

# Skagit County EMS & Trauma Care Council Advisory Board Meeting

November 20, 2019, 10am-Noon

## Present:

Bryan Brice – Mount Vernon Chief  
Joan Cromley – Hamilton Mayor  
Tyler Dalton – Skagit Regional Health RN  
Lisa Edwards – Island Hospital RN  
Chet Griffith – Fire District 8 Commissioner  
Roy Horn – Fire District 13  
Sandra Jensen – County Meadow Village Dir.  
Josh Pelonio – EMS Interim Dir.  
Amie Tidrington – Skagit County Public Health  
Nick Walsh – Anacortes Assistant Chief

## Ex Officio:

## Absent:

Matthew Russell – EMS Medical Program Dir.  
Jared Couch – Upper Skagit Sergeant  
Lisa Janicki – Skagit County Commissioner  
Ron Wesen – Skagit County Commissioner  
Steve Sexton – Burlington Mayor

## Observer:

Wood Weiss – District 13 Assistant Chief

## Non-Voting:

Renata Maybruck – Skagit EMS Projects Manager  
Mike Kirkman – Skagit EMS Training & Quality Assurance Specialist  
Freya Peebles – Skagit EMS Admin. Coord.

Opens at 10am.

## **Welcome:** N. Walsh

- Greets and welcomes group
- Group introduces selves

## **Review/Approve August 21, 2019 meeting minutes:** N. Walsh

- R. Maybruck sent out minutes from the last meeting.
- Were there any questions or issues with the minutes?

**Lisa Edwards Moves to Approve August 21st, 2019 meeting minutes. Nick Walsh Seconds. Opposed, None.**

## **Nominations:** N. Walsh

- Approval of Chief Roy Horn's replacement to the Advisory Board
  - Chief Roy Horn is retiring at the end of this year.
  - **Roy Horn Moves to Approved Wood Weiss as his replacement. C. Griffith Seconds, Opposed, None.**
- North Region EMS & Trauma Care Council Nominees appointment
  - A copy of the resolution has been made available in today's packet.
  - N. Walsh reads names of appointees out loud.

## **2019 Quarter 2 EMS Training Report:** M. Kirkman

- Goes over Training Report

- Copy provided to group in today's packet.

**New Business: C. Griffith**

- OTEP Training Re: Vacuum Backboards:
  - Question came up at last night's training. Is EMS levy purchasing these for agencies?
    - J. Pelonio: Yes. Doesn't have the exact numbers in front of him at the moment, but, each District will get at least one.
    - C Griffith: If a patient is transported with the device how to get it back?
    - J. Pelonio: Let our office know and we'll work on retrieving it for you.
    - C Griffith: There's still a concern.
    - J. Pelonio: Doesn't anticipate it happening a lot, but when it does our office will work on retrieving it as soon as possible.
    - M Kirkman: Let our office know as soon as possible.
    - L Edwards: One of our nurses goes down weekly. Maybe we could work something out to pick them up.
    - T. Dalton: Are these going to be marked for each agency?
    - J. Pelonio: Correct. We intend to come to the hospitals to talk to them about these.

**Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's): R. Maybruck**

- Stakeholder Group is making good progress
  - Building QA/QI System
  - Patient Care Records
    - Defining what a patient is and is not
    - Has been made an assignment in Target Solutions
  - Sentential event being worked on currently
  - Non Transport Refusals
    - When they're allowed to refuse and when not
    - Documentation
  - New Hire Checklist
- B. Brice:
  - Defining of a patient affects everyone in the County for consistency across agencies and districts.
  - Second is what's a sentential event affects every single agency. All are being worked for everyone.
  - Hiring – Here's what the county requires
- N. Walsh: Defines sentential event.
- R. Maybruck: Working toward a smoother process where stakeholders meet and then Dr. Russell is included to polish.

**Updates: J. Pelonio**

- ProQA
  - Worked toward an Interlocal for a purchasing agreement between Skagit 911

and Skagit County

- Additionally there's a timeline included.
- Yesterday we found out that the hardware won't be here until Mid-March. Because this is later than anticipated, it will be discussed.
- Moving forward
- B. Brice: Who is the Project Manager?
- J. Pelonio: There's a stake holder group. Doesn't know that there is a Project manager.
- B. Brice: Because it affects so many, this group should be kept updated on progress. Makes the recommendation that this group receives the project timeline.
- J. Pelonio: Suggests maybe including someone from this group, outside of himself.
- N. Walsh: Is there something that isn't getting accomplished or that would benefit with additional people? Sometimes more people on a board makes it less productive.
- J. Pelonio: It consists of himself, 911, their IT folks and County IS. Should have more information on implementation process. Doesn't believe that there is someone driving the project. He's representing the group that's funding the project, but he's not directing what's happening.
- B. Brice: This group should know from an oversight piece for potential impacts on agencies within the county.
- J. Pelonio: Would be helpful that this group recommend an operations person be included.
- **B. Brice Moves to recommend an operations person be included in the ProQA group. A. Tidrington 2nds. Opposed, None.**
- T. Dalton: As far as a hospital point of view is being able to QA the process.
- J. Pelonio: Want to get to a point where what we're doing is working and that we can coordinate the level of care and QA that process before we send BLS unit only to a BLS call.
- Group: Discusses QA process.
- N. Walsh: Can write a letter for a recommendation.
- R. Maybruck: Believes having a project manager to make the project happen is important. EMS is funding it, at approximately \$500,000. The recommendation was made for this process to be as quick as possible and it's important to note that when the board signed the timeline was 8-12 weeks, now it's 24 weeks. We're already behind. Important for this group recommend that 911 appoint a project manager, as well as an operations person for this project.
- **B. Brick Amends previous motion to reflect that. Opposed, None.**
- Premise permissions:
  - Been working with County, Sheriff's and IS department to provide permissions to access data in CAD.
  - Benefit, allows access to pre-fire information, maps and data that they upload and store on individual addresses.
  - December 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be 33 people signed up and trained to use. Mainly

Chief Level individuals.

- T. Dalton: Could down the road assist Para medicine?
- J. Pelonio: Potentially.
- Training Hubs
  - Have been using a Regional Training Hub Model
  - Adjustments have been made. New contracts are in the works
  - Working with agencies to work out concerns.
- EMS Rate Setting
  - Ambulance transport fee schedule.
  - Came up with a proposal.
  - North West Regional average patient charge per transport at the various levels. Used Regional average for nonresident fee and 50% for the resident fee. Recognizing the fact that it's been several years since an adjustment has been made we didn't want to go up to the North West average for our residents.
    - Need a public hearing to discuss
  - R. Maybruck: February timeline
  - N. Walsh: Obligated to look at our rates each year to adjust of necessary. It's been several years since it's been adjusted. Even with the change we'll not be up to the same fee level as neighboring counties.
- Recommended Units
  - In October we moved to recommended units.
  - Some issues have been worked out and it's temporary until quickest routes.
  - R. Maybruck: Would add that the challenge is that in Jan 2019 we committed to being live with quickest routes by July 2020. Timeline was moved by IS/GIS to August 2020. Has had a few meetings to continue to work toward the August 2020 timeline. 911 has recently said that they cannot implement in 2020 at all. Looking at 2021 implementation. Will keep this group posted on updates.
  - B. Brice: Currently 911 is able to use GPS to know where the vehicle is and where the incident is. Question is the routing need to be on the vehicles?
  - J. Pelonio: Clarification that he's received on that very question is originally he was told, no. They'll have the quickest route unit. At the next meeting it was technically they could, but they'd prefer not and working on other items first.
  - B. Brice: Recommends that in the February meeting would have a representative from whoever knows the system who knows could present to this group, their prospective on what needs to be done.
  - R. Maybruck: Has county IS to request a DEMO from Spillman as well as a cost schedule. Was told it has to be all or nothing.
  - N. Walsh: Expects February is too far out and expects that EMS will have more knowledge before February then maybe we could make a recommendation.
  - R. Maybruck: They've delayed the contract indefinitely because 911 can't put it on their schedule for next year.

- B. Brice: Looking for more of an understanding piece. So as we make further recommendations, it's with knowledge on who and how their affected based on what we know.
- J. Pelonio: Invite group to flex mobile demo.
- R. Maybruck: As soon as she has date she'll send it out.
- SVC Training
  - 10 people in EMT school at the college.
  - Finally have our students in our SIM Lab where they can perform skills on manikins.
  - Incident for the background checks.
    - It's not set up that those are completed before the course starts.
  - Ride along Contracts are being worked through.
    - Will be adding additional hospitals.

**Updated New Initiative Application: R. Maybruck**

- Handouts have been provided in today's packet.
  - Updated the form presented at the August's meeting
  - This process will be rolled out beginning next year, 2020.
  - Once process is approved it will be announced Jan 31<sup>st</sup> next year.
  - C Griffith: Can Fire Districts and SAR apply?
  - J. Pelonio: They are not excluded
  - C Griffith: Sheriff's do not want to sign contract. Doesn't know where to go from here. Currently get nothing.
  - J. Pelonio: It's his intention to move forward to be able to provide supplies for SAR
- Goes over matrix that Brian Brice worked out. Would like to go through examples
  - B. Brice: Goes over handout to see about working out scenarios.
  - Form may not be ideal for every scenario.
    - Categories need to be tweaked to fit as many scenarios as possible.
- L. Edwards: Discussion on changing of meeting timeline due to North Region Grants.
- R. Maybruck: June meeting next year will be when we decide what we'll what to apply for. Will be on the agenda for June.

**Inter-Facility Transports: T. Dalton**

- Was hoping to get data from NW. The data is only half complete. Transports greater than 60 minutes is down to 6 over 3 months.
- Total over the 3 months period was
  - 170 transports
  - 17 ALS
  - 15 BLS
- Harborview was the primary they transported to.
- Island Hospitals transfer rate has been about the same. They've not been using NW as much, because the weather's been good, they've been using airlift more frequently.
- N. Walsh: Are you doing anything with 911 resources with interfaculty?

- J. Pelonio: Tracking level of acuity of transfer? Threshold of Nurse Vs Paramedic?
- T. Dalton: All are currently Nurse. Some limitation. Nurse car doesn't intubate.
- J. Pelonio: Do we have in county capability to provide resources.
- T. Dalton: Did add on a 12 hour nurse car to help with transports. Expects to receive more information. Should he be including Airlift?
- J Pelonio & N. Walsh: Believe so.

**New topics for next meeting:** N. Walsh

- B. Brice: Look at and amend bylaws for replacing agencies who change personnel.
- N. Walsh: Matrix criteria.

R. Maybruck: As soon as we have a calendar for the flex mobile it will be sent out.

Nick Walsh, Chair, adjourns meeting.

**Votes:**

1. Approval of August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 Meeting Minutes: **All for, none opposed.**
2. Approve Wood Weiss as replacement for Roy Horn, District 13: **All for, none opposed.**
3. Recommend an operations person be included in the ProQA group. A. Tidrington 2nds. **All for, none opposed.**
  - a. Amend motion to recommend an operations and project manager for the ProQA group. **All for, none opposed.**

**Next meeting:** 9a-10a February 19, 2020, Location: TBD