

Washington County EMS Alliance



Washington County EMS Alliance Governing Board Meeting Minutes October 28, 2021

Attendance:

Member / Delegate			Back-Up Delegate	
Present	Name	Jurisdiction	Present	Name
X	David Downey	City of Hillsboro		Greg Espinosa
X	Patrick Wineman	City of Forest Grove		Patrick Fale
X	Sia Lindstrom (Chair)	Washington County		TBD
X	Rodney Linz	Banks Fire District		Brennan Nannenga
X	Deric Weiss	Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue	X	Steve Boughey

Other Interested Parties/Staff:

Adrienne Donner (WCEO), Tim Case (WCEO), Gaby Rodriguez (WCEO), JD Fuiten (MWA), Shane Ryan (MWA), David Weeks (MWA), Kristin Chaffee (TVFR), Mohamud Daya (TVFR), Ben Sorenson (TVFR), Jennifer Reese (WCCCA).

Summary of Actions and Decisions

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Review and approve September's meeting minutes
3. Strategic Direction
4. Workgroup Updates
5. EMS Staff Update
6. Round Robin Updates

Opening Comments

Chief Downey, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He mentioned Sia Lindstrom and Chief Weiss would join in a little later.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chief Downey asked for approval of the agenda, there was no objections and the agenda was adopted.

Review and Approve Minutes

Chief Downey asked for a motion to approve or changes to September's meeting minutes. Chief Wineman made a motion to approve the minutes as they are and Chief Boughey seconded the motion for approval. September's meeting minutes were approved.

Public Comment

Chief Downey welcomed public comment, no public comment made. He also mentioned public comments are welcomed at the end of the meeting.

Strategic Direction

Strategic Plan – Sia Lindstrom said they had some really good retreats, and her next task is to figure out where those small groups do not reconcile. She doesn't believe there is many. Sia is finalizing her job with the county next week, her goal is to write the strategic plan goal for this group, and she will bring it back next month. Adrienne added that her, Tim and Jack have looked at the three groups and there are some places where they differ, but it is looking good. She will get it over to Sia. There are some suggestions of goals made by the groups. Sia said she was very thankful for the meeting they had in July, it set a good foundation.

Leadership Transition- Sia Lindstrom said with her stepping back, Chief Downey accepted the chair position and they need to identify their next vice chair. She asked them where they wanted to go with this? Chief Weiss asked who would represent the county? Sia said Marni would. Chief Weiss said he was nominating Chief Wineman, he thought he was interested. Dr. Daya mentioned Forest Grove will have a new Chief and choosing Chief Wineman would leave them having to replace him. Kristin suggested they take advantage of Chief Wineman skills while he is interim, Sia asked that someone touch base with Chief Wineman to see if he is interested. Chief Weiss messaged Chief Wineman and he said he would be willing. Chief Linz seconded Chief Weiss's motion to make Chef Wineman vice chair. All were in favor. Chief Wineman is vice chair.

EMS Alliance Workgroup Updates

Regulatory Documents Review- Tim Case mentioned he would be covering things they have been working on. He has sent out review and comments for the Administrative Rules from stakeholders and board members. He said he would go over the expectation as to what is expected from the ASA work.



WCEMSA AR
Questions and Feed

Tim shared his screen. He welcomed any questions or feedback and he said all comments were responded to. JD Fuiten wanted to make sure this document came out when the agenda, minutes and other document came out. Tim said it did. Kristin Chaffee asked Chief Weiss if he had any additional comments and he said he did not have any.

ASA planning was discussed, they have met on it and they are breaking the ASA in to groups. Every group has been assigned a section. Tim mentioned this is OHA's sheet of requirements, they are tailoring to fit that. Another thing they are doing is removing the copy and paste language, so they do not have the trickle effect. They have a meeting again next week to dig into this. He hopes they will have some good work to bring back on the next EMS Alliance meeting next month.

Adrienne reminder everyone that the next meeting is November 30th and that is the last meeting of the year, it has been lengthened to three hours. Kristin asked if they could delete the Thanksgiving one? Adrienne said yes.

Chief Downey asked if section 500 was going to be updated and if the EMS Alliance has seen section 600 yet. Tim said they were still working on section 500 and section 600-700 were still being reviewed. Tim said in sections 600-700 were not being uplifted to the EMS Alliance and these were being sent to legal counsel. Tim said there was some cleanup of language and grammar, and no real weighty changes needing the attention of the EMS Alliance. Chief Downey asked if there were any more comments on the ASA review. No comments were made, Chief Downey said that this was a lot of good work on getting through this document. Tim hopes the ASA will be a little lighter. Adrienne added that they have all seen they are opening the ASA to make audits to it and OHA will have to review it too and it will come out this week.

Strategic Planning Group- Tim Case mentioned the clinical strategic group, since the CSP has not had a get together. He added that the same people that go to QI meetings go to the CSP meeting. Kit standardization is one of those things Hillsboro is on the verge of purchasing kits. The brand type was put through the CSP group and it was agreed on. The contents they are still going to discuss, an example given is the green airway bag is intended to have all the airway items. Adrienne asked if they mentioned the function of the CSP from last week? And she suggested that they add them as a standing update from that group for this group to know, to have a more routine touch base. Tim suggested that if this is something they agree on, that they have quarterly updates instead of monthly, they meet once a month so if they provide an update every month they won't have enough to talk about. Chief Downey said quarterly sounds good. He also said Tim mentioned having a QI group, and he wonders if they should get updates from the standing QI group before the EMS Alliance gets their own QI group going? Tim said yes, he was thinking updates would be from both groups.

Dr. Daya mentioned that they should have a unified vision to contribute to all the data from all agencies. In QI they discussed how they are performing but he thinks there is potential to do more than that. He thinks this group needs to figure out what needs to be fed on. Tim says it makes sense. His thought is that when they formed the EMS Alliance QI workgroup, they would do the figuring out how to integrate that data that is there with a software out there. To build the system to allow the QI group to do their work and do more work. Dr. Daya thinks the people that can make these things happen are part of the EMS Alliance group and this group needs to figure out how they get there. Chief Downey asked if there was any more discussion? Dr. Daya asked Tim if he knew how things have gone with the Stryker LifePaks as he has had some conversations with Chief Linz. Tim invited the stakeholders to speak up. They said it has

gone well, representation from every agency came together. It was rolled out for Metro West and the settings weren't right, so they all came together and figured it out. JD agreed.

Chief Wineman said Forest Grove, Cornelius and Gaston identified a complication, they did some troubleshooting and it turned out to be the sim card. The end of life has been reached, and Stryker is not putting a ton of energy on it. They have been working on getting details smoothed out.

Chief Linz said Banks is moving to purchase by mid-November. They thanked Metro West for lending them a unit so they can train on it.

Chief Boughey mentioned they are seeing CO2 problems. That units have had a lot of problems, failures on some. They are working with Stryker and what is found will be shared. Tim asked for clarity. Chief Boughey said they tested a module and it was doing the same thing. They are looking at the CO2 readings, and they are looking at it with them. He said he was just made aware, Tim said it sounds like a hardware issue.

Centralized Dispatch- Chief Weiss says they are setting up another meeting. They have been working with WCCCA and would have like to have showed what they have been doing. They would like to have a run through on how it works and what it does. Kristin added demonstration will be part of the upcoming updates. They will meet to review the demo and determine if it is meeting the needs of what was expected. Kristin will work on it.

Data- Chief Downey didn't have anything to report.

EMS Staff update

Adrienne reported they finished interviews yesterday for the position Briana held. They should have a person identified in the next few weeks. On the EMS side they are not doing too much on COVID-19. Tim is working on having more access to monoclonal antibodies in Washington County. Adrienne asked if there was anything to add. Tim added a physician in Hillsboro has been delivering the therapy. It is on a referral base. The County is helping to find a space to have a clinic.

Adrienne added that kids are becoming eligible in the next week or so and they are doing work with schools and pharmacies to have a set plan. They anticipate a surge. There will be a large clinic at Tektronix, owned by OHA. It will be a walk-thru clinic and they will work to get a drive thru. The Expo center is a drive-thru for those who struggle with mobility. They are trying to reach the population to close the gap in equity. They are thinking 300-400 people a day to further reach BIPOC and those medically underserved. Mass testing is opening at the Beaverton Resource Center. It will open Monday through Friday and it is also an OHA operation in partnership with CCOs. She opened it up for questions. Dr. Daya asked if the testing is free. Adrienne said it was no cost. Dr. Daya asked about mobile integrated health care. Tim said he has not heard of anyone doing this therapy in home. In Hillsboro they are giving it through sub-q; they are working on medical transport to infusion or sub-q clinics. Dr. Daya mentioned other places like care facilities are interested and are keeping an eye on. He thinks there is potential opportunity.

Chief Boughey asked about homebound folks and if this situation has been figured out? Adrienne said they are still working with OHA closely to figure out how to get boosters or new vaccine to those homebound. OHA was working with skilled nursing and a survey was sent to those facilities to see if they need help. They have been told to vaccinate those in Washington County. They also plan to work with the mobile team through the winter. They will not have them do the regular work in parking lots and the team will be used to do the communities instead. OHA is working with contractors to do on going mobile outreach to the homebound.

Round Robin

Chief Weiss asked if they would bring in a consultant on the franchise agreement and if the Alliance would be a part of it? Adrienne said they discuss the ASA but not the franchise. They are still thinking about the best process for the franchise, which has been updated through the year but needs clean up. Chief Weiss said they did a little of it when they had the Advisory Council and he would hope to be a part of it.

Chief Weiss mentioned he has seen too many ambulance low levels lately and fire medics and rescues are covering areas because ambulances aren't available. Chief Downey says they are seeing the same in Hillsboro and he has shared some data on this. Tim asked Chief Downey to share this data with the County as well as he does not see the report on level zero events. Tim invited JD Fuiten to join in the discussion. JD Fuiten said they are seeing a ton of stuff that impacts response time and availability, a number of health system breakdowns, and are watching what is going on in the Portland metro area. They have hospitals who are holding crews and different times that are delaying getting out of the facilities. They are struggling. Arm ups are up. They are trying to move forward, and it has been a struggle and battle in the last couple of weeks. Chief Downey said fire staff has mentioned that there are hiring concerns with Metro West staffing. He asked if there is a staffing challenge? JD said yes, but they have been implementing some things and more are coming on. Dr. Daya asked for a list of hospitals that have long wait times. He works in the city and this is something they try not to do. He thinks the data would be very helpful. Hospitals know it is a ripple effect. Tim says they are talking about that with Metro and Shane has come up with a report. Last Friday, there was a meeting with the medical director. They got together on this issue and how to collaborate with regular data sharing to see what they can come up with to alleviate this and to get ambulances back out. Chief Wineman asked if this data can be pushed out to the EMS Alliance. Tim said it would be good data for the Alliance to see but he is hesitant as they are still refining it to make sure it is still consistent. He is going to ask for help from the Epi team. Chief Boughey said he would like the data group to see the level zeros and arm ups. He is curious as to what the call volume during these times is and he believes it would be good data for them to have.

Chief Downey said Hillsboro is seeing it as well. He would like to figure out what is going on so he can relay an educated answer to the fire crews. Chief Weiss says he agrees, and he knows they are not the only ones struggling with it. WCCCA is struggling too to find units to send. The whole system is struggling. He would hope they can come up with a plan for the system to have in place so when this happens, they are all ready to go. Chief Wineman agrees with Chief Weiss. He has seen that WCCCA has had to go

to the out of service list to dispatch an engine that is not in service on more than one occasion. Leaving them without an engine in certain areas.

JD Fuiten said he would like to have a special meeting to further discuss this. Chief Downey asked JD if the vaccine implementation had taken a strain on Metro West. JD commented it had. Chief Wineman said he would like to attend a discussion regarding the ambulance levels. Adrienne said having a meeting just to discuss this may be helpful and asked Gaby to help find a time to facilitate this discussion.

Chief Boughey volunteered to help Tim sort and figure out the data portion.

Sia Lindstrom suggested they bring back the results of this meeting to the EMS Alliance.

Public Comment

Chief Downey welcomed public comment. Adrienne mentioned she shared Gaby's email in the chat, so those interested in the level zero meeting can reach out.

Next meeting: November 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Good of the Order

There was no good of the order.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for November 30, 2021 at 1:00 p.m., via Zoom.

Minutes compiled by Gaby Rodriguez.