CENTRAL REGION EMS AND TRAUMA COUNCIL

Agenda for March 9, 2022, 2:30pm-4pm

1. Call to Order - Mark Taylor, Chair 2:34pm
2. Review of Minutes from 1.12.22 - Karen Kettner motioned to approve, Barbara Jensen 2nd
3. Financial Report – Brant Butte, Treasurer - Current balance $174,867 with an estimated year end balance of 130,306
4. Board of Trustees nominations & vote - We have one open position on the Board of Trustees vacant. Interest from Traci Stockwell of MultiCare Auburn and Chief DeSmith of Renton Fire. We discussed who was currently on the Board and what agencies they represented. A comment to consider the distribution of the Board geographically and from various types of entities, hospital, pre-hospital. Suggestion that votes could be done via SurveyMonkey.
5. KC Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) - Nominate alternate - Council Member Nick Gibbons provided an overview of what EMAC does, the EMAC is a multidisciplinary board that does grant management work and has various subgroups. Currently Chief Coulson from King County Medic One represents the CREMSTCC however we are looking to appoint an alternate.
6. Reports and Updates
   1. NWHRN - Scott Foster reported that NWHRN continues to host Thursday update calls. WATRAC has a new focus on tracking pediatric beds, also working on a hospital ‘difficult to discharge’ report, continuing hospital capacity bed reports, and recently implemented ED Boarding by bed type. Dr. Rea has initiated leadership to be involved in WATrac and looking at instances of Divert. Additionally, the servers for WATrac have been updated.
   2. Washington Medical Coordination Center (WMCC) - Mark Taylor is Director of Operations, this group is based out of HMC. The WMCCC will continue even as COVID numbers decline. The total number has fallen below 500 patients, overall steady declines, decrease in the number of patients on ventilators. Still some boarding occurs and challenges finding resources for some patients. Call volume of the Center is one indicator of stress within the larger system. Averaging 30-35 calls per day at this time, not all COVID related, but mostly ICU care and specialty needs.
   3. KC EMS - Noted that the King County EMS Annual Report is now available online.
   4. DOH - EMS Legislation Update  We are monitoring the following bills that may have some impact on EMS.

**HB 1893 EMTs and Public Health -** DOH requested legislation which amends our regulations to allow EMS providers to continue administering vaccines, COVID testing, etc. in collaboration with public health without the need for an emergency declaration. This bill was amended to include the concept / language from SSB 5900 – Provisional EMS Certification which establishes a provisional certification for EMS providers, prescribes criteria for a provisional certification, and a percentage maximum for the number of providers with provisional certification that an EMS service may have. This bill has passed and is being forwarded to the governor for his signature.

**HB1703 Modernization of the Statewide 911 System is a bill proposed by the State Military Department -** This is a cleanup bill to support ongoing modernization of the statewide 911 communications system. The bill codifies the statewide 911 advisory committee and membership, clarifies definitions, roles and responsibilities for state 911 coordination office and 911 coordinator. This bill has passed and is being forwarded to the governor for his signature.

**SSB 5281** – Cardiac / Stroke bill passed and is being forwarded to the governor for his signature. This bill requires the Department of Health to contract with an independent party to do an assessment of Washington’s cardiac and stroke emergency response system, which should include:

· Identifying gaps in resources, such as training and equipment needs of providers, staff availability, and hospital and system capacity, to specifically include critical access and rural hospitals.

· Analyzing the current state of quality data collection, its deficiencies, and the feasibility, costs, and requirements to improve data collection.

· The value of registries to monitor and improve cardiac and stroke care outcomes, including beneficial data linkages and interoperability.

· Analyzing benefits for establishing a state cardiac and stroke care steering committee.

The department must report findings and recommendations to the legislature by October 1, 2023.

You can learn more about these bills by visiting [www.leg.wa.gov](http://www.leg.wa.gov/).

EMS and Trauma Rulemaking

· **Trauma Rules:** Last January (2021), the Department of Health filed a CR-101 with the Office of the Code Reviser to consider amendments to sections of WAC 246-976-580. The goal of this work is to establish clear requirements and criteria for assessing the need for new level I and II trauma facilities in the state. The next public rulemaking workshop is March 24th 9-11am.  The department encourages your participation and comments can be submitted in addition to or in lieu of workshop meeting attendance to comments traumadesignation@doh.wa.gov. Tony Bledsoe, is the contact for the rule making workshops.

| **Date:** | **Time:** | **Meeting Focus:** |
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| **Wednesday, 3/24/2022** | 9:00am-11:00am | Application Process |
| **Thursday, 4/14/2022** | 9:00am-11:00am | Review Process |

· **EMS Rules:** we have reviewed the 33 sections of EMS rules that we are proposing amendments to in WAC 246-976 for EMS rulemaking. We are drafting proposed amendments in the official format we are required to use and will make the draft available to stakeholders for review as soon as we are done. Then we will move into the CR102 phase of rulemaking.

· **WEMSIS Rules**: Stakeholder meetings for EMS data system rulemaking concluded in March. The rules are in response to the amendment made to RCW 70.168.90 which requires licensed ambulance and aid services to report to the statewide data system. We are working on the draft for public comment then we’ll move to CR-102 process.

New Staff Member

I would like to take a moment to introduce Adam Gallion, he is the newest member of the DOH’s EMS team as the EMS Preparedness and Patient Movement Planner.

* 1. WaTrac status updates & divert
  2. Wall Times - Matt Gau reports that wall times have seen an improvement. Next step is to figure out what the benchmark should be. Dr. Rea asks if there is literature around this standard or a national expectation? Response: 20 minutes which we see from friends in Pierce County. Dr. Buck also encourages the Council to set a benchmark/goal. Suggestions from the group: 20 to 30 minutes. A more in-depth discussion to take place next meeting as well as a subgroup to have specific discussions on this topic.

1. PreHospital Whole Blood program - Dr. Betty Yang - A presentation on the experience of providing low titer 0+ whole blood in the region in the past ~3 years. Comments and discussion of data gathered and recent cases. Of note include that the regional stock of WinRho is very low, suggesting possibility to have an emergency stockpile. Discussion around communications at patient hand-offs. What are the clinical indicators/criteria in the medical populations. Dr. Wall suggests a plan for redundancy in notification.
2. Psychiatric Patient Task Force Meeting: March 16 2pm
3. QI Forum Schedule following council meetings: March 9, May 11, Sept 14, Nov 9
4. Good of the Order & Adjourn

Next meeting scheduled for May 11, 2022 at 2:30 pm