



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2023

Members Present: Matt Dale, Chair; Dr. Ritu Sahni, EMS Medical Director; Dr. Sarah Present, Health Officer; Dr. Thomas Kofoed, CC Associate Medical Director; Tony Collins, CCOM Operations Manager; Jason Mahle, Clackamas AMR Operations; Jennie Wilcox, County Resident Representative

Members Absent: Steve Boughey, TVFR; Vince Stafford, Molalla Fire; Dr. Sean Stone, FACEP Manager; Rick Huffman, Clackamas Fire EMS; Luke Strait, Milwaukie Police Chief

Guests: Ben Sorenson, Fire & Rescue; Dr. John Turner, CC Associate Medical Director; Cheryl Bledsoe, CCOM Director; Tim Case, Washington Co. EMS; Tina Burgess, LOCOM; Brad Kuhn, Colton Fire District EMS Coordinator; Mark Oelschlager

Staff: Bill Steward, Office of Public Health Emergency Medical Services Coordinator; Bill Conway, Office of Public Health Emergency Services Manager; Deidre Toczyski, Office of Public Health Emergency Medical Services, EMS Data Analyst; Apryl Herron, Clackamas County Substance use/overdose prevention Program planner

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:05 am.

Introductions:

Introductions were completed.

Additions/Deletions/Acceptance of Agenda

Call to the Public: No requests from the public.

Approval of Minutes: Approved July 2023 minutes.

Project Hope

- There was an increase in the number of drug-induced fatalities in Clackamas County.
- Clackamas County and Lake Oswego made the highest percentage of 9-1-1 calls.
- Building an OD/SUD System of Care
- Canby & Molalla carrying since July 2023
- Countywide EMS protocol launch in 2024
- Partnership with Oregon Poison Center
- Live data feed on ODs, naloxone, buprenorphine
- Education for all Emergency Departments in Clackamas County
- Supportive discussions with other counties on regional efforts
- Public Health Approach Overdose Crisis:
 - Decrease harms and death from opioids and other drugs
 - Utilize data to inform our work and implement targeted interventions.
 - Support recovery from substance use disorder by expanding access to treatment.
 - Strengthen community partnerships and improve care coordination
- Apryl will send referral link to Bill, who would then send it out to everyone else.
- Goals of the project:
 - Reduce the number of people who have a first time or repeat overdose on opioids or other drugs to decrease future 911 calls and hospital readmissions.
 - Improve the quality of life for patients with substance use disorders.
 - Bridge gaps in care by connecting vulnerable patients to treatment and other critical resources.
- HB2395 - Opioid Omnibus Package: Allows naloxone leave-behind for law enforcement, firefighters, and EMS providers
- What do partners need to know?
 - Allows professional to distribute and administer naloxone to individuals who have experienced an opioid overdose or are likely experiencing one. May also distribute naloxone kits to any other individual who requests one or more kits.

- Provides immunity from criminal and civil liability for anything that happens while distributing or administering naloxone if the person is acting in good faith and their actions do not constitute misconduct.
- Studies show increased risk of fatal overdose after a non-fatal overdose
- Emerging Threats: Xylazine/Tranq
 - A2-adrenergic agonist, potent sedative, not approved by FDA for human use
 - Many unknowns: distribution in drug supply, human, pharmacokinetics, dose/response
- Naloxone should be administered to reverse effects of opioids even if xylazine is suspected to be present because xylazine is mainly found in IMF products.
- Supportive care is critical in event of overdose involving xylazine.
- Xylazine testing strips could potentially aid in intervention efforts.
- Linking people to care remains a primary goal
- Education is needed

Staff Reports:

- County Staffing Update (Bill Conway)
 - Will be hiring an EMS Administrative specialist and Community Paramedic to complete team
- Finance (Sherry Olson)
 - Update will be given at next meeting
- Behavioral Health Response Updates (Matt Dale)
 - Working on a communication platform
 - Clackamas fire received ARPA funding to hire 3 more community paramedics
 - They are working to open a Clackamas County Sheriff's office Transition Center in Milwaukee (23 hour drop center, with 10 beds and another 20 beds for transitional housing). Hoping to have this completed by the end of the year
 - Tualatin Valley is looking to create more paramedic positions with the plans for a nurse practitioner paramedic team to provide one main care management
 - Clackamas County behavioral health is attempting to work with the State to increase funding, to better fill their vacancies.
 - Oregon City police was approved to hire a case manager for their behavioral health response
- Public Health Update (Dr. Sarah Present)
 - No updates

Committee / Special Interest Reports:

- EMS Strategic Plan Taskforce (Bill C.)
 - Josh Santos had to step down for new position and Bill C. is taking his place until someone fills the new position
 - Starting to review and update Ambulance Contingency plan and will be asking the task force and labor subcommittee to participate in this review
 - Have met numerous times to go over the Ambulance Service plan update & AMR Performance based contract to help develop content
 - The Labor Committee was developed through the Cambridge recommendation
- QI Committee (Dr. Ritu Sahni)
 - Covered Stroke care and hospital participation has increased
 - Working to break QI into smaller work groups
- Protocol Development Committee (Dr Sahni for Dr. Thomas Koefed)
 - Meetings have concluded
 - Working on creating educational material
 - Multnomah County will be in charge next season
- Operations Subcommittee (Brad Kuhn)
 - A subcommittee is working on revisions to the EMS kits largely, to move from a 4 kit system to a 3 kit system.
- System Enhancement Subcommittee (Jason Mahle)
 - System enhancement recently passed proposal for PEDS decompression needles and an S-bougie.
 - The PEDs decompression needles will get all agencies back in line with new OHA regulations
 - Bill C. is currently working with county purchasing to get those
- ESO Committee (Matt Dale for Scott Vachter)

- Currently going through the administrative settings to make sure they match the other agencies
- Working through any data submission failures to the state database and identifying those working with individual agencies to adjust settings that might be discrepancies.
- Working on Nemesis 3.5 roll out
- EMS Training Group (Dr. Ritu Sahni for Tina Beeler)
 - Four stations from multi agency training: Pediatric airway station, cardiac arrest station, scenario based learning about behavioral health, and Medical director's roundtable
- PSAP (Tony Collins & Tina Burgess)
 - CCOM has 8 vacancies for call takers
 - CCOM has 8 trainees in various stages of training & LCOM has 6 trainees on board
 - CCOM has a police and fire agency liaison. They're working on a more formalized system of response to help with larger incidents.
 - LCOM is working on an OMEGA pilot.
 - CCOM is working with the community and agencies on frequent callers
 - Recruitment is very difficult and CCOM was only able to hire 3 people out of recruitment bunch
 - CCOM started working with new phone system on October 4th.
- Labor Committee (Bill S. for Mark O.)
 - Working to include labor in the development of the EMS system in the county and to help the development of EMS initiatives.
 - It will serve as a conduit for communication between the labor subcommittee, the different labor groups, and the EMS Council.

Old Business:

- Ambulance Service Plan
 - Submitted July 25th and OHA has 60 days upon receipt to get back to us
 - In Clackamas County the Ambulance Service Plan is adopted into the county code, which makes it law. It takes 2 public hearing readings of the code 14 days apart. Those are scheduled for late October as of now, but that date may change
- AMR performance-based contract
 - Nearing completion of the final draft of the contract. It will be submitted to Philip Mason-Joyner, the Public Health Director, Rod Cook, the H3S director, and Gary Schmidt, the county administrator for review. Once approved, will be able to sit down with AMR and negotiate contract.

New Business:

- Jason Mahle is currently working with ESO to get a contract in place. Once transfer to ESO is completed, will be working to get contract signed by end of month to be able to start trainings in January and have a rollout date in February.

General Announcements

- Matt Dale attended the Addictions Recovery Summit Community Stakeholders meeting in September. The purpose was to inform and direct the Clackamas County Commissioners on where to direct resources, including money, and how it should be directed towards the care of behavioral health, homeless and substance use disorder persons

Next Meeting: The next meeting is Monday, January 15th from 9 am–11 am.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30am.