

CENTRAL REGION EMS AND TRAUMA COUNCIL
Minutes for March 13, 2024, 2:30pm-4pm



Attendees: Mark Taylor, Rachel Weber, Brant Byers, Kara Welchel, Steve Pettit, Annie Birch, Andrea Coulson, James Richardson, Lora York, Shelly McDowell, Trixie Anderson, Tony Kuzma, Karen Kettner, Evan VanOttten, Chantel Arnone, Scott Williams, Vonnie Mayer, Kurtis Dominguez, Will Pierce, Andrea Pedlar, Kate Bendickson, Andy McCoy, Dave Markel, Cheryl Stromberg, Travis Omura, Bob Chapman, David Murphy, Celeste Etherington, Benjamin Allen, David Selander, Tom Rea, Elya Baltazar, Michael Sayre, Jean Anderson, Traci Stockwell, Rose Young, Cameron Buck, Sid, Joshua Michael, Jessica Wall,

1. Call to Order - Mark Taylor, Chair - *Introductions of new attendees*
2. Review of Minutes from 1.10.24 - *Karen motions to approve, Barb seconds, all approve.*
3. Financial Report – Brant Butte, Treasurer - *On track, reviewed expenses, for grant recipients June 15 is the due date for invoices for this fiscal year.*
 - a. Small grant applications - *Two new applications, UW EMS & Providence Swedish Redmond ED were funded. Goal is to expend all funds received each year.*
4. Board Nominations - *Mark provided background on the process. Three board members up for renewal, Karen, Celeste, Barb. All are willing & able to serve another 2-year term. Vote to take place next meeting.*
5. Psych Patient Task Force
 - a. WATrac Psych Saturation informational status - *Celeste provided background of work that has been done, reviewed the proposed definition for Psych Saturation, to replace ED Psych Divert. Confirmed this is for outside First Hill, where they have a process that is working. Kara confirmed this can be 'turned on' for those hospitals specified.*

Wording suggestion changes made. Suggested change: where available resources to care for these patents is exceeded. Consider how to evaluate this new instrument. We can run reports on how often it's used. A facility should audit their own use of Divert.

Celeste moves to approve the definition as shown on screen as edited into our communication plan and working with WATrac, Barb seconds. Discussion - none.

All in favor, many ayes. Opposed - none.

- b. Behavioral Health Catchment area maps - *Brant provided an update on the work he and Matt have spearheaded. May keep the maps as is and trial a rotation out of the SCORE facility.*
- 6. Pre-Hospital Min / Max - *Mark shared the background for this work, done every 2 years. Powerpoint presentation shared. Discussion on current response times. Clarification, this does not include interfacility transports. Barb moves to approve, Karen seconds. All in favor.*
- 7. Wall Times & Best Practice for Transfer of EMS Patients - *Dr. Rea reviewed the wall times data and reports. Some hospitals remain over an hour for 90th-percentile. Brant & Dr. McCoy shared a suggested ambulance triage to waiting room guidelines. Will distribute the proposed draft document to the group to be socialized and reviewed further at the May meeting.*

Wall time report - Dr. Buck, questions why ALS is not included. Concerns regarding Zone 5 hospitals. Question if that is acuity of patients. Other comments regarding total beds, consider max bed count. Consider looking at average monthly volume. Total number of ED visits, example: 2023 ED visits for each facility.

 - a. Standardizing the BLS short report - *Move to May meeting.*
- 8. Reports and Updates
 - a. KC EMS - *Dr. Rea highlights new technology based approach for ESO, health data exchange. Operates best when there is a universal number that EMS puts in to link to hospital information. ESO created software for a probabilistic link/match to increase the linking. Seattle paramedics started a trial of buprenorphine.*
 - b. WMCC - *Still active, supporting mostly rural activities, average ~30/week*
 - c. NWHRN & WATrac - *Had a steering and user group meetings this week. changes on the horizon, trying to figure out how WATrac can be best used. Seeking an EMS representative on Steering committee.*
 - d. EMAC - *Evan Van Otten is our representative.*
 - e. DOH -*Scott gave an update that wasn't in the attached report. Rules are still in process.*

9. Good of the Order - *Vonnie shared that on Monday March 11, Valley Com 911 and 9-8-8 began a soft launch of our co-location here at our Center. 9-8-8 personnel are working side by side in the com room with our 9-1-1 personnel. The goal is to better serve those accessing 9-1-1 with assistance outside of a traditional law enforcement or medical response. We hope to gain efficiencies and prevent unnecessary field unit dispatches (responses).*

10. Adjourn

Next meeting

May 8th, 2024 in-person at King County EOC
3511 NE 2nd St, Renton, WA 98056