

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

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION EMS & TRAUMA CARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
 Thursday May 23, 2024 10AM via Zoom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ATTENDANCE									
		VOTING MEMBERS 25 Board Member Positions	Term Exp. Sept.	July 27 2023	Sept 28 2023	Nov 30 2023	Jan 25 2024	Mar 28 2024	May 23 2024
	Quorum Present	50% + 1 Member = Majority		canceled					
	<b>COLUMBIA COUNTY</b>								
	1. REDi HC Coalition								
	2. Prehospital								
SC-7	3. Hospital								
SC-12	4. Training Coordinator	Bob Allbee	2024		P	P	P	Ex	P
SC-65	5. Law Enforcement								
	<b>KITTITAS COUNTY</b>								
	1. Local Gov. Agency								
SC-13	2. Prehospital	Danielle Bertschi	2026						A
SC-28	3. Hospital	Cody Staub / DeDe Utley	2025		A/A	A/A	A/A	P	P/A
SC-03	4. County Coordinator	<i>Cheryl Burrows - Secretary</i>	2026		P	A	P	P	P
SC-18	5. Paramedic	Tom Watkins	2029		P	A	A	A	A
	<b>BENTON/FRANKLIN (MID-COLUMBIA)</b>								
SC-01	1. Local Gov. Agency	Sean Davis	2026		P	A	P	P	P
SC-11	2. Prehospital	Gary Tucker-Atherly	2026		P	P	P	P	P
SC-26	3. Hospital	<i>Beki Hammons - Treasurer</i>	2026		P	P	Ex	P	P
SC-70	4. Consumer								
SC-17	5. Education	<i>James (Bud) Rose Vice Chair</i>	2024		P	A	P	P	P
	<b>WALLA WALLA COUNTY</b>								
SC-63	1. Local Gov. Agency	David Winter	2025		A	A	A	A	A
SC-02	2. Prehospital	Rob Nelson	2026		P	P	P	P	A
SC-29	3. Hospital	Susan Leathers	2021		A	A	P	P	P
SC-04	4. County Director	Heather Lee	2024		P	P	P	P	P
SC-66	5. Law Enforcement	Gunner Fulmer	2026		P	A	A	P	P
	<b>YAKIMA COUNTY</b>								
SC-55	1. Local Gov. Agency	Ken Eakin	2025		P	P	P	P	Ex
SC-16	2. Prehospital	<i>David Lynde - Chair</i>	2025		P	P	P	P	P
SC-30	3. Hospital	Sarah Downan				P	A	P	A
SC-15	4. Paramedic	Dennis Blumer	2024		P	P	P	A	P
SC-05	5. EMS	Tony Miller	2025		P	P	A	A	P
	<b>AIR MEDICAL</b>								
SC-85	Airlift NW	Kate Knutson	2024		A	P	P	A	A
SC-86	Life Flight Network								
	<b>Other Attendees</b>								
	April Borbon	SC Region Exec Director			P	P	P	P	P
	Scott Williams	DOH			P	P	P	P	P
	Jeff Sinanian	DOH			P		P	P	P
	Sarah Downan	YVMH			P				
	Jeremy Rodriguez	YFD			P	P			P
	Adam Rovang	DOH				P			
	Jason Norris	DOH				P			
	Dawn Felt	DOH				P			
	Treena Russell	ALS				P		P	
	Joel Erickson					P	P	P	
	Brian Fackler	BFHD					P		
	Terra Wiens	DOH						P	P
	Dr Lewis Neace	MPD						P	Ex
	Conrad Otterness	DOH							P

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Crystal Hedrick								P
George Anyumba	DOH							P

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting was called to order by Chair David Lynde at 10:00am. The Chair named those participants listed on the Zoom attendees list and asked for anyone else on the web/phone to introduce themselves.

II. Calendar of Meetings/Events

- A. Columbia County EMS Meeting – October 2, 2024; 7pm
- B. Kittitas County EMS Meeting – August 8, 2024; 5pm
- C. Mid-Columbia EMS Meeting – June 3, 2024; 1:30pm
- D. Walla Walla County EMS Meeting – June 6, 2024; 6pm
- E. Yakima County EMS Meeting – June 6, 2024; 2:30pm

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

- A. Meeting Minutes from March 28, 2024\*
- B. Approval of Financial Statements from March 2024 and April 2024\*

General Ledger Summary Report	March 2024	April 2024		
<b>Checking</b>				
Begin Balance	\$88,001.84	\$99,694.68		
Debits	\$32,195.44	\$4.49		
Credits	\$22,502.60	\$18,074.80		
Ending Balance	\$99,694.68	\$81,624.37		
<b>Investment CD</b>				
Begin Balance	\$122,394.86	\$123,892.98		
Debits	\$1,498.12	\$0		
Credits	\$0	\$0		
Ending Balance	\$123,892.98	\$123,892.98		

Sean Davis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Tony Miller seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Region System Plan/DOH Contract Progress

A. FY2023-2025 Region Council Plan Work Update

April reported that the region council plan work is going along well; all of our deliverables are being completed on time.

B. FY2023-2025 Training Grants Update

April reported that all of the counties have spent their FY2023-2024 grant funds except Columbia County which has spent down most of their funds; Bob is working on spending the rest of their funds before the end of the fiscal year.

V. Old Business

A. Bylaws Revision Approval\*

The bylaws revision committee met to review and update the council’s bylaws. They made a number of changes, mostly to grammar and spelling, and also made updates to the meeting section, the council membership section, and the indemnification section. Two copies of the revised bylaws were included in

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the meeting packet—one with all of the track changes and one clean copy with all edits included—for the full council to review. There were no additional changes requested.

Cheryl Burrows moved to approve the updated bylaws. Dennis Blummer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. PCPs Revision Update

The PCPs revision committee met and made a number of updates/corrections/changes to the region's PCPs. A copy of the track changes copy of the PCPs as well as a clean copy of the changes were included in the meeting packet for the council to review. The group said that the next step will be for the county EMS councils and their MPDs to review the updated PCPs and make any other needed changes; this should be done no later than September 2 so the final version can be reviewed and approved by the region council at their September meeting before being sent to the DOH for review and approval. There was discussion about the numbering of the PCPs and if they can be changed (ie: instead of separate MCI and All Hazards PCPs, whether these can be combine which changes the numbering); Scott said the regions are given some leeway with this and should submit the PCPs as they want them to be; if the DOH has any issues with changes that were made they will note this during their review process.

VI. New Business

A. DOH Injury Data Presentation (Conrad Otterness and George Anyumba)

Conrad Otterness and George Anyumba from the DOH's injury data office gave a presentation on injury and death data in the South Central region. The leading causes of injury death in the SC Region are unintentional poisoning (mostly drug overdoses), followed by motor vehicle accidents and unintentional falls; there were 606 injury-related deaths in the SC Region in 2022. They presented a table of leading causes of death by age in the region. The drug overdose death rate in the region tracks along with both the state and national rates. Most overdose deaths are due to synthetic opioids and psychostimulants. Yakima County has the highest per-capita rate of overdose drug deaths in the region. Males are more likely than females to die from a drug overdose in the region, and the 25-54 age group has the most overdose deaths by age. Native Americans have the highest rate of overdose drug deaths followed by blacks then whites. Overdose hospitalization rates track along with state rates and overdose hospitalizations are most common for people in the 18 to 24 age group. Suicide rates in the region are higher than the national average and these numbers seem to be increasing over the past several years, however these numbers are consistent with the state average. Suicides are much more common in males and are most common in the 25 to 34 age group in the region. Suicide rates for Native Americans are much higher than for other races. Suicides are the most common method of suicides followed by suffocation, and suicides by firearm are most common in the older age groups. Males are most likely to commit suicide by firearm; females by suffocation. Homicides in the region track above the state average and more closely with the national average but they are spiking past the state average over the past couple of years. Males are much more likely to be a victim of homicide than females and the 25 to 44 age group have the highest number of homicides. Native American have much higher rates of homicide followed by blacks. Firearm injuries have remained consistent over the past several years in the SC Region. Fall-related deaths in the SC Region are lower than the state average and males have slightly higher rates of fall-related deaths than females. The number of fall-related deaths are drastically

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higher in the 85+ age group. Most fall-related injuries take place in the home and fall-related hospitalizations have remained consistent over the past several years. Females are more likely than males to be hospitalized for fall-related injuries. Motor vehicle deaths have been on an upward trend in the SC Region since 2010 and are higher than the state average. Males are much more likely than females to die in motor vehicle crashes and be hospitalized due to motor vehicle crashes than females in all age groups. Motor vehicle hospitalizations are consistent with the state average.

**B. SC Region Budget Approval\***

Although the SC Region budget is very simple—half of our annual funding goes to the SW Region for administrative services (\$76,440.00) and half goes to training grants (\$76,440.00), our budget needs to be approved by the full council.

*Bud Rose moved to approve the council's FY2024-2025 budget as presented. Sean Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

**C. SC Region FY2024-2025 Grant Process**

April reported that the FY2024-2025 training grant contracts and needs assessments have been sent to each county council. County councils will allocate these grant funds then return the signed grant contract to April no later than the end of June. The FY2024-2025 grant funds will be available to spend starting July 1, 2024.

**D. SAO Audit**

April reported that the State Auditor's office contacted her this week to say that the region is being audited beginning now. The regions are audited every other year and there should be no issues with this as our accounting firm takes care of all of the financial records and there were no significant findings during the last audit.

**VII. Local Council Reports**

A. Columbia: No report.

B. Kittitas: Cheryl reported that they finished their EMT class. They are doing public education outreach for EMS Week. They are expanding their PulsePoint program with public education and registering AEDs. They will have an MCI drill on June 12 and CWU. They have a new interim KitCom director and a new fire chief at Kittitas 7.

C. Mid Columbia: Bud reported that their EMT class will finish soon. They are reviewing their protocols.

D. Walla Walla: Heather reported that they got their updated protocols from the state requesting only minor changes.

E. Yakima: Tony reported that they had two full-scale exercises this year, one an active shooter exercise and one at the airport. Memorial Hospital is not the DMCC for the county now; currently Yakima County EMS is the DMCC until further notice. Beki said that Kadlec may be interested in taking on this work; she will follow up on this with Tony. They finished their EMT class and the students are now taking the NREMT test. They are putting together their fall EMT class. They reviewed their protocols with Dr Hodges and will soon send them to the state for review and approval.

**VIII. Preparedness Report**

April reported that the REDi Coalition folded and the DOH is trying to restart the program. More information will be provided when the program is restarted.

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IX. SC Region CQI Report

Beki reported that they met yesterday. They discussed EMS data including scene times, wall times, and transport times using WEMSYS data. Since the state trauma registry is backlogged to 2019, trauma data is currently unavailable. They discussed the prehospital trauma triage tool; some hospitals have instituted this tool already. Christy and Beki presented a case review which highlighted the difficulties of moving patients to a higher level of care when many hospitals are already full. They also discussed pediatric data from the five hospitals. Their next meeting will be on September 17.

X. State Committee Reports

David reported that at the RAC meeting they discussed legislation and the trauma services assessment which will fall on the regions to complete. The EMS and WEMSYS rules will be out this summer. They reviewed the RAC strategic plan as well as the data sources available to the regions. The region's strategic plan was discussed as well as a timeline for writing and reviewing the plan. There will be proviso money for buying naloxone for the agencies in the region; the group discussed the process for doing this. The state is working on providing more support for the regional QI programs. The Steering Committee covered many of the same topics as the RAC. Catie is now permanently in Dolly's position and Dolly retired. Dawn was hired to permanently fill Catie's old position. They discussed the trauma registry and a funding package the office is putting together for the FY2025 legislative session which will ask for funds to build a new trauma registry as well as funds to support rural EMS, MPDs, regional QA programs, and a few other programs. New committee members were introduced and retiring committee members were recognized. Beki is the new Hospital TAC chair. Annual reports were given by the RAC TAC, IVP TAC, and on data. The EMS section will be moving to the Office of Health Resiliency and Health Security.

XI. DOH Report

Scott will provide a written report to the council members for links to various programs that were discussed today. They are putting together a plan to distribute naloxone funding for all EMS agencies through the regions. The West Region EMS Conference was held on May 17-19 and there were many positive reports about it. May is Trauma Awareness Month. Governor Inslee made a proclamation for EMS Week which is May 19 to 25. The next Falls/IVP TAC meeting will be on June 5. The mental fitness for first responders online class will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The WEMSYS rules will be out this summer.

XII. Good of the order

- A. April reported that she sent an email to all agencies in the region this morning about two naloxone programs that are currently being run by the state—one for rural agencies to acquire naloxone at no charge and one for all agencies to acquire naloxone for their leave behind programs. If anyone needs more information on this, they can contact April.
- B. The group discussed whether or not to cancel their July meeting as this meeting is usually canceled.

Sean Davis moved to cancel the July meeting. Dennis Blummer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

XIII. Adjourn

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The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 11:32am.

Future Meeting Dates: September 26, 2024; and November 21; 2024

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