

Skagit County EMS & Trauma Care Council Advisory Board Meeting

February 19, 2020, 9am-11am

Burlington Fire Department

Present:

Jared Couch – Upper Skagit Sergeant
Tyler Dalton – Skagit Regional Health RN
Lisa Edwards – Island Hospital RN
Chet Griffith – Fire District 8 Commissioner
Sandra Jensen – County Meadow Village Dir.
Josh Pelonio – EMS Director
Steve Sexton – Burlington Mayor
Amie Tidrigton – Skagit County Public Health

Ex Officio:

Ron Wesen – Skagit County Commissioner

Absent:

Bryan Brice – Mount Vernon Fire Chief
Lisa Janicki – Skagit County Commissioner
Matthew Russell – EMS Medical Program Dir.
Nick Walsh – Anacortes Assistant Fire Chief
Wood Weiss – District 13 Fire Chief

Observer:

Nicole Bird – Island Hospital Registrar
Chris Kading – Skagit County Sheriff Sergeant

Non-Voting:

Mike Kirkman – Skagit EMS Training & QA Specialist
Freya Peebles – Skagit EMS Admin. Coordinator

Opens at 9am.

Welcome: T. Dalton

- Greats and welcomes group
- Group introduces themselves

Review/Approve November 20, 2019 meeting minutes: T. Dalton

- Approval of minutes.
Chet Griffith Moves to Approve November 20th, 2019 meeting minutes. Jared Couch Seconds. Opposed, None.

EMS Department Updates

2019 Annual Report: J. Pelonio

- Uploaded onto Skagit EMS Website
- Important to recognize cooperation and collaboration by the Cities and Fire Departments to complete the transition
- Ongoing projects

ProQA: J. Pelonio

- Most of the Hardware has been received
- 911 & IS beginning to assemble the equipment
- Hoping for tentative schedule of implementation by end of next week
 - On track for Aug/Sept “Go Live”

Quickest Routes: J Pelonio

- Currently dispatching by recommended unit by proximity/line of sight
- GIS has reaching out to Municipalities to get street information
 - Once installed it will be able to dispatch according to drive time.
- Quickest Routes should be schedules after end of April.

Standard Operating Guidelines: J. Pelonio

- Have completed 3 SOG's
- New Paramedic Integration Process will be worked on next

Revisit Quickest Routes:

- S. Sexton: Is there a way to also take Train Traffic into account?
- J. Pelonio: Yes. Doesn't know if we'll have that capability out of the gate, but expects we will eventually.
 - They will begin with the using the basic GIS layer and make adjustments as we progress
- J. Couch: How did we get to a point where this was necessary?
- J. Pelonio: One of the challenges is the workload of the Dispatcher is such that they don't have time to look at a map to determine who's closest. Trying to automatic it so it's efficient and takes some of the workload off the dispatcher.
 - We were using response plans initially.
 - Relies on Station Location regardless of apparatus location.
 - Resulted in switching of units.
 - Evolved on recommended unit
 - Which doesn't take into account obstacles like rivers and trains
 - Idea is to be more efficient and remove some of the workload for the dispatchers.

Education/Training: M. Kirkman

- Refers to handouts
 - Goes over 2019 Training Handout
- R. Wesen: How much training do we need to keep our volunteers and staff current?
- M. Kirkman: Varies depending on their EMS Level.
 - Explains EMT vs Paramedic training requirements
 - We're keeping most individuals current
 - There will be individual situations where a training may lapse, but a part of his job is to keep an eye on the records to try to keep individuals on track.

North Region Updates: J. Pelonio

- Next Regional Meetings
 - 04-02-2020

- Regional QI 0900-1100
 - Trauma Focus
 - Regional Council 1130-1300
 - Working on new schedule for Grant process
- DOH continuing system wide assessment
 - Holding additional meeting in spring on how to improve EMS and Trauma system in our State
 - Dates to follow when Martina gets them

Ongoing/Old Business

EMS New Initiative Application: J. Pelonio

- Last meeting the Application Process was approved.
 - Packet is on our website
 - Due 04-30-2020
 - Encouraging people to apply
- Discussion/Approval of Matrix provided by Chief Brice
- J. Couch: What was the conclusion regarding SAR and Fire Departments applying
 - C. Griffith: SAR can apply
- L. Edwards: The next meeting is for the Grant Applications. Can we bring any questions we have regarding the MATRIX to that next meeting, then approve and use it for the applications?
- J. Pelonio: Agrees

Inter-facility Transports: T. Dalton

- NW Ambulance Reporting
 - New system that allows them to create reports
 - Provided a report for January
 - Breaks down and explains report
 - Suggests asking NW if having a station in Mount Vernon the best place?
 - Level 1 – Higher level of care than could be provided at that moment.
 - Sent to a facility that's equipped
 - Level 2 – Higher level of care, but we can stabilize them.
 - Level 3 – ALS provisions
 - Level 4 – ALS care, but maybe the patient wants to be moved to another facility
 - Can get stats on number of individuals that are flown
 - Discuss time compliances
 - C. Griffith: Do we need possibly need NW Ambulance to do more, or do we look internally to providing some of these transports?
 - Something we need to explore?
 - T. Dalton: Purpose was how it affects the Emergency Department to get patients out in a timely manner.

- Should we look at it as a council to help support for change?
- J. Pelonio: Should maybe look into having a backup plan and possibly have an ALS agency that is willing to do that work on occasion?
- Should Track Data
- Group continues to discuss times.

Amendment to bylaws: T. Dalton

- Last meeting we changed from Chief Horn to Chief Weiss.
 - Discussion came up regarding a possible change to the Bylaws regarding replacing members who change personnel
- J. Pelonio: The way the Bylaws are written currently we can replace someone with a Majority vote.
 - Makes sense to keep it as it is as opposed to amending.
- No objection keeping member replacement as it is.

New Business

- Inquiry – New EMS Training Program: J. Pelonio
 - One of the responsibilities if this group is approving training courses and training programs.
 - Goes over inquiry regarding starting a new program in Skagit County.
 - They want to be able to provide EMT Training.
 - Invited to next meeting to go over their proposal and how it would affect the current programs in place
 - Current Initial EMT Training Program is with Skagit Valley College
- ESSO Application – J Pelonio & Skagit County Sheriff: Sgt. C. Kading
 - Councils responsibility to approve
 - Allows an organization to be able to affiliate EMS personnel.
 - Allows for medical care on the law enforcement side before it is safe for EMS personnel to enter the scene.
 - Believes that this application is the best route for their organization.

Chet Griffith Moves to approve application. Steve Sexton Seconds. Opposed, None.

Tyler Dalton, Vice Chair, adjourns meeting.

Votes:

1. Approval of November 20th, 2019 Meeting Minutes: **All for, none opposed.**
2. Approval of ESSO Application **All for, none opposed.**

Next meeting: 9a-10a May 20, 2020, Location: TBD