

PC EMS COUNCIL
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 29, 2017 – 10:00

Attendance:

Membership Attendance Roster on File.

Call to Order

Russ McCallion called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Introductions were made around the room. Previous meeting minutes were provided, voted on, and accepted as written.

New Business: (adjustment to the agenda)

Nicole Johnson, PCEM Vulnerable Populations Program Coordinator was able to purchase helpful tools “100 signs for Emergencies” and “Medical Visual Language Translator” for EMS. Dr. Waffle has approved them to be carried on each agency aid and ambulance vehicles. They were distributed to each agency rep to be put on the EMS vehicles.

Unfinished Business:

A. Community Healthcare Access (Divert) Report – Mike Newhouse

MultiCare is still working with their group of administrators, so we are going to use the Franciscan Health System (St Joseph) on the Pilot Program along with WPCR and TFD.

B. TPCHD Update – ~~Cindy Miron~~ - not present

Dr. Friedrich reported that flu cases are at a high volume, but this is the usual.

C. Hospital Data Information Exchange – Russ McCallion

Russ turned it over to Karrie. She stated that all contracted agencies are up and running. They will be presenting it at the National Conference. It has been very well received. Trish Niehl added that Franciscan is very close now.

New Business:

A. SS011 use of WATrac – Dan Beckman

Dan reported on the Attending Charge Nurse and WATrac Meetings. WATrac is becoming useful for load levelling, but the comments section is not helpful. So they are addressing the use of WATrac and improving the comments section. It worked well for diver/no divert. The terminology should be removed or changed to “system down.” Dan stated that CPFR does not have issues with SS911 providing information from WATrac regarding hospital ED status.

B. Chair and Vice Chair Nominations

Russ McCallion was nominated for Chair and Calvin Johnson was nominated as Vice-Chair. It is open for nominations until next meeting when they will be voted on.

Unscheduled Business:

A. Accountability Community Health (ACH)

Russ said that ACH is moving forward. It’s designed to funnel Medicare/Medicaid funds. Each region is being scored to determine what they can do how best to fund them. EMS has a role to play regarding citizens getting access to the medical system.

Dan delineated four areas:

1. Bidirectional Integration

2. Community Based Care Coordination. EMS has a big role here.
3. Chronic Disease Prevention and Control. EMS also has a role to play here.
4. Opioid Use Crisis.

There are a number of graphs of information and a lot of groups involved. If EMS can be involved too, we can provide some help to our community. There is talk of cross-training our providers as Community Health Workers. Russ concluded saying he will provide links to the related documents and meetings.

B. ME Releasing Body from Scene

Tim Lookabaugh brought up an issue he's had regarding the Medical Examiner releasing a body from the scene with no family present. The funeral home would not pick up the body without release from the sheriff's office, which left their chaplain staying there for several hours just waiting. He suggested that the ME needs to send a letter to the funeral homes stating that he has the authority to release the body according to WAC 68.50.050.

Announcements:

A. New POLST Forms

DOH has new POLST forms and distributed them for comparison. There is not a lot of change, but some better explanation. Either version, however, is okay to use but refer patients and physicians to the WSMA.org website to get information regarding the form. Here is the link:

https://wsma.org/wcm/For_Patients/End_of_Life/POLST/wcm/Patients/POLST_Home.aspx?hkey=489d980b-1776-42cd-b599-d7360ce7741a

B. MedEd Project

This project provides a means to return old or unused medications. There are numerous drop boxes in the area for old medications. <http://www.tpchd.org/environment/waste-management/medicine-return-program/drop-off-locations/>

C. WREMS Conference

Norma announced the 2018 WREMS Conference in March. One of the speakers will be a Fire Chief from Arizona.

D. TCC BS Degree

Tacoma Community College is offering a Bachelor of Science degree soon with Mobile Integrated Health, and Critical Care Transport components.

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned @ 10:45am.