

# Washington County EMS Alliance



## Washington County EMS Alliance Governing Board Meeting Minutes October 26, 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 Cooper
	Deric Weiss	Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue	X	Steve Boughey
Affiliate Member Representative			Backup Representative	
X	Randy Lauer	American Medical Response	X	Jennifer Romero
X	Larry Boxman	Metro West Ambulance		Shawn Baird
X	Mark Buchholz	WCCCA	X	Jennifer Reese

### Other Interested Parties/Staff:

Tim Case (WCEMS), Adrienne Donner (WCEMS) Gaby Rodriguez (WCEMS), Yera Castaneda (WCEMS) Alyssa Mooney (WCEMS), Jesse Bohrer-Clancy (WC EMS MD) Dr. Ritu Sahni (WC EMS MD) Dr. Mohamud Daya (TVFR MD) Kristin Chaffee (TVFR), Casey Schein (LFN), Ben Sorenson (TVFR), Kathy Fink (WCCCA), Jennifer Fetterley (AMR), Jim Geering (FGFR), Rob McDonald (AMR) Kim Foster (WCCCA) Megan Wever (WC Resident) Cameron Helikson (Tosoh Quartz)

### Summary of Actions and Decisions

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Review and approve October meeting minutes.
3. Current Issues
4. Strategic Direction

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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 an addition to the agenda for Forest Grove Police guidance regarding BHI and police officer holds as agenda item number 1. The governing board members did not have an objection to the agenda addition and the agenda was approved.

### **Review and Approve Minutes**

Chief Downey asked the board members if everyone had a chance to review the September meeting minutes. Marni moved to approve; Chief Linz seconded; the minutes were approved with minor correction of month from April to September in the summary of actions section item number 2.

### **Public Comment**

Chief Downey welcomed public comment. No public comment.

### **Guidance for Forest Grove Police on BHI and police office holds discussion-**

- Captain Brett Barnum is the operations captain with Forest Grove police they embrace all the work Washington County EMS has done with bringing AMR on board and the smooth transition to them. He understands that this new system is a work in progress and have found an area that they would like to have afforded to them, he is here to ask the EMS Alliance for an adjustment as the Metro area law enforcement commanders' group representative for the following:
  - In Washington County they must initiate a hold for mental health people which was new to them. Having come from Multnomah County the process there for non-combatant completely compliant patient was that law enforcement would hand off their paperwork to AMR onsite and then they would turn it in to the hospital when they arrived. Same process also in Clackamas County.
  - Asks of the EMS Alliance for an addendum or an MOU to the contract to get the folks in EMS training on de-escalation.
  - This is a totally voluntary collaboration.
  - Washington county sheriff's office is happy to bring the training to AMR to facilitate these transports for mental health detainees who are non-combatant to alleviate stress on their department when staffing challenges are present.
  - Commander Bennet from Washington County Sherriff department and Capt. Barnum will work with folks at AMR. They are willing to carry the heavy lift of the training to get them and other partners onboard to assist and alleviate the strain on the agency.
  - Thanked Chief Wineman for bringing him to the Alliance and consider his request.
  - Adrienne Donner has already started conversations with the behavioral health, the sheriff's office, and AMR on how to better work together and

help alleviate the strains and include the other local law enforcement agencies.

- An email has gone out to the chiefs of the different law enforcement offices to get points of contact to bring that group together.
- Tim Case agrees that this is a great topic to discuss, in Multnomah County he helped complete this process when they started it a couple years ago and it was a straightforward process but required that the transport agency received certification through the state after receiving endorsement from behavioral health and that is why it did not cross boundaries into Washington County.
- Currently the ambulances transporting in Washington county for AMR are not approved as secure transport units. They currently they do not have the authority to deny the patient to refuse treatment and jump off the ambulance. A lot of the training is predicated in ORS rather vague and require secure transport agencies 4 hours of annual training on managing patients with behavioral health, combative and use of restraints.
- Rob with AMR was alongside with Tim when they built the 911 work in Multnomah and Clack counties in 2016. In the effort to continue the work and the renewal is including Washington County for AMR NW, however the caveat to that is there is an approval letter from county EMS oversight body and County Health Director. Process is already in the works training has started and estimated completion date is Nov 30. AMR is willing to share currently being used letters that they have with EMS.
- EMS office would have the function since they were doing this already pre-covid, it was primarily a joint effort with county behavioral health, EMS office and emergency responders who attended from various offices.
- Rob stated that he could not onboard fire folks as secure transports because they would have to be certified as an entity and in level 0 scenarios it would be a law enforcement transport in lieu of fire transport.
- Currently if they need to be transported by ambulance, fire can transport with law enforcement following behind to maintain custody, or transfer custody over to the transporting ambulance but would not have the authority to maintain custody if the patient decides to refuse transport.
- Rob stated that they will have training to transport combative patients as well with guidance or without the assistance of law enforcement.
- Capt. Barnum appreciates the help from this group and will be happy to do any heavy lifting that is needed.
- Chief Wineman will forward Capt. Barnum's email with the group and connect him with AMR's Jen Romero

### **EMS Alliance Workgroup Updates:**

- **Dispatch data workgroup**
  - No new updates from this group
- **Data Workgroup**
  - Has not met since about 6 weeks ago but will be meeting in November and December to discuss data use agreements and updating charters.
  - Meeting this afternoon with AMR to get cardiac arrest database working again, there has been a bit of a gap since MWA left but will get this data working again this afternoon and hopefully this is sorted out next week.

- FirstWatch update - there is a timeline now established Jack suggested presenting about this at the next meeting.
- Now that all the triggers and data flows are in FirstWatch they will be sending meeting requests with the POC's to look at all the triggers and where data is coming from starting next week.
- Dr. Sahni and Dr. Daya as well as our EMS Epi Alyssa are attending the FirstWatch conference that is still happening today.
- Hillsboro Fire received email yesterday from FirstWatch for the orientation.
- **Transition workgroup charter**
  - No updates
- **Governance Documents Update**
  - Administrative rules Code 1 calls are dropped from compliance documentation but now based on the new FA it is no longer the case. There is new language to include BLS ambulances.

**EMS Staff update:**

- A lot of the traffic in the emails right now are more for FirstWatch, Jack and Tim gave the updates already on this.
- We will be putting the 2 administrative rules that we talked about into the Emergency Rules in mid-December because they need to go through the Board of County Commissioners.
- Next alliance meeting will be Dec 12 from 3-5 off schedule.
- Massive exercise on Sunday Nov 5 all day, it will close the TriMet max tunnel and there will be a million fire fighters and law enforcement presence so that folks know that this is happening and will be very visible. WCCCA, CCOM.
- Press release is going out in the next days and there will be loud stuff in the tunnels so the public may call and report as concerned citizens.

**Agency Updates:**

- **TVFR**
  - Chief Boughey will offer a more detailed presentation down the road prior to Jan 1
  - On Jan 1 they are moving forward with the deployment of the advance practice community paramedics program in full force, they will have 3 unit in the system 1 out of 53, 1 out of 34 and station 20 in Yamhill.
  - Actively working with WCCCA for card related work
- **Forest Grove Fire**
  - No new updates
- **Banks Fire**
  - No new updates
- **Gaston Fire**
  - No new updates
- **Hillsboro Fire**
  - No new updates

- **Medical Directors**
  - No new updates
- **WCCCA**
  - We are on track for ALS and BLS next Wednesday at 7 am, new cards will be ready to go then, Jason will be onsite to help with anything that needs to be addressed.
  - The new dual calls are a big change for us in dispatch and will need to be taken differently.
  - Mark asked that as the work happens with the agreement between AMR and MWA he would like to know how those units are going to be brought into the system?
  - AMR and MWA will bring WCCCA into the conversations next week to answer all their questions.
  - MWA links are still active so that should make the integration easier for this agreement.
- **MWA**
  - Excited to be on board for this future partnership with AMR.
- **AMR**
  - Wants to announce that there are conversations for a partnership with MWA and agreement talks with them have started to have MWA supplement EMT's when AMR is reaching level 0.
  - There is no start date set yet AMR will advise when they have something set.

**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 please send them to Adrienne, Chief Downey or Chief Wineman and Yera

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:42 pm.**

**Next meeting: Tuesday Dec 12th at 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., via Zoom**

Minutes compiled by Yera Castaneda