

**PCEMS COUNCIL – GO TO MEETING  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES  
March 31, 2021 – 9:00 AM**

**Attendance:**

Membership Attendance Roster on File.

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Norma officiated the meeting with no objections. Attendance to the Go-To-Meeting was verified via roll call. Meeting minutes from January 27, 2021 were voted on and accepted as written.

**Unfinished Business/Standing Reports:**

**A. ‘Divert Committee’ Update – Dr.Waffle**

Dr. Waffle said that the divert committee has not met in the last two (2) months so he has nothing to report. He is trying to get something scheduled soon through a zoom type meeting.

**B. TPCHD Update -Cindy Miron**

Cindy Miron gave the TPCHD update. We are continuing with vaccination strategies. The phase finder tool on the DOH website is no longer operational. TPCHD has developed a 60-day plan to include mass vaccines including static and mobile vaccine sites. The plan, which should be available later this week, will be inclusive of the health care system sites and made available to our emergency management, city and county agencies. Emergency management is encouraged to include their info as well in an effort to be looking community wide where events and locations will be held to make sure we are not saturating certain areas of the population. We are waiting to hear from DOH to find out how much of the FEMA funding is going to be available and how it will be used. In projecting needs at the health department throughout the end of the year, they are about 14 million dollars short which is inclusive of all the COVID response activities. The allocations for vaccines were done directly to all the providers that were signed up. That process has changed so that the location health jurisdiction will inform the DoH about which allocations should go forth. It has been a little rocky the first and second weeks and will take time to settle down. We do know that Pierce County has not met the phase three metrics. Conversations are being held about that. We are starting to inch up in our case rate again. The 65 and over group is seeing a plateau which is probably due to vaccine efforts. Our 20-39 old rates are still high and are concerned that we will see more outbreaks with the opening of the community. Schools are starting to come back on board. At the hospitals, the COVID cases are less than 10%. There is a little uptick around the Gig Harbor area which they are looking into that.

Norma gave a big thank you to all the EMS agencies! We cannot express how much we appreciate all the EMS agencies providing ALS stand by rigs for vaccine events. We couldn't do it without you!

**C. Hospital Data Information Exchange- Russ McCallion**

No update at this time.

#### **D. Recovery Innovations (RRC) Update – Jodie Leer**

Norma Pancake read what Jodie Leer sent to her regarding that Parkland site. It is not open yet. She was hoping the ribbon cutting could wait until we had a better day. There are a few items from the fire marshal that they need to fix. Once they have those items fixed and have a firm date, they will have an open house for first responders. They will let us know when that is.

#### **E. Blood Draw in the Field – Tom Lamanna**

Tom notified Norma that was not something we need on the agenda because it is not the right time to do that. This item was removed from the agenda with no objections.

#### **F. Ambulance Services in Pierce County- underserved/unserved- tabled**

#### **G. MCI- Plan Scenes of Violence Protocol- Russ McCallion/Jeff Moore- tabled**

#### **H. Ebola & Other Highly Infectious Disease Transport Plan – In Process-tabled**

Norma Pancake said that at the State Emergency Preparedness meeting the intra-WA state transport of patients was discussed. There is a plan that was proposed by the company that was contracted to do this for the State of Washington. In looking at this, it was woefully inadequate. Melissa Stoddard, who now works for DOH is working with them to make sure that it is a better product. We will let you know what comes from that committee meeting as we move on. A question was asked if we know where the people are located who are quarantined after travel to Africa. Cindy Miron said that the process is to let SS911 know in premises notes so when an address pops up you will know if there is someone of concern at that location. Are there people in our county who are on watch? Cindy could not answer that question but will get the answer for a future meeting. Dr. Waffle asked if we still have a stripped-down dedicated vehicle that was stripped down for an easy clean. The vehicle was put back into service. We do not have a vehicle in our county anymore. We will rely on Cindy to tell us if there is anyone in our county on watch then brush off that plan and visit what the algorithm is for transport of suspect patients.

#### **New Business:**

None at this time.

#### **Unscheduled:**

Dr. Friedrich requested an update about the Wellfound receiving EMS. That will go in with the protocols unless Dr. Waffle updated saying the Wellfound people are ready to receive patients. They just need notification, so their people can be ready. We are waiting for the protocol approval for our transport to Wellfound.

#### **Announcements:**

The next meeting will be on May 25, 2021.

#### **Adjournment: 9:23 AM**

Scribe: Donna Vitale