

WHATCOM COUNTY EMS/TC COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 5125
BELLINGHAM, WA 98227
360-715-6418

Email: admin@whatcomcountyems.com

Web Page: www.whatcomcountyems.com

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
April 11, 2005

- PRESENT:** Roger Christensen, President, WCFD #14
Dawn Cannizzaro, Secretary, WCFD # 17
Therese Williams, 1st V-P, BTC
Jason VanderVeen, 2nd V.P. , Lynden
Theresa Sygitowicz, Treasurer , WCFD #16
Russell Brock, WCFD #1
Erica Work, WCFD #2
Paul Van Dyken, WCFD #4
Micah Quintrall, WCFD #7
Leslie Pederson, WCFD #8
Teresa Gregory, WCFD #10
Duncan McLane, WCFD #11
Bob Busch, WCFD #11
Henry Hollander, WCFD #13
Janice Lapsansky, WCFD #17
Bill Boyd, BFD
Anson Chamblin, Cascade Ambulance
Rick Kowsky, Cascade Ambulance
Jeff Richey, Airlift NW
Tom Ardavany, Airlift NW –resigning
Jim Hall, Bellingham Mountain Rescue Council
Bruce Rustad, Mt. Baker Ski Patrol
Klaus Wergin, Consumer
George Ratayczak, Whatcom County Sheriff/S&R, Guest
Don Chumley, WCFD #4, Guest
Keri Snodgrass, Council Staff
- ABSENT:** Geri Chumley, WCFD #4
Howard Adams, WCFD #9
Modesta Urbano, WCFD #14
Dave Hammers, BFD
Bonnie Robinson, North Region EMS&TCC
Jim Wagner, Red Cross
Dr. Marvin Wayne, MPD
Bob Lovelace, Consumer

CALL TO ORDER: President, Roger Christensen, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Whatcom County EMS/TC Council, held at St. Luke's Health Education Center to order at 7:00.

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made by all present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion (McLane/Lapsansky) to approve the minutes of the January, 2005 General Council meeting carried.

REPORTS

TREASURER/FINANCE REPORT: Theresa reported there is \$217,234.76 in the general fund, \$45,197.22 in the ambulance fund; \$16,472.04 in the Industrial CISM, \$5,573.64 in the County CISD for a total of \$284,447.66 as of March 31st. A NIH study column will be added to the cash balance report. An additional deposit of \$7574 was deposited in April to offset the NIH costs. Theresa is working on an investment plan for increasing the return on the council's funds.

OFFICE: Keri reported that the office now has high speed internet access and our email address has changed to admin@whatcomcountyems.com. She has been attending committee meetings out of office, so please call first to make sure she will be in if stopping by for manikin drop off or pick up. Keri also has been doing the accounting for the NIH study. Grant requests for the 2005 conference have been sent.

EDUCATION: OTEP surveys are back and Keri is still working on compiling the info. Online OTEP surveys went out to all districts and the results are being reviewed. Field determination issues with Sick/Not sick Tweeners have been discussed heavily at meetings.

CONFERENCE: 50% of the speakers are booked. The grant request letters have sent but none received. The cadaver labs will be offered again this year. Please contact Therese if you would like to help with this year's conference.

REGIONAL COUNCIL: Annual retreat will be held April 27-29th at the Bellwether Hotel.

INTEROPERABILITY COMMITTEE – The committee consisting of Jason VanderVeen (Lynden), Traci Lester (Prospect), Jerry Martin (BFD), and Naomi Jones (ER Nursing Supervisor) has met twice. This group was formed to address interoperability issues that have been raised and to anticipate problems that may arise. They have been determining what the scope of interest and response is going to be. Current issues include:

- Establishing a QC committee countywide to ensure that everything is done the same way and everybody is receiving the same feedback.
- "Tweeners" – solutions include adding ALS/BLS to the OTEP program.
- How to get feedback on patient condition from the hospital so the EMT can find out if they were even close to figuring out what was wrong with the patient. The hospital is looking at the current HIPPA form.

You may contact any members via email with questions/concerns. Jason jasonandmeganv@msn.com, Jerry Martin jerrymartin@msn.com, Traci Lester tlester@cob.org and Naomi Jones Njones@peacehealth.org.

RED CROSS – No report

EXECUTIVE – The e-board met immediately preceding this meeting. The resignation of Kristen Nelson (Dist 10) and Tom Ardavany (Airlift NW) solved any attendance issues. Applications for new membership were reviewed. Keri was given an annual pay raise.

MPD: Roger reported for Dr. Wayne that Medtronic would like to do a study with BLS providers. The paid study will involve providers attending training on a defibrillator and return to be tested 3 weeks later.

NIH – St. Joes has approved the study in Whatcom County. The community consultation will occur in June since they are not giving informed consent for use of devices and will consist of one meeting and radio announcements. Implementation details will be distributed to the districts as they become available. Another date for the train the trainer is set for Friday April 29th 6-10 pm at the HEC. 20 total manikins have been provided with the study.

OLD BUSINESS

Min/Max – on the BLS side all BLS aid has been changed to ambulance.

Whatcom County EMS status – Communications between the city and county is progressing, but it is too early to report anything. BLS transports will begin within a month in the city. A press release will go to the paper when a date is set.

CISM presentation – Bill Boyd presented a history and background on CISM including the issues, problems and current research. Results from a survey sent to 300+ Whatcom County firefighters show that they view debriefings as valuable, but research shows little or no benefit with psychological debriefings using Mitchell or other models. He would like to continue debriefings using the resiliency model that focused on education about stress management rather than attempting to draw out thoughts and feelings.

It was concluded that assuming oversight of the Whatcom County CISM First Responder Program is consistent with the goals and mission. A motion (Rick/Klaus) for the council to take on the role of administration of the CISM was approved. CISM would be a standing committee of the council working with Janet Ott, the clinical administrator.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominations: Dawn Cannizzaro was nominated and approved for another term as secretary. Therese Williams and Howard Adams were nominated for 1st V.P with Therese Williams being reelected.

Applications for membership: Applications for membership were received from Leslie Pederson (WCFD #8), Shaun Ward (WCFD #8), Jeff Richey (Airlift NW) and Micah Quintrall (WCFD #7). A motion (E-Board/Chamblin) to accept the applications (pending a valid agency signature on Shaun Wards) was approved. A motion (Boyd/Wergin) to add to the application a line stating that all questions must be completed before consideration for membership carries.

Public Education Committee – the committee’s purpose is to educate people as to what service type they would like in the future. Members will be appointed as needed. A position could be available for a part time person working with the committee. A report will be given at each council meeting. Current membership includes a representative from each county region and representatives from the county government. They are currently looking into how much grant money would be needed and how to acquire the funding. The initial focus will be towards service providers so that all responders are getting a consist picture of where EMS service is in the county.

GOOD OF THE ORDER – Marv has a new granddaughter. Janice has a student who wants some work experience with trauma. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40.