

PIERCE COUNTY EMS COUNCIL MINUTES

January 21, 2016

Attendance:

Membership Attendance Roster on File

Call to Order

The meeting called to order at 9:30am by Cynde Rivers, Chair. Introductions made. Previous meeting minutes from October 2015 provided; motion to accept, seconded and approved as written.

Treasurers Report, Karmela Little:

October, November and December 2015 Treasurer's reports provided, voted on, and accepted as presented.

Program Reports:

A. MPD/Base Station, Dr. Waffle, MD, MPD – Discussion of several topics:

Good Sam is looking to use email for run reports.

Met with Optum regarding psychiatric transport; we need a facility or resources to receive patients; April 1 there will be a change in the law combining funding for psychiatric and addiction services; Optum now has a 1-800 number to discuss potential resources that could support patients being left at home under certain circumstances.

Discussed divert issue. Pierce County hospitals went into surge overload mode recently and St. Anthony was the only hospital not on divert. Last Divert policy was developed in 2008 and there have been a lot of changes since then. It needs to be reviewed and updated.

Met with LE regarding psychiatric patient transport. We are working on a guideline for LE and EMS interaction in these situations and direction for their specific roles.

B. Committees:

Training & Development, Patsy Maloney – Initial training and PAM courses are being conducted as usual; MOU between agencies and MultiCare HS for PMs into the OR has been settled and there are no issues so far.

Operations, Russ McCallion (absent) – Still working on revising the MCI plan.

CQI, Christopher Barnard (absent) – Norma: "Lessons Learned" from the Case Presentations are going to be sent to the WREMS Council for posting on their website.

Protocol, Cynde Rivers – Plugging away at the sections. The regular meeting is next week with an extended meeting in the afternoon and extra meetings every other month.

Divert, Todd Jenson – Seems to be the big issue. We are 1 quarter behind in the reporting cycle due to the meeting schedule. The goal is to remain below the start at 10% hospitals are trending at 3.4%. Trauma divert is up to 3.4% to 4.2%. The anomaly 1 ½ weeks ago drove up the census because of the weather. DMCC had a quasi-activation because of all the hospitals being on divert. February 2, at the divert committee, we expect some serious discussions about the issues and the correct people there to make and authorize decisions. Trend over the years seems to be that things go up the first part of the year and then drop.

C. Tacoma-Pierce County Health, Cindy Miron – Have seen an uptick of flu this season, but really not much, though. Also, RSV. We're watching Zika, a mosquito borne virus, primarily originating

in South America (Brazil); not transmitted human to human. The big risk is for pregnant women because it causes microcephaly in newborns.

- D. **West Region EMS Council, Norma Pancake** – They discussed the role of CQI. The WREMS Conference is at Ocean Shores the last weekend of February. A large sponsor is Medtronic.
- E. **Department of Emergency Management, ~~Lowell Porter~~ Norma Pancake** – Planning for the Cascadia Exercise the first week of June is the emphasis right now. Also, DEM was EMAP reaccredited recently.

Unfinished Business:

- A. **Transport of mental health patients update, Dr. Waffle** – We've been working with Optum on the receiving side and with LE on the transport side. The April 1st law change will help. Hospitals are building new facilities to address the issue. There's also a senate bill for behavioral health resources.
- B. **MHS Affiliation Agreement for OR Time, Cynde Rivers** – ****This is to be removed as an item of unfinished business****

New Business:

Unscheduled Business:

- A. **Election of Chair/Vice Chair** – Cynde Rivers was nominated for Chair, it was seconded and she was elected with a unanimous ballot. Todd Jensen, Dr. Ferrar and Scott Jones were nominated for Vice Chair. Dr. Ferrar declined. A vote was taken and Todd Jensen was elected.
- B. **Appointment of Secretary/Treasurer** – Karmela Little was reappointed by the Chair.

Announcements:

Next meeting is April 21, 2016.

Adjournment:

Meeting Adjourned @ 10:07am