

**PC EMS COUNCIL
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 – 10:00 AM**

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. Meeting minutes from May 29, 2019 were voted on and accepted as written.

Unfinished Business:

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

Tabled until next meeting

B. TPCHD Update – Cindy Miron

Cindy mentioned that they only publish the items that are confirmed. The Tacoma Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD) has new staff. Daniel Watters was hired to work on the MCI plan and will meet with Russ to come up with planning procedures.

There are no Hep A cases in the county. Incidents are going up nationwide, especially in the homeless population. There are vaccinations for first responders, but it is up to the agency to consider them. The vaccination is very effective: ninety-eight percent (98%) if you have two (2) doses. The vaccination becomes effective in two (2) weeks. Flu season is coming up and October is a perfect time to get vaccinated for both the flu and Hep A.

C. Hospital Data Information Exchange – Russ McCallion

Russ Updated on the Hospital Data Exchange System. The system does need to be updated more. The cost associated with updates is a more local IT support cost. The system costs \$70,000 per year. Not all the providers are using the system because of the issues, however, some agencies use the system exclusively so if the decision is made to not use it, all agencies will need notification. The hospitals are having problems with accessing the reports in a timely basis. Also, hospitals cannot print the reports from the system. To continue to provide the best of care, a request was made to try to leave either an electronic or paper copy of the report, even if is not complete. A meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2019 to meet with ESO and discuss the challenges we have and the possibility to have them come and train. We need to know what the barriers are so we can discuss it with them. If you have anything you want discussed with ESO, please let Karmela Palmer know at karmelapalmer@fhshealth.org. A report will be given at the next meeting.

D. MCI Plan- Russ McCallion/Jeff Moore

A request was made to have Daniel Watters from TPCHD come give an update on the MCI plan and the Tri-County efforts.

E. DispatchHealth Project- Dr. Waffle

Dr. Waffle said that DispatchHealth has been active for two (2) months now and is working out well, although it is not being used as much as we wanted.

F. Scenes of Violence Protocol-James Jacques/Russ McCallion/Jeff Moore

The Scenes of Violence Protocol is being planned at a tri-county level and will be put back into the MCI planning. A final draft will be sent out through Norma.

G. ET3 (Emergency Triage, Treatment & Transport) – Russ McCallion

There are conflicting reports. We are not moving forward due to Medicare restrictions. Someone needs to be available 24/7. We need to change the guidelines, but no one is interested in supporting ET3. Medicaid 1358 funding can count against you. ET3 has potential but is not the point end of the spear. More to follow on this.

H. Ebola and Other Highly Infectious Disease Transport Plan

In process - Tabled

I. Off-Campus ED Update – Dr. Heather Justice

The off-campus ED opened on May 13, 2019. As of September 13th, one hundred and one (101) patients were seen. Bonney Lake is opening on November 5, 2019. South Hill will be onboard July 29, 2020. Two (2) calls have gone out by 9-1-1 in four (4) months.

New Business:

A. ETA Update Discussion – Jennifer Brown, MBCH

The ETA Update was tabled until the November meeting.

B. AHA EMS Mission Lifeline Program – Paula Hudson, MHI, RN-AHA Reg Dir

The AHA EMS Mission Lifeline Program was tabled until the November meeting

Unscheduled:

Cindy Miron mentioned that an Ebola tabletop exercise is being planned. EMS participation is needed. Tacoma Fire and Gig Harbor Fire volunteered.

Discussion was held on creating a language for the status of the ER and WATrac issues. The problem comes when a non-critical patient for routine transport occurs and the medics are told they may have to wait for a bed, or they end up calling multiple places. Also, the data in WATrac is frequently stale and doesn't give a good enough picture. A system is needed to give better data.

An introduction was made of Shelley Rhome, the new care manager from CPFR.

Announcements:

The next meeting will be on September 25, 2019.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned @ 11:05

Scribe: Donna Vitale