

# Washington County EMS Alliance



**Washington County EMS Alliance  
Governing Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Apr. 27, 2023**

**Attendance:**

Member/Delegate			Back-Up Delegate	
Present	Name	Jurisdiction	Present	Name
X	David Downey (Chair)	City of Hillsboro	X	Greg Espinosa
X	Patrick Wineman (Vice Chair)	City of Forest Grove		TBD
X	Marni Kuyl	Washington County		Mjere Simantel
X	Rodney Linz	Banks Fire District	X	Andrew
X	Deric Weiss	Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue	X	Steve Boughey
Affiliate Member Representative			Backup Representative	
X	Shawn Baird	Metro West Ambulance		David Weeks
X	Mark Buchholz	WCCCA	X	Jennifer Reese

Other Interested Parties/Staff:

Tim Case (WCEMS), Adrienne Donner (WCEMS), Gaby Rodriguez (WCEMS), Yera Castaneda (WCEMS), Kristin Chaffee (TVFR), Casey Schein (LFN), Gail M. Madsen (Consumer Advocate), Ron Morgan (TVFR Union), Sam Flores (AMR), Megan Wever (WC resident), Josh Nordberg (TVFR), Ben Sorenson (TVFR), Kathy Fink (WCCCA), Kenny Frentress (TVFR), Shane Ryan (MWA), Dr. Mohamud Daya (TVFR MD), Aaron Monnig (Multnomah County), Jacob Grant (MWA), Gene Frye (MWA), Jennifer Fetterley (AMR), Jennifer Reese (WCCCA), Jim Geering (FGFR), Larry Boxman (MWA), Mark Buchholz (WCCCA), Dr. Ritu Sahni (WCEMS), Shane Ryan (MWA), Shawn Wood (MWA), Shawn Baird (MWA), Kim Foster (WCCCA), Austin DePaolo (Teamsters)

**Summary of Actions and Decisions**

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Review and approve February meeting minutes
3. Current Issues

**Department of Health and Human Services — Emergency Medical Services**

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4. Strategic Direction
5. Workgroup Updates
6. EMS Updates
7. Good of the Order (Public Comment)

### **Opening Comments**

Chief Downey opened the meeting at 1:00 PM and welcomed everyone.

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

Chief Downey asked the governing board members for approval of agenda, Chief Linz made motion to approve, Chief Wineman seconded, there are no objections from the board members, the agenda was approved as is.

### **Review and Approve Minutes**

Chief Downey asked the board members if everyone had a chance to review the February meeting minutes. Chief Linz made a motion to approve as presented, Chief Downey seconded; the minutes were approved with no changes.

### **Public Comment**

Chief Downey welcomed public comment. No public comment.

### **Strategic Direction**

- Update on FirstWatch
  - Board of County Commissioners approved moving forward with FirstWatch as a sole source, so now we move into the contract portion.
  - Contract will be submitted for processing later today and will take a couple of weeks May 15 2023 thru June 30 2028
  - Data connection conversations have commenced with a few of those present here.
  - Once all data is connected, conversations on how to use and work with the actual data will happen
  - The epidemiologist position within EMS will post on Saturday for a couple of weeks.

### **Current Issues**

- Transition with focus on contingency planning (overview and discussion)
  - Aiming for Aug 1 for transition date
  - Big thanks to Metro West for their collaboration with the transition, their collaboration is making the process very easy.
  - Thanks to AMR for getting on board as well.
  - AMR is looking at shifting the normal way they do onboarding to one day a week onboarding for staff who is transitioning over to AMR from MWA.
  - Pre-meeting with Chief Wineman, Chief Boughey, Tim Case and Chief Sorensen for full representation of all different aspects of the EMS system prior to our actual meeting next Thursday.
  - Looking for subject matter expertise to make sure we address all things that may not have been included during the pre-meeting.
  - Contingency planning will be full focus of this group. What will the transition period look like for delivering services?

- Chief Wineman would like to ask the EMS Alliance to re-designate the EMS Redesign Workgroup to the EMS Transition Workgroup to focus on the full scope of this transition plan, and making the 21 days of transition work well, but will take the next 60 to 90 days to make sure that we plan well.
- Bring back the redesign workgroup after contingency and transition plans are in place.
- Adding MWA to conversation as offload so they can give us points and perspective with critical details that we will need. Jen and Robb and Randy will be invited to join this work group help get input from them to support their transition.
- Created a list of hotspots that will be on the radar and begin to branch that off as we identify them, so we have concurrent workgroups.
- Avoid crisis mode 24 hrs. before the transition.
- Fire Defense Board -fire operations group created a scenario and developed a 10-to-12-point strategy of what happens when we begin to feel crisis during this transition period.
- How to manage low level ambulance and use current systems with MWA and possibly some of the AMR ones.
- The initial meeting next Thursday will be a virtual and will discuss in person or virtual for follow up meeting.
- Chief Wineman suggested making this an official item to change the focus of the group.
- Chief Downey does not see this a being an action item since this is just a change in the focus of the group.
- Tim Case sees a need to update the charter for that workgroup early in the meeting next Thursday.
- Adrienne will put together a memo to be sent to the board so they have ongoing visibility during this project.
- WCCCA has expressed higher level interest in this group so they will be sitting in this group as well.
- Meeting is scheduled for the Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup> how much of an update will be able to happen on the next Alliance meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Tim stated that they are planning on meeting at least a couple times a month week to focus on the scope of work.
- Chief Downey will make sure this is one of the top of the list for updates under Alliance group updates.
- Extremely important that updates are communicated regularly to avoid gaps during this transition at this magnitude
- MWA asked the Alliance members to help with rumor control to be a priority during this process as it is extremely damaging, they want to make sure that people know MWA is not dissolving or going out of business and look to do a bulk of business in Washington County and in the region just not with the 911 contract.
- GMR is not acquiring MWA and they are not seeking to be acquired by anyone else.
- The rumor that the process for onboarding them was being held up because JD Fuiten was uncooperative with on-boarding, and this is not the case.

Commented [YC1]:

## EMS Alliance Workgroup Updates:

- **Dispatch data workgroup**
  - This group has not met but there was a subgroup created under the alliance on the BLS Kathy Fink nominated by Tim Case has agreed to be the leader of this group the charter. If you want to see the charter happy to show it otherwise will bring it to the next meeting.
  - Most of focus is on changing into an ALS/BLS system.
  - Card upload updates
  - IS division having a lot of work because of the new building, building response plans thru summer in cad and training after (mid-September training) after training happens can go live with it on APCO and MAGIC
  - APCO typically for card approval is 2 to 3 weeks but because this is a large change unknown what that will look like at this moment.
  - Kathy will not go to APCO until the alliance is okay with the card changes.
  - Any card changes made affect Newberg cards and they are preparing to start taking their own calls instead of transferring to WCCCA
  - Chief Wineman extended the invitation to the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> for WCCCA, Kathy and Kristin to further the communication points.
  - In the last committees meeting non-emergency inter-facilities cards there are no answers.
  - Dr. Daya stated that we do not need to change the fire response cards. Larger change is that the cards will have ALS/BLS
  - Jennifer mentioned that they will have answers to some of the concerns that Kristin and Kathy Fink had after the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup>
  - The authority for approving the cards lies with Dr. Daya and WCCCA. The alliance will be a body of support to help go to APCO in support of the changes strategically.
- **Data Workgroup**
  - Data Work Group remains on hold until FirstWatch and contractor changes become more established, and the future data landscape becomes clearer.
- **Redesign workgroup charter**
  - Hopes to have the admin document back soon from OHA.
- **Level 0 project workgroup**
  - This group has no new updates

## EMS Staff update:

- Nothing other than the FirstWatch update
- Multi Agency Training with Cornelius, FGFR, Gaston and Banks to continue educational message like the one we held in the fall was held last week.
- There was no room for these agencies to attend the fall training, so we made this one available over three days in the evening to accommodate for the volunteers to also attend.
- Topics covered during these educational experiences were Airway management, cardiac arrest/childbirth, behavioral health roundtable.

- Big thanks to Will Murphy from MWA, Curtis Bailey MWA, Andrew Cooper Banks Fire and Chip Louback who jumped in on the last day helping and our medical directors for dedicating their time to this educational experience.
- WC EMS working to move the simulation ambulance working on an IGA to house with OIT for them to use while they are creating paramedics.
- Member change delegate spot for banks fire and Andrew is backup delegate for them.
- EMS program has a small outreach part for CPR training building capacity– proud to update that we have now created training centers with Kalo, Centro Cultural and Virginia Garcia and they have trainers to help the community with CPR trainings in other languages thanks to a UASI funded project
- Thanks to Gaby Rodriguez from WC EMS and Yera Castaneda for their lift in this project.
- Adrienne would like to invite anyone who can join WC EMS on going to the board May 16 for the EMS week proclamation for the following week, would love to have uniformed personnel in the audience.
- May do a compressions only presentation.
- **TVFR**
  - No new updates
- **Forest Grove Fire**
  - Thanks to MWA – Appreciate the interaction and continued update being received from Larry Boxman it has been very helpful as we continue this transition.
  - Jen and rob from AMR visited the station this week and is happy with the interaction there.
- **Banks Fire**
  - Andrew Cooper will be joining us in these meetings as a second for this agency
- **Hillsboro Fire**
  - No new updates
- **Medical Directors**
  - No new updates
- **WCCCA**
  - Monday was the grand opening of the new facility.
  - Request can Tim and Adrienne can stay on at the end of this call Mark has some items that need to be discussed.
- **MWA**
  - Shane Ryan is retiring after 31 years and would like to say how much his work is appreciated.
- **AMR**
  - Looks forward to the communication as we begin the transition.

**Public Comment**

Chief Downey opened the meeting up to public comment. There is no one for public comment.

**Good of the Order**

- Agenda items for next meeting
  - Discuss charter for transition group
  - Review Charter for BLS/ALS work

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:57 pm**

**Next meeting: Thurs May 25th at 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., via Zoom**

Minutes compiled by Yera Castaneda