

**PCEMS COUNCIL – GO TO MEETING
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 23, 2021 – 9:30 AM**

Attendance:

Membership Attendance Roster on File.

Call to Order:

The meeting was to order at 9:45am by Matt Waltrip. Attendance to the meeting was verified. Meeting minutes from September 29, 2021 were voted on and accepted as written.

Unfinished Business/Standing Reports:

A. ‘Divert Committee’ Update – Dr. Waffle

The divert committee has not formally met.

Unofficial hospital meetings- Tom Lamanna- hospital representatives met to discuss and minimize divert. There was discussion regarding ‘hard divert’ versus ‘soft divert’. Matt began discussion regarding offload times. Karmela reminded MSOs/agencies to complete the extended offload report and submit them to Tom for MHS & she for FHS. Dr.Waffle shared that he is working with a company that can monitor vehicles. He would like agencies to report to him the number of transports your agency does in one year, annotating medical vs trauma would be great too but if unable then the total number is good. Ryan McGrady stated that WPFR is using WATrac and has proven beneficial, POC for access is Scott Foster – scott.foster@nwhrn.org.

B. TPCHD Update -Cindy Miron

From CD/EPI:

Nothing going on really. Absolutely NO diseases transmitted by droplet (like pertussis, flu, meningococcal disease) which still seem to be interrupted due to mask wearing. We are seeing a slight uptick in TB cases due to low cases in 2020 and people either not seeking health care or having problems w/ access due to COVID. (seems weird- more TB that is airborne, but of course this is a latent disease

From STI:

Syphilis cases nearly doubled from 2020 to 2021 in Pierce County, Syphilis is usually seen primarily among men who have sex with men (MSM). With an increase like this, we would expect to see the increase mostly among MSM. What is unique this year, is that the rates among MSM appear stable.

However as of, 2020-- this increase in syphilis cases is in heterosexuals which concerns us due to increasing congenital syphilis cases. We have 11 in the county. Our average tends to be 0-3/year. We have found that many women face barriers to adequate screening and testing- we are building a coalition to address causes of lack of prenatal care in Pierce.

From COVID:

Case information:

- o Total case count: 52,415 (+267)
- o Total deaths likely caused by COVID-19: 621
- o Positivity rate: 2.8%

Road to Recovery phase updates and metrics:

- o New cases per 100,000/14-day below 200: 67.9 up from 62.7
- o New COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000/7-day below 5: 2.7 up .5%
- o Among county residents, about 454,800 (50.5% of all residents; 63.1% of 16+ residents) have initiated vaccination.
- o Within this group, about 59,200 (6.6% of all residents; 7.9% of 16+ residents) are partially vaccinated; 395,600* (42.4% of all residents; 55.5% of 16+ residents) are fully vaccinated.
- o Last week about 6,100 (-1000) first doses were administered in Pierce County.
- o Last week an average of 1,900 residents per day received a vaccine.
- o Currently we have a static site at the Lakewood Town Center, 7 day a week, Puyallup South Hill Mall Charming Charlies, will give it 3 month trial.
Testing options remain the Lakewood emissions center hosted by DEM, and the Bonney Lake site will open additionally, we have test kits available for free at public libraries through the county and from TPCHD.

C. PC Hospital Data Information Exchange Update- Brad Dyson—no report

D. Recovery Innovations (RRC) Update –

No update at this time.

E. MCI Plan- Ryan McGrady

Ryan said there is an MSO meeting on 15 December so he will reactivate the group to do this and bring draft to January PCEMS Ops meeting.

Norma asked to include the EMS office, the NWRHN, Cindy Miron from TPCHD, Tom Lamanna and possibly Mary Hallman from TFD to review and provide comments from all stakeholders.

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

G. Ebola & Other Highly Infectious Disease Transport Plan- In Process-tabled

New Business:

A. EMS Administration of mAb- Dr Waffle

Dr. Waffle said that DOH has not approved it yet, but conversations are ongoing. Dr.Misner relayed that with antiviral medication becoming available, this may not be an issue.

B. Translation Cards Project- Norma

Norma sent out in October proposed Translation cards to agency reps asking for input on adding new questions or other items that would be useful > AMA verbiage.

Unscheduled:

None.

Announcements:

The next meeting will be on 26 January 2022.

Adjournment: 10:58am

Scribe: Donna Vitale