

WHATCOM COUNTY EMS/TC COUNCIL
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GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
July 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
Geri Chumley, WCFD #4
Leslie Pederson, WCFD #8
Shaun Ward, WCFD #8
Howard Adams, WCFD #9
Henry Hollander, WCFD #13
Modesta Urbano, WCFD #14
Janice Lapsansky, WCFD #17
Bill Boyd, BFD
Rick Kowsky, Cascade Ambulance
Jim Wagner, Red Cross
Jim Hall, Bellingham Mountain Rescue Council
George Ratayczak, Whatcom County Sheriff/S&R,
Keri Snodgrass, Council Staff
- ABSENT:** Paul Van Dyken, WCFD #4
Micah Quintrall, WCFD #7
Teresa Gregory, WCFD #10
Duncan McLane, WCFD #11
Bob Busch, WCFD #11
Jeff Richey, Airlift NW
Bruce Rustad, Mt. Baker Ski Patrol
Klaus Wergin, Consumer
Anson Chamblin, Cascade Ambulance
Dave Hammers, BFD
Bonnie Robinson, North Region EMS&TCC
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 (Sygitowicz /VanderVeen) to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2005 General Council meeting carried.

REPORTS

TREASURER/FINANCE REPORT: Theresa reported there is \$219,002.24 in the general fund, \$45,197.22 in the ambulance fund; \$21,114.54 in the Industrial CISM, \$5,573.64 in the County CISD; -\$18,169.02 in the NIH Study for a total of \$272,718.62 as of June 30th. The study has been billed as of July 5th for 19,076.84. The difference is Keri's wages. Theresa is looking for someone to help her on a financial committee to review the financial statements of the council's funds. If interested contact Keri.

OFFICE: Keri reported that she has been working with the public education committee attending the meetings. A new office all in one machine has been purchased. New letterhead and logo has been finalized. She has been working with Janice on the bookkeeping end of the NIH study. EMT-B applications have been sent out for the fall class. Application deadline is deadline is August 11th.

EDUCATION: **2006** OTEP is being developed by Sean Farnand. Districts need to report their monthly training records to Keri so that she can turn the records into N. Region. Our funding is dependant on these reports getting complete. The committee decided that a district will be billed for their portion of OTEP if they fail to submit their training records. Each district will be noticed of this by letter. The committee is working on a MCI plan to recommend to the chiefs association so that when we cross borders or respond to large incident everybody is on the same page. The committee is working on the barriers to on-line OTEP. The goal is to have online available in the next two years and would like to start addressing the issues now. The OTEP survey results were very positive. A Tweeners class will hopefully be taught by Dr. Wayne and videotaped to show to those who cannot attend. Evaluators will be invited to the OTEP instructor workshops this fall.

CONFERENCE: *All speakers are booked.* Gordon Graham will be our keynote speaker. The brochure still needs to be completed and sent to printers. Anybody who can help Keri stuff packets and help at the conference should contact the council office. We are short on grant funds at this point compared to last year and will most likely send out more grant letters.

REGIONAL COUNCIL: Bonnie called regarding lack of representation at the north region – consumer position vacant, elected official position vacant. David Hammer is prehospital rep and that will become vacant. Denise is at –large and will not be renewing in September. Of 5 positions, 4 will remain vacant. Prehospital needs grant will open

up in September. Last year there was \$47713 given from north region, Whatcom County received \$319 of it.

INTEROPERABILITY COMMITTEE –the committee has wrapped up for the summer with a written report to Roger. They have stopped discussion on the tweener issues, as it will never end, but they would like to see this continue as an education issue. They will look into grant money to hire a QI person that would act as a go-between with hospital, Dr. Wayne and the county. They will present to the chiefs a countywide HIPPA form to grease wheels for case studies and easier flow of information. The committee will meet again in September or October.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE – The committee is looking to put a 4-8 page newsletter out early August titled “dispatch, emergency providers working together” to be distributed to all EMS responders by Keri. It will include a calendar of events, two case studies, pictures of the airport drill and numerous articles including an update of EMS working group. The newsletter will also be posted on the county website, the council’s website and possibly the city website. The goal is to have two issues out by the end of the year. This is being funded by a \$9000 grant from the county (from the generous donation of the Nooksack tribe.

RED CROSS – looking for a new director....things slow due to summer. Still have 8 EMT’s and are bringing two more on.

EXECUTIVE – Keri’s title was changed to Operations Manager. Theresa reported on the investment of the funds possibilities. There was a discussion on the status of the committees.

MPD: nothing to report.

NIH: Janice reported that the June 30th community consultation meeting was one of last steps to be able to enroll patients. The study is awaiting final approval from the FDA, then she expects to enroll patients by mid-august. The county is ready when the approval is given as training is nearly completed. Agencies that would like to have a manikin on site for ongoing training need to contact Janice. She will be distributing pens to districts with the phone number on them and business cards to hand out to those who have questions. Point Roberts (Dist 5) and Lummi Island (Dist 11) have opted out of the study.

CISM: Bill reported that the mental health professional met to discuss revamping the program. They want to have a pre education component with a pier support type of approach. Debriefing program is still needed for extraordinary type of incidents. They are looking in to being a clinical referral and disaster response if something happens on a regional level. Janet is looking into the costs. Bill will be the liaison between the council and the committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Whatcom County EMS status –Roger distributed what was submitted to the commissioners association. The plan recommendation has been approved and presented to the county today and should be in the news reports in the morning. Essence of the plan is page 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

Applications for membership:

All members of the committees have been requested to submit applications.

Motion (E-Board/Kowsky) to approve applications from *Gary Baar, Lynden (Education Committee); David Ralston, WCFD #2 (Public Education); Linda Harduar (Public Education); Traci Lester, Prospect (interoperability); Sherry Gaan (education); Jay Comfort, BFD (Interoperability); George Ratayczak, Sheriffs office (general council)* pending proper signatures carried.

A motion (Cannizzaro/Boyd) to make the public education and inter-operability committee ad hoc committees that will be reviewed in two years was approved.

GOOD OF THE ORDER –With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25. Kowsky/Adams.