

Northwest Region EMS Council Retreat Minutes

February 12, 2009

The Lodge at Sherwood Village

Sequim, WA

REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:

Clallam

Karen Blore
Keith Bogues (absent)
Allen Knobbs (absent)
John Wright

Jefferson

Jim DeCianne
Robert Moser
Colleen Rodrigues (absent)

Mason

Terri Gushee (absent)
Kym Yates
Tim McKern
Terry Anderson
Richard Knight (absent)
Jeremy Hicks

Kitsap

Kim Doyle
Stan Plyler
Mary Flick
Steve Engle (absent)
Joe Repar

West Olympic Peninsula

Tomi Gingell (absent)
Louise Smith
Rebecca Wilson
Patricia Hutson (absent)

Medical Program Directors

Steve Churchley, MD (absent)
Joe Hoffman, MD
Sandra Smith-Poling, MD (absent)
Martin Bennett, MD (absent)

Local Law Enforcement

Vacant

USDA Forest Service/Park Service

Vacant

Local Elected Official

Leslie Scholfield

Consumer Representative

Vacant

Naval Hospital Representative

Vacant

Coast Guard Representative

Vacant

State EMS Administrator

Scott Hogan

Region 2 Public Health

Jessica Guidry (absent)

Northwest Region EMS Staff

Anice Grant
April Borbon
René Williams

Visitors

Cliff Wilson
Tim Manly
Jeff Richey

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February 12, 2009
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Sequim, WA

- I. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Tim McKern at 12:00pm.
- II. Approval of November 13, 2008 Minutes

Robert Moser moved to approve the November 13, 2008 minutes as presented. Terry Anderson seconded the motion. Motion was called with a unanimous vote to approve the minutes as presented.
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- III. Treasurers Report
 - A. FY 2009 YTD

The FY 2009 year-to-date financial report was included in the meeting packet as an FYI. Anice reported that all expenses are on track. The group requested that each section of the budget report be totaled so it will be easier to see how much is spent each month on the various budget items. Anice reported that the OTEP reimbursement of \$9 per provider will be sent to each agency within the next 90 days.

- IV. Chair Report

Tim McKern thanked the staff for their efforts on the outstanding Pediatrics Conference. Anice provided a handout of the written staff report which will be provided to all council members on a monthly basis; this report will provide clear, concise updates on what the office is doing and can be used to provide reports to the local councils.

- V. MPD Report

Dr. Hoffman reported that the committee is reviewing the pre-hospital WACs line by line; these are open meetings so all are invited to attend. House Bill 1497 is being proposed; this bill would eliminate most state Boards and Commissions, including the State EMS Steering Committee. An ad-hoc committee is discussing an algorithm or matrix that would show how to request an advisory group be convened to discuss provider issues.

- VI. DOH Report

Scott reported that the hospital designation WACs are being reviewed; revised hospital designation WAC will be in place in 2010. The Pediatric TAC is reviewing the pediatrics portion of the WAC. A letter from Dolly Fernandez was included in the meeting packet about the National Registry testing

process. The implementation of this testing process has been put on hold while a committee works out the details of the transition. The state is working on a supplemental budget for this fiscal year. Next year's budget is unknown. The DOH will receive nothing from the stimulus plan but there may be some funds for hospital electronic record keeping. There is a change in the way the contract will be paid to the regions from the state; Anice has been following this process all along so the region will see no change. Anice is realigning the date on the 2009-2013 plan. Melody Westmoreland has taken a new position so it may take six months or so to fill her position.

VII. Airlift Northwest Report

Jeff reported that Airlift NW took delivery of a new helicopter in January; it is based in Bellingham and is designed differently than the other helicopters they use. Dr. Copass has retired so there has been a change in leadership at the agency; Chris Martin is the new Executive Director and Dr. Baker is the new Medical Director. Airlift has decided they will work from their current bases to provide coverage to the Olympic Peninsula during the Hood Canal Bridge Closure. Weather protocols will remain the same. Family members of patients cannot be transported in helicopters but can go in the Lear Jet. Prisoners who are flown must be accompanied by a guard. They are pushing the Air Car membership insurance plan which significantly reduces the cost of an airlift.

VIII. Region 2 PHEPR Update

Anice provided a handout on the WaTrac system, a new bed tracking system that is now in use in the state. Karen reported that Olympic Medical Center is using the WaTrac system and it could be useful for patient surge during a disaster. Local healthcare coalitions are meeting monthly or bi-monthly, the Hospital Prep group is meeting bi-monthly, and the Regional Healthcare Coalition is meeting quarterly.

IX. Naval Hospital Report

No report.

X. Coast Guard Report

No report.

XI. Olympic National Park Report

No report.

XII. Correspondence

A. DOH—Letters for Reappointment

Copies of DOH reappointment letters to the regional Council were included in the meeting packet for Les Scholfield, Dr Martin Bennett, Steve Engle, Patricia Hutson, Terri Gushee, and Joe Repar.

B. DOH—NREMT-B Testing

A letter from Dolly Fernandez in regards to the NREMT-B Testing process was included in the meeting packet.

C. December and January ‘What’s Happening’ Newsletters

Copies of the December and January ‘What’s Happening’ newsletters were included in the meeting packet as an FYI.

D. Region 2 Healthcare Coalition News and Events

A copy of the January Region 2 Healthcare Coalition Bulletin was included in the meeting packet as an FYI.

XIII. Unfinished Business

A. NREMT-B Update (Testing Process Changes)

Anice is on the work group that is working on the transition to the NREMT-B test. Plans to switch immediately to the National Registry test have been tabled. There are seven critical areas the group is looking at including test security, test site accessibility, state-specific objectives, reciprocity, and roll out communications. All tests have been recalled to the regional office and from now on, only Anice and René will be able to proctor tests in the region. The estimated roll out date for the new testing process is unknown. The state is working with Peninsula College to be a testing site; due to the number of security measures the test site needs to have, it would not be feasible to do this at the regional office. Anyone with concerns about this process can contact Anice or attend the work group meetings.

B. Hood Canal Bridge Closure

This group met yesterday. The boat will be made available on April 28th and the drill will take place on April 29th. The two passenger ferries will be leased from Victoria Express; they will carry 150 passengers and have room for two gurneys. Issues discussed at yesterday’s meeting include a power supply to the gurney area, how to fasten down the gurneys and the oxygen tanks, and the estimated time that the ferries will be shut down for submarine traffic. This group will meet again on March 4th at 10am at Poulsbo Fire. Prior to this meeting the group will do a site visit at the Lofall dock site. DOH medical fact sheets were provided to all in attendance.

XIV. New Business

A. FY'10 RFP Process and Timeline

Anice reported that the training funds RFP was sent out on January 15th. These RFPs are due back to the regional office by March 6th. The Executive/Funding Committee will meet on March 13th to review these requests and approve a recommendation to the full council. A new line in the RFP asks that the local councils provide information on how many providers each agency plans to send to the requested trainings.

B. FY'07-'09 Plan Change Approval

The IPPE portion of the FY 2007-2009 Plan was provided to the group for review. There were three changes that were made to the strategies in regards to the percentage of changes that would be seen from the programs; since there is not data to substantiate these percentages the state suggested that these changes be made.

Terry Anderson moved to approve the suggested changes to the IPPE portion of the FY 2007-2009 plan. Mary Flick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

These changes will be posted on the Region's website for 20 days then forwarded to the state for final approval.

C. FY'09-'12 Plan Recommendation Approval

The FY 2009-2012 Plan was sent to the state for review. After preliminary review, some changes, mostly date alignments, were suggested by the state. A committee including Kim, Jeremy, Terry, and Karen will review these changes by February 20th and the revised plan will be turned into the state by the March 1st deadline. The Council will be asked to approve these changes formally by email.

XV. Prevention Report

A. Prevention Report

An IPPE Report, which details the injury prevention activities in the Northwest Region during December and January was included in the meeting packet as an FYI. April reported that all IPPE programs are going well; the DUI Panel had 101 attendees in January.

XVI. Training Report

A. Training Report

René reported that the Pediatrics Conference went well. There was great feedback; 98% of the attendees would recommend the conference to others. 15 people attended the PALS class. More than 20 people attended the SEI workshop. Half of the conference grant went to equipment so there is new pediatric training equipment at the office for providers to use. The TED Committee met this morning. 76 people attended the EMS Online “train the trainer” course. Mike Helback suggested teaching one module every two months; dates of the practicals can be put on the website and students should have to pass the quiz before participating in the practicals. Mike will teach the BLS Evaluator course which will be offered soon. Mike provided skill sheets for each module that will be used for OTEP recert evaluation instead of the Appendix H. The MPDs will need to approve the use of these sheets. René will need agreements signed by all agencies for the EMS online program. The Pediatric TAC is working on pediatric guidelines.

XVII. Committee Reports

A. Executive/Funding Committee

This group will meet on March 13th in Sequim at 9am.

B. TED Committee

This group met this morning. They thanked Anice and René for all of their work on the conference. The group determined that they will hold annual conferences; next year’s conference will be held on January 23 and 24 and will focus on geriatrics. A pre-conference ACLS course will be offered in conjunction with the conference. An ACLS for EMT-Bs course will be held; a date still needs to be set. The region hosts two 48-hour Paramedic Refresher courses each year; one was held in Sequim in January and one will be held later this year in Kitsap County.

C. QI Committee

This group met earlier today. They discussed pediatric trauma at today’s meeting and will discuss falls at their next meeting. The Annual QI Conference will be held on April 15th at Mary Mac’s.

XVIII. Local Council Reports

A. Clallam County

The EMT class is finished. They are working on their ALS OTEP program. Cliff is looking into training for critical care transport.

B. Jefferson County

The EMT class is ongoing.

C. Kitsap County

The EMT course is ongoing. They are hiring for the QI position. Dr Bennett and the QI Committee are reviewing their QI plan. They are doing quarterly ALS skills stations. South Kitsap Urgent Care is now open.

D. Mason County

Jeremy Hicks is their new Chair. Jess Fulkerson is their new Training Coordinator. They will hold a BLS Evaluator class in Union on March 7th. An IV-Tech class will be coming up. They are working on their funding request, their bylaws, and their budget.

E. West Olympic Peninsula

The WEMSIS program was discussed at their last meeting. Tomi has taken a new position so Rebecca will take over as interim coordinator at the ambulance.

XIX. Other

The next meeting will be held on April 9, 2009.

XX. Adjourn

Terry Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:00pm. Mary Flick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
