



Emergency Medical Services
Technical Advisory Board
January 17, 2018
Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Bill Newbold, *City of Bellingham Admin*
Therese Williams, *BTC*
Chief McLane, *WCETCC*
Dr. Marvin Wayne, *Medical Program Director*
Division Chief Rob Wilson, *What-Comm Dispatch*
=not present

Tyler Schroeder, *County Administration*
Chief Larry Hoffman, *WCFD #7*
Chief DeBruin, *WC Fire Chiefs Assoc.*
Mannix McDonnell, *MSO, Bellingham Fire Dept.*
Brian Wilson, *Manager Emergency Services*

STAFF PRESENT:

Tawni Helms, *WC Administration*

GUESTS:

Asst. Chief Bill Hewett, *BFD*
Asst. Chief Dean Crosswhite, *FD7*

WELCOME:

Chief Newbold welcomed everyone and reviewed the draft agenda asking for any additional items that may need to be addressed.

REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION OF 11.08.17 MINUTES

The Board reviewed and approved the 11/08/17 draft minutes. The minutes were accepted as written and submitted into the record.

WC EMS TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL CQI PLAN

Chief McLane opened the discussion noting that the WC EMS Trauma Care Council has been collecting data for quality control. MSO, McDonnell agreed that meaningful data has been collected and that data can be generated through reports on a monthly basis or at whatever timeframe is appropriate. He would like to see this information used system wide and recommended the data be accessed by the Electronic Patient Care Reporting (EPCR) committee. Mr. Schroeder suggested that the WC EMS Trauma Care Council be represented on the EPCR Committee. Recognizing that for effectiveness the EPCR committee is designed to be small and include between 6-7 action-oriented members to move things forward. Committee members should include:

- Ben Boyko, MSO/FD7
- Mannix McDonnell, MSO/BFD
- Tyler Schroeder, County Administration
- Hospital appointment (recommendation from Brian Wilson)
- Member from Whatcom County EMS Trauma Care Council (*later Chief McLane confirmed CQI Committee Co-Chair Josh Morell as an interested committee member*)
- 2 more Fire District representatives

Once committee confirmations are made the committee (chair) will loop back with the TAB. In addition to the committee it's also important that every Fire District have a point person to be available to serve/respond in an IT capacity.

MSO McDonnell reported that each district will have standard questions to download in the EPCR system and they can modify their reporting system to include additional questions they may choose. Mr. Wilson reported that the hospital reporting HUB is already working. They are ready to begin discussions to implement/integrate the next phase.

EMS MANAGER UPDATE

Three highly qualified candidates were selected to present their qualifications to EMS system stakeholders. After a long and thorough consensus driven process the position was offered to Mr. Hilley. Pending salary negotiations Mr. Hilley is presumed to be the new EMS Manager. *At the time of this writing a letter of acceptance was received by Mr. Hilley who will begin his role as Whatcom County EMS Manager on March 5, 2018.*

CAD DATA AND ANALYTICS

MSO McDonnell reported that data from a report provided by Chris is being used to track trends. Specifically, they are tracking the number of times a card has been used. A report was distributed that reflected the number of time a card has been used and dispositioned. This data collection can be used for any call type/card. Ideally, a threshold percentage would be used to make decisions. MSO McDonnell reported that the card type is the initial call disposition is the clearing code.

Mr. Schroeder suggested comparing the data to the total number of cards. MSO McDonnell agreed and stated that this kind of information can be used to explain what drives the decisions. The next step would be using this information for quality control. Image Trend could help with that. Technology will help to connect the dots more seamlessly. The technology will allow users to set up the Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) directly on their computer desktops for minute by minute reporting.

BLS AGREEMENT UPDATE

The BLS agreement was distributed to each of the Parties/Districts. The agreement is scheduled for the February 13, County Council meeting. Several Districts have already submitted their signed agreements. There is a possibility that Fire District 5 will not sign on to the agreement due to concerns regarding the training and operational impacts regarding the Electronic Patient Care Reporting system. It's likely the County will enter into a separate agreement with the District as an Intermediate Life Support (ILS) responder. Mr. Schroeder reported that from EMS RMS perspective it should work. There is no residual impact to the other parties if one District enters into a separate agreement. The County (EMS System) just needs access to the data.

EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE

A 2018 Budget Supplemental included \$20k to support the equipment exchange program for the repairs, maintenance and annual inspections of gurneys and replacement of vacuum splints and other equipment that is rotated throughout the system.

TAB MEMBERSHIP

Chief Newbold announced that he would be stepping down from the TAB and nominated Assistant Chief Hewitt to resume the position of City of Bellingham Administration. As Assistant Fire Chief, Bill Hewitt represents the Fire Department administration and operations. Chief Newbold has the support of the Mayor and Mr. Schroeder. Chief Newbold expressed his appreciation for the body of work performed by the TAB. He further recognized that much of the success has been due to the working relationships fostered through the TAB.

Mr. Schroeder agreed to fill the role of TAB chair until the Board determines a replacement.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:00

Next Meeting: **March 7, 2018**
 ~~10:00 am~~ **2:00PM**
 Executive Conference Room

Standing Agenda Items:

- EPCR update
- Community Paramedic Update

Next Agenda:

- Follow up with Health Department re: alternative destinations for Medic Transports
- TAB recommendation to no longer support ALS no transport billing
- Communication Upgrades