE: Tom Chavez

- Protocol Committee update:
 - 9 new protocols were approved by the Department of Health and have been updated on the EMS website and the protocol app. The protocols will be updated on Handtevy once the IT process is completed.
 - KPI modification group: Dr. Nania has requested that KPI reporting be reviewed to improve that data being submitted. Tom suggested getting a workgroup back together to discuss reporting beginning in January. Tom will be reaching out to agencies and will discuss data reporting through ESO or other systems.

REPORTS:

- EMS WAC Revision: no representative
- Inland Empire Fire Chiefs: Chris Wyrobek not present.
- SREC Board: Cody Rohrbach reported that they have set user fees for all agencies and continue working on parts and agreements for the new CAD systems.
- East Region EMS & TCC: Tamara Drapeau stated that the next meeting is December 13th at AMR.
- SRHD: Robin Albrandt stated that there has been some covid outbreaks within homeless shelters and long-term care facilities, while low activity for flu virus remains.
- Curriculum & PM Advisory Committee/Providence Health Training: Jim Akramoff stated that current students are through the first in class module and students are still graduating from the last cohort. They have had a 100% pass rate this year.
- FAFB: Jeff Sanborn not present
- QI Committee: Dr. Nania

- ACS data summary: Dr. Nania shared a PowerPoint summary of the ACS data that was presented at the November QI Committee meeting. Nania expressed gratitude to those who submitted data.
 - Today's meeting agenda includes:
 - Case review
 - Vote 2024 KPI reporting dates.
 - Protocol Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS:

- EMS Connect Classes for December:
OB Emergencies & Field Delivery
- Providence Live at Nite Classes for December:
12/12/2023 "legal pitfalls and documentation"
- SALT vs START triage tool: The protocol committee is working on a protocol which will be sent to the Fire Chiefs Association to be updated in the County FOG. A County wide drill to implement SALT triage is also being worked on and information will go out once available.
- Tom Chavez formally thanked Adam Richards for his service and commitment to the EMS Council. Adam's term as the Executive Chair will expire on December 31st. Tom also thanked the Council members for their time and commitment to the Council this year.

MEETING ADJOURNED.