

**MISSION: "TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY CARE SYSTEM"**

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION EMS & TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday May 25, 2023 10AM**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ATTENDANCE									
		VOTING MEMBERS 25 Board Member Positions	Term Exp. Sept.	July 28 2022	Sept 22 2022	Dec 1 2022	Jan 26 2023	Mar 23 2023	May 25 2023
	Quorum Present	50% + 1 Member = Majority		canceled	9/20	/18	canceled		
	<b>COLUMBIA COUNTY</b>	2							
	1. REDi HC Coalition								
	2. Prehospital	-							
SC-7	3. Hospital	-							
SC-12	4. Training Coordinator	Bob Allbee	2024		Ex	P		A	P
SC-65	5. Law Enforcement								
	<b>KITTITAS COUNTY</b>	3							
	1. Local Gov. Agency								
SC-13	2. Prehospital	Tom Watkins	2025		P	A		A	
SC-28	3. Hospital	Cody Staub / DeDe Utley	2025		Ex	P		P	P/A
SC-03	4. County Coordinator	<i>Cheryl Burrows - Secretary</i>	2023		P	P		P	
	5. Paramedic	-							
	<b>BENTON/FRANKLIN (MID-COLUMBIA)</b>	4							
SC-01	1. Local Gov. Agency	-							
SC-11	2. Prehospital	Gary Tucker-Atherly	2023		A	P		P	P
SC-26	3. Hospital	<i>Beki Hammons - Treasurer</i>	2023		P	P		A	P
SC-70	4. Consumer	Terry Thrall	2022		A	P		A	
SC-17	5. Education	<i>James (Bud) Rose Vice Chair</i>	2024		P	A		A	P
	<b>WALLA WALLA COUNTY</b>	5							
SC-63	1. Local Gov. Agency	David Winter	2021		A	A		A	
SC-02	2. Prehospital	Eric Wood	2024		P	A		A	
SC-29	3. Hospital	Susan Leathers	2021		A	A		A	
SC-04	4. County Director	Heather Lee	2024		Ex	P		A	P
SC-66	5. Law Enforcement								
	<b>YAKIMA COUNTY</b>	5							
SC-55	1. Local Gov. Agency	Ken Eakin	2023		P	P		P	P
SC-16	2. Prehospital	<i>David Lynde - Chair</i>	2023		P	P		P	P
SC-30	3. Hospital	Tammy Pettis	2025		P	P		A	
SC-15	4. Paramedic	Dennis Blumer	2024		P	P		P	P
SC-05	5. EMS	Tony Miller	2023		Ex	P		P	P
	<b>AIR MEDICAL</b>	1							
SC-85	Airlift NW	Kate Knutson	2024		Ex	P		A	
SC-86	Life Flight Network								
	<b>Other Attendees</b>								
	Zita Wiltgen	Executive Director			P	P		A	
	Hailey Thacker	DOH				P		P	
	Treena Russell	ALS Ambulance			P				P
	Jeffry Sinanian	DOH WEMSIS			P	P			
	Linette Garringer	Airlift NW			P				
	Jason Norris	DOH				P			
	Adam Gallion	DOH				P			
	Dawn Felt	DOH				P			
	Sarah Downan							P	
	Kristina Hansen							P	
	Jackie Wantland							P	P
	April Borbon								P
	Catie Holstein	DOH							P
	Rhonda Holden								P

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Adam Rovang	DOH WEMISIS								P
Dr Lewis Neace	MPD								P

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order by the Chair David Lynde at 10am. The chair named those participants listed on web, phone participants made introductions and asked for anyone else on the web/phone to introduce themselves.

II. Calendar of Meetings/Events

- A. Columbia County EMS Meeting --TBD
- B. Kittitas County EMS Meeting – August 10, 2023; 5pm
- C. Mid-Columbia EMS Meeting – June 5, 2023; 1:30pm
- D. Walla Walla County EMS Meeting – June 1, 2023; 6pm
- E. Yakima County EMS Meeting – June 1, 2023; 2:30pm

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

- A. Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2022\*
- B. Special Meeting Minutes from May 11, 2023\*
- C. Approval of Financial Statements from November 2022-April 2023\*

<b>General Ledger Summary Report</b>	<b>Nov. 2022</b>	<b>Dec 2022</b>	<b>Jan 2023</b>	<b>Feb 2023</b>
<b>Checking</b>				
Begin Balance	\$ 108,548.64	\$ 106,927.63	\$ 81,480.00	\$ 97,400.90
Debits	\$ 4.39	\$ 4.37	\$ 25,485.66	\$ 3.95
Credits	\$ 1,625.40	\$ 25,452.00	\$ 9,564.76	\$ 12,740.00
Ending Balance	\$ 106,927.63	\$ 81,480.00	\$ 97,400.90	\$ 84,664.85
<b>Investment CD</b>				
Begin Balance	\$ 121,493.26	\$ 121,493.26	\$ 121,692.12	\$ 121,692.12
Debits	\$ 0.00	\$ 198.86	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Credits	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$ 121,493.26	\$ 121,692.12	\$ 121,692.12	\$ 121,692.12

<b>General Ledger Summary Report</b>	<b>March 2023</b>	<b>April 2023</b>		
<b>Checking</b>				
Begin Balance	\$ 84,664.85	\$110,149.42		
Debits	\$25,484.57	\$5.81		
Credits	\$0	\$12,740.00		
Ending Balance	\$110,149.42	\$97,415.23		
<b>Investment CD</b>				
Begin Balance	\$ 121,692.12	\$121,886.98		
Debits	\$194.86	\$0		
Credits	\$0	\$0		
Ending Balance	\$121,886.98	\$121,886.98		

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Ken Eakin moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Beki Hammons seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Region System Plan / DOH Contract Progress

A. FY2021-2023 Region Council Plan Work Update

The FY2021-2021 plan work is almost completed.

B. FY2021-2023 Training Grants Update

Most counties have spent their FY2021-2023 training grant funds. Bob reported that Columbia County is still working on spending their funds.

V. Old Business

A. FY2023-2025 SC Region EMS & Trauma Care System Plan Update

The FY2023-25 South Central Region EMS & Trauma Care System plan was reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee at their May meeting.

VI. New Business

A. WEMESIS Presentation (Adam Rovang)

Adam reported that they send out a quarterly newsletter about the WEMESIS program. They have put together a new way to determine participation calculations due to responders responding out of their usual county. Recently they sent out a form to update their agency contact information; if you received this, please complete it. The DOH is creating an opioid overdose dashboard which combines data from WEMESIS, CHARS, and death record data. This dashboard will go live on August 19 and will be accessible by LHJs and MPDs. In the South Central region, 50 of 60 agencies are submitting data to WEMESIS and 97% of EMS responses are reported to WEMESIS which is well above the state average. 75% to 80% of reports are submitted in a timely manner (within one week); the goal is 90% submission within one week. From the most recent quarterly report, 22,130 records were submitted in the first quarter of the year by the South Central region with a rating of 93.4% data quality. The top data quality issues are missing data such as unit left scene date/time, final patient destination, patient arrived destination time, etc. Adam will check on the reason for the sudden drop in Benton County reporting. He also noted that Dr Wittwer in the Southwest Region found a way to have the EMR systems report data faster.

B. SW/SC Region Council Contract Extension\*

There was discussion about extending the SW/SC Region Council contract however it was decided to go ahead and renew the contract for two years; the timing of which follows the timeline of the DOH biennial contract. The executive team reviewed the contract; there were no changes from the previous year's contract.

Bob Albee moved to approve the administrative contract with the Southwest Region. Heather Lee seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Council Position Vacancies

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The current council roster was presented to the group. David Lynde asked that the participants try to fill the open positions for their counties. The group was also reminded to reapply for their positions if they were coming up on their expiration dates.

VII. Local Council Reports

- A. Columbia: Bob reported that they are working on spending their grant funds.
- B. Kittitas: No report.
- C. Mid Columbia: Bud reported that their EMT class is ongoing. Columbia Safety has 30 students in their EMT class which will finish the first week of June. AMR is contracting for classes with Columbia Safety.
- D. Walla Walla: Heather reported Dr Godinez is the new assistant MPD for Walla Walla and Columbia counties. They are working with the DOH on a new community paramedicine pilot program which will begin on July 1.
- E. Yakima: Tony reported that their EMT class finished on April 1. They had 20 students; 17 passed the certification test and three will retake the test. Their next EMT class will be in September. They had one candidate for their Training Coordinator position.

VIII. Preparedness Report

Beki reported that the Northwest Response Network (REDi) program has not been active lately although they still have deliverables. On June 27 they will have a med-surge tabletop exercise.

IX. State Committee Reports

Steering Committee—Beki reported that it was a short legislative session which mostly focused on the healthcare workforce and behavioral health. The organ transport bill passed. They are working on rules for the 23-hour crisis center program. They are working on certificate of need for kidney centers. They are completing the trauma designation site visits. Min/max rules are moving forward. The EMS rules revisions are ready for submission. Trauma data has not been reported to the trauma registry since 2021; they are looking for a new vendor. EMS is the focus for the cardiac/stroke workgroup. A bylaws change was made to add the position of Vice Chair which was filled by Dr Tim Bax. They recognized the work done by Zita Wiltgen and her unexpected passing. They also recognized the work done by Rhonda Holden; her rural hospital rep position on the committee is now open. The East Region's request to change their ambulance min/max number from two to three was approved. They reviewed and approved the regional plans; they noted the plans were good but needed more consistency in county profiles.

RAC TAC—They discussed region council membership; the goal is to have 80% of the positions filled on the regional councils. They discussed training for new Executive Directors.

IVP TAC—At the last meeting they discussed the major injury prevention programs around the state. The South Central region has the second highest rate of firearm deaths in the state; the East Region was first. The rate of falls deaths in the state is 69.4%; this rate is 91.6% in the South Central region. The spending plan was approved.

X. DOH Report

Catie reported that May 21-27 is the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual EMS Week. The DOH appreciates all of the hard work EMS providers do. A quarter of EMS providers in the state are volunteers. EMS providers handle more than a million calls each year in Washington State. The EMS rules have been sent for review. The review will be done internally, a copy of the draft rules will be sent to all stakeholders for comment, then the public

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review process will begin. There is a lot of new work beginning with the passing of several legislative bills. They are working on rules for the approved organ transport bill; only trained drivers will be allowed to transport organs using lights, sirens, and signal preemption. Two million dollars was approved to support the behavioral health co-responder program. This program will work within the CARES framework and EMS will have input. Priority funding for this program will be for rural agencies; it's possible some of this funding will go through region councils as EMS providers will need to be trained and the DOH will need to provide legal guidance for responders. The balanced billing workgroup is working on rules for ground ambulances. The non-medically trained drivers bill did not pass. The bill for 23-hour crisis response center passed; the DOH is working on rules for patient transport to these facilities.

XI. Good of the order

- A. The November meeting will be moved to the following Thursday, November 30, 2023, due to the original meeting date falling on Thanksgiving.
- B. The group discussed cancelling the July meeting.

Beki Hammons moved to cancel the July meeting. Dennis Blumer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

XII. Adjourn

Dr Neace moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:03am. Beki Hammons seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Future Meeting Dates: September 28, 2023; November 30, 2023