

WHATCOM COUNTY EMS/TC COUNCIL  
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**GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 8, 2007**

**PRESENT:** Roger Christensen, President, Whatcom Medic One  
Dawn Cannizzaro, Secretary, WCFD # 17  
Marianne Caldwell, Treasurer,  
Russell Brock, WCFD #1  
Marv Simonsen, WCFD #1  
Erica Work, WCFD #2  
Jerry Martin, WCFD #7  
Duncan McLane, WCFD #11  
Bob Busch, WCFD #11  
Holly Salkeld, WCFD #16  
Cole Gates, WCFD #16  
Janice Lapsansky, WCFD #17  
Anson Chamblin, Cascade Ambulance  
Kent Nelson, Mt. Baker Ski Patrol  
Jim Hall, Bellingham Mountain Rescue Council  
Keri Snodgrass, Operations Manager, EMS Council office

**ABSENT:** Therese Williams, 1<sup>st</sup> V-P, BTC  
Jason VanderVeen, 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.  
Paul Van Dyken, WCFD #4  
Leslie Pederson, WCFD #4  
Justin Thompson, WCFD #8  
Howard Adams, WCFD #9  
John Swobody, NWFRS  
John Geleyne, Lynden  
Rick Kowsky, Cascade Ambulance  
Bill Boyd, BFD  
Dr. Marvin Wayne, MPD  
Jeff Richey, Airlift NW  
Bonnie Robinson, North Region EMS&TCC  
George Ratayczak, Whatcom County Sheriff/S&R,  
Bob Lovelace, Consumer  
Klaus Wergin, Consumer

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**CALL TO ORDER:** President, Roger Christensen, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Whatcom County EMS/TC Council, held at St. Joseph's hospital to order at 7:05.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made by all present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion (Janice/Dawn) to approve the minutes of the July meeting carries.

## **REPORTS**

*TREASURER/FINANCE REPORT:* Marianne distributed the quarterly income and expenses, cash balance, and investment funds reports. Cash balance is \$153566. Balance in the American Funds is \$184,456. 60k was invested into in a 5.1% CD at The Bank of the Pacific.

*OFFICE REPORT:* Keri reported that the majority of her time now is being spent on conference preparation. If anybody would like to assist at the conference please contact her.

*EDUCATION:* The committee is working on an evaluator workshop. Emphasis will be on making the skills testing more realistic. They are also working on transport guidelines and protocols. Meetings have changed to the 1:00 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month. Denise Christensen will be taking over as chair from a resigning Desta Urbano. Until there is a change of presidency, she will be reporting to Therese Williams.

*CONFERENCE:* Keri reported that the conference preparations are nearly complete. Randy VanderHeiden has taken over as chair and is doing a great job. Registrations are slightly down or on pace with last year. Contact Keri if you would like to assist at the conference.

*REGIONAL COUNCIL:* Northwest ambulance has applied for a BLS trauma verification transport license in Snohomish and possibly Skagit and Whatcom counties. Interfacility transports are taking too long and the hospital wants to move the patients out quicker.

*MCI drill* – 1<sup>st</sup> planning meeting is this week on a federally funded major disaster with federal, state and local law enforcement and EMS agencies that will take place in June of 2008.

*PUBLIC EDUCATION:* Erica reported that the newsletter is ready. She will contact Thom Barrie, who handles our conference design work, to see if he will be able to assist in the layout.

*EXECUTIVE:* Dawn reported that the e-board has met twice since the last general meeting. Major issues addressed include the min/max numbers and Northwest ambulances license request. A response letter has been drafted that states having a third private transport company in Whatcom County would cause a hardship on the existing companies. • Discussion ensued on Rural Metro wanting BLS transport certification to transport for Dist 18. • A policy will be developed for Industrial CISM regarding their

expense reimbursements. • The Q/A committee has been put on hold until the ambulance advisory board meets. Each district is handling their own q/a at this time.

*MPD*: no report

*RESQ TRIAL*: Janice reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the study has just passed with well over 400 cases from Whatcom County. There is a 6<sup>th</sup> site now as they need over 3000 total participants between all sites. Janice will try to report soon results in general terms to responders without divulging which arm of CPR was used. Agencies are doing great adhering to the protocols and training.

*QA*: Jerry reported that it was a shock that they were being disbanded as the group has the chiefs' support since there is not active coordination of BLS oversight. The group was asked to back up the idea of having one person. The committee determined another way was to have a committee to handle all standards (education, equipment, communication, ect). That committee would meet quarterly with the hospital to make sure everything is working well. After reporting on this plan they were then asked to not meet anymore. The committee QA plan was never given the chance to see if it would work or fail. At the ambulance advisory board meeting both Jerry and Marv gave opposing presentations. The ambulance advisory board has agreed to take up the issue and will discuss it at its fall meeting. The board consists of the mayor, county executive, mayors of small cities, commissioners and non voting members. Dr. Wayne would like a paid person instead of a committee. Funding of a single person is a huge stumbling block for agencies. Dr. Wayne is by law responsible for QA.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

*Cross-border disaster planning*: Semi final draft will go to lawmakers in Washington, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. They are looking at what law changes they need for smoother movement of patients and crews across the border in the event of a major disaster. A final plan should be done before the 2010 Olympics.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

*APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP* – a membership application was received for David Phillips with Rural Metro. Per the by-laws, a non resident applicant must be approved by a 2/3 majority. The application for membership was not approved by the two-thirds required. The applicant is invited to attend the next meeting to reapply and present on his application.

The issue of residency was further discussed, including why this was originally added to the by-laws. Solutions discussed include not being able to chair a committee or that only a % of the board can be made up of non resident members.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**: Marv Simonson can buy extrication gloves for a discount from retail price. Please contact him for more information

**MEETING ADJOURNED** at 8:10.