

Skagit County EMS & Trauma Care Council Advisory Board Meeting

August 20, 2025, 9am-10am

EMS Richenson Room w/ GoToMeeting

<u>Present:</u> Josh Pelonio – EMS Director Wood Weiss – District 13 Chief Dan Laine – Burlington EMS Division Chief Glen Gardner – Sedro Woolley Assistant Chief Dwight Worden– Cascade Ambulance <u>Ex Officio Absent:</u> Peter Browning - Skagit County Commissioner <u>Non-Voting:</u> Jill Hoogerhyde – Skagit EMS Training Freya Peebles – Skagit EMS Admin. Coordinator	<u>Absent:</u> Matthew Russell – EMS Medical Program Dir. Margie Campbell – Anacortes Hospital Velma Lockrem – Swinomish PD <u>Observer:</u> Joseph Ridtibuez – Cascade Ambulance Lora York - LifeFlight Daun Stoubaugh – LifeFlight Mike Hilley – North Region Josh Peters – NW Ambulance
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Opens at 9am.

Welcome: G. Gardner

- G. Gardner calls meeting to order.
 - 02-19-2025 Meeting Minutes
 - **D. Laine Moves to approve the 02-19-2025 meeting Minutes – W. Weiss**
- Seconds, Opposed: None**

EMS Department Updates

EMS System Updates: J. Pelonio

- **Richenson Training Room**
 - Expecting updates
 - Sept/Oct
 - Video wall
 - Upgraded Microphone/Speaker System
- **Ambulance Transport Rate Schedule**
 - Public Hearing 10-06
 - Inflationary update to catchup
 - Timing based on OIC requirements
- **FOTS – NAEMT First on the scene**
 - Shorter curriculum than what we currently use
 - Putting together training material
 - Will do some test runs
 - Goal is to offer more trainings

- Will allow for more flexibility on trainers

Education/Training Updates: J. Hoogerhyde

- **HELMS**
 - New online system
 - Working through problems
 - Communicating with DOH to keep them aware of problems we're running into
 - Healthcare licensing in one place
 - Appears to be a smoother process for agencies
 - Those who have people certifying notify Jill so she's aware
 - Individuals need to select an agency when applying
 - Applications can be emailed, but it needs to come from MPD

North Region EMS & Trauma Care Council Updates: M. Hilley

- M. Hilley has been put in as Interim Director
- Planning and working towards the future
 - Gotten out of debt
- Executive Director position
 - Hire
 - Contract with another Region
 - Preferred
 - Western Region
 - Conversations are being had
 - Aug 28th meeting – MOU
 - Discuss Contract
 - Physical Address required
 - Bylaws change to eliminate language or allow for flexibility
 - Informed by State DOH might be reductions in finance to councils
 - Eliminate almost half of funding
 - Put a pause on grants for this year
 - Appears that much of that funding has been restored
- Membership
 - Hospital, Consumer, Elected positions in Skagit open
 - Discussion regarding open positions
- Nov 14th last day in Whatcom
 - Will be looking for a new Chair
 - New chair will have to navigate the new future of the council

Old Business:

- **Bylaws Review**
 - Followed Yakama model
 - Went through “red line” Bylaws
 - Cleaning up to match what’s in WAC 246-976-970
 - Terminology cleanup
 - To include Public and Private providers
 - Course approval requirement was removed by DOH
 - Removed new initiative funding
 - Change with counties budget priorities
 - Changes to size of board – 1.2
 - Will work to fill a few positions
 - There’s a few that we’ve worked to fill
 - May remove those positions
 - Could be added again later
 - **D. Laine Moves to approve the changes to the Bylaws – W. Weiss**
Seconds, Opposed: None

New Business:

- **Advisory Board Member Vacancies**
 - **Terming out Positions**
 - Brook Moser – Hospital Position
 - Filling Paul Ross’s position – Ends Feb 2027
 - **D. Laine Moves to approve appointment B Moser – D. Worden**
Seconds, Opposed: None
 - Rural Fire Agency Representative Position
 - Will attend Fire Commissioner to request they recommend a replacement
 - **W. Weiss Moves to approve whoever the Fire Commissioners appoint – J. Pelonio Seconds, Opposed: None**
 - Lani Miller - Prevention specialist Position
 - Resigned
 - Term through 5/27
 - Will reach out to Pubic Health to see if they have someone for this position
 - If there’s someone else let Josh know
 - Lani Miller provides experience and is willing to serve the remainder of her term
 - **Skagit County Min/Max Review**
 - Last reviewed in 2018
 - In two areas our # falls below the minimum

- Propose to reduce minimums
- State has guidance to make changes
- Would like to get a group together to discuss
 - Paperwork needs to be put together
 - Changes need review by this board
 - North Region will need to review and recommend

Round Table/Good of the Order

- North Region Consumer Position Requirements?
 - Can't be current provider with agency
 - Civilian who takes interest in EMS
- Whatcom hosting Community Conversation night on documentary – PTSD 911
 - Approx 90 minutes
 - At High School
 - Panel Discussion
- HELMS
 - Lapsed
 - Through HELMS or Paper route?
 - Through HELMS, but the State will wait for the physical documentation to come through
 - Click OTEP box is you're certifying this method
- LifeFlight
 - L York stepping back
 - D Stoubaugh stepping in as Point of Contact

Votes:

- 02-19-2025 Meeting Minutes: **D. Laine Moves to approve the 02-19-2025 meeting Minutes – W. Weiss Seconds, Opposed: None**
- Board Member Positions
 - Hospital Representative to take over Paul Ross's Term: **D. Laine Moves to approve appointment B Moser – D. Worden Seconds, Opposed: None**
 - Rural Fire Agency Representative Position: **W. Weiss Moves to approve whoever the Fire Commissioners appoint – J. Pelonio Seconds, Opposed: None**
- Bylaws Update - **D. Laine Moves to approve the changes to the Bylaws – W. Weiss Seconds, Opposed: None**

Adjourned: 0950

Next Meeting: 9a-10a November 19, 2025, Location: Richenson Training Room – 2911 E College Way, Mount Vernon, WA w/ Zoom Teleconference Option