



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 21, 2025

Members Present: Matt Dale, Chair; Dr. Ritu Sahni, EMS Medical Director; Dr. Thomas Kofoed, CC Associate Medical Director; Vince Stafford, Molalla Fire; Dr. Sarah Present, CC Public Health Officer; Jason Mahle, Clackamas AMR Operations Manager; Glen Suchanek, Milwaukie PD Behavioral Health Specialist; Vince Stafford, Molalla Fire; Ben Sorenson, ALS Provider TVFR; Tony Collins, CCOM Operations Manager

Members Absent: Jeanie Wilcox, County Resident Representative; Dr. Sean Stone, FACEP Manager

Guests: Cheryl Bledsoe, CCOM Director; Justin Behrens, TVFR; Charles Miller, WC Program coordinator; Sid Humphries ODHS; Tim Case WC EMS

Staff: Kim LaCroix, Interim Public Health Director; Bill Conway, Office of Public Health Emergency Services, Emergency Services Manager; Bill Steward, Office of Public Health Emergency Medical Services, EMS Coordinator; Megan Cardoza, Office of Public Health Emergency Services, Administrative Specialist; Sherry Olson, Finance & Business Services Manager; Deidre Toczyski, Office of Public Health Emergency Services, Data Analyst

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 am.

Introductions:

- Introductions were completed.

Additions/Deletions/Acceptance of Agenda:

- Agenda approved with no additions.

Call to the Public:

- Sid Humphries – Oregon Department of Human Services
 - Vacancy on ODHS EMS Advisory Council for Physician Supervisor that has emergency medical services background
 - Contact Sid for more information on that position:
SIDNEY.L.HUMPHRIES@odhs.oregon.gov

Approval of Minutes:

- April 21st, 2025, Meeting Minutes approved.

Recognitions:

- Ben Sorenson has been appointed to the new ALS Provider Council position, vacated by the retirement of Chief Boughey
 - Online vote was conducted after the application process, of which the BCC approved the vote

Staff Reports:

- County Staffing Update (Bill Conway)
 - No staffing updates
 - State funding budget has been reduced for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and could affect staffing
 - Waiting to see what the state comes up with
 - 70% of Oregon Health Authority's Emergency Preparedness funds have been received from the CDC for this fiscal year
 - Other 30% unknown until end of September
 - Will know more for future FY 2027 in October
- Public Health Update (Dr. Sarah Present)
 - 1 Measles exposure from international travel

- No cases from that exposure and out of the timeframe
 - MMR vaccine is the safest and best prevention against Measles
 - CIDRAP started the Vaccine Integrity Project, which will be doing science—based research on vaccines and ongoing recommendations
 - EMS Coordinators group working on reducing ambulance patient offload times in the region – APOT: Ambulance Patient Offload Time
 - Brought to the Health Officer group to brainstorm ways to elevate in the hospital systems
 - Discussed at CMO workgroup meeting
 - How do we look for individual solutions for unique circumstances?
 - Dr. Sahni:
 - Tim Case presented at the last Region 1 and 6 meeting (Tri-County data):
 - Since 1 January: 80,386 Total offloads
 - 8% Total offloads (offload times >20 minutes)
 - 1,164 Hours spent delayed at hospital
 - 1,164 hours spent delayed at hospitals equates to \$267,720 of EMS subsidizing local Emergency Departments*
 - 97 twelve-hour ambulance shifts serving our communities
 - A lever that could be pulled is when a patient is boarded, they have an imminent bed
 - Imminent bed: Patient can go to their floor and wait for a bed instead of waiting in the Emergency Department
 - Takeaway:
 - Issue is with boarding and needs to be looked at at a hospital level
 - Not enough beds for patient load
 - Each CMO is going to go through their system to take the pulse of the issue
- Finance (Sherry Olson)
 - Currently in the 4th quarter
 - Have not seen the revenue from AMR Cost Savings Payments from May and June
 - 5% increase from previous payments of \$33,333.33
 - Now \$34,999, totaling approximately \$70k for the missed 2 months
 - Late payment due to currently being in negotiations
 - Fire agencies have been paid out their 60%
 - Paid out more in Compassion care this year than previous years
 - Only pulls 20% of the total amount coming in for the year
 - Pulls from fund balance if short
 - Current fund balance is approximately \$150k
 - This does not include the \$70k that will come in from AMR
 - Fund balance to be around \$220k once payment has been received
- Behavioral Health Response Update (Glen Suchanek)
 - Community Response Advisory Group that meets monthly
 - Group of individuals that touch behavioral health response
 - Goal is to break down silos leading to better patient care
 - Working on Universal ROI (Release of Information) form for practitioners to communicate with each regarding patient care
 - Interested in Julota – charting platform Community Paramedics use that brings together all the charting platforms data into one location
 - Launching soon with hope to incorporate Behavioral Health system into the platform
 - 23 Hour Stabilization Center to be in Milwaukie
 - Next chief meeting will be held at the Stabilization Center to tour the facility
 - Drop off for Emergency Response, Police, and Behavioral Health
 - Front of the center will be ran by Clarvida
 - Father's Heart will run the 13 bed shelter in the back of the facility

- Goal is to open by December but hoping to open in September
- Recovery Center will be in an old school building off 82nd Drive
 - Goal is to have detox, outpatient, and residential all on one site as well as some housing
 - No projected timeline currently
- Caring Place
 - New home to LoveOne and Fathers Heart
 - Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County purchased the Miles Fiberglass building in Oregon City
 - Construction to around the beginning of the year
 - Move in date to be around end of 2026, early 2027
- LoveOne and Father's Heart working with Acacia on opening a medical respite house
 - Clackamas County does not have a medical respite house
 - More cost effective to have people in a medical respite than the hospital
 - Reach out to Acacia for any solutions for people coming out of the hospital without a home or shelter to return to
 - Location is set that is all ADA accessible
 - Start out with 5-8 beds
 - Some funds are allocated but will need more revenue to keep the program running
- Clackamas Village is very close to opening
 - It is a new tiny home village next to the Vets Village in the Industrial Area
 - 24 pods
 - Sunstone Way will be running the program
- Go in front of council on the 5th of August for more coverage in Milwaukie

Committee / Special Interest Reports:

- EMS Strategic Plan Taskforce (Bill C.)
 - No new report
- QI Committee (Dr. Ritu Sahni)
 - Had a joint meeting last week with Washington County that covered cardiac arrest survival rates
 - Reviewed annual CARES data
 - Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival
 - National database that all 3 counties participate in
 - Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington (and Clark)
 - Looking to improve:
 - Bystander compression rates
 - Equity data
- Protocol Development Committee (Dr Ritu Sahni)
 - Mid-Season changes – implemented a more aggressive cooling protocol
 - Information pushed out to fire crews
 - Protocols locked in by October
 - Start working on education and training material by November/December
- Operations Subcommittee (Bill Steward)
 - Met this month
 - Working towards a Video laryngoscope replacement
 - Meet again in August
- System Enhancement Subcommittee (Jason Mahle)
 - GlideScope and CMAC video Laryngoscopes identified as the top 2 scopes
 - CMAC is significantly more expensive
 - Working on moving to the GlideScope Go 2 VL
 - Working on the requirement list for an RFP process through Clackamas County Procurement
 - Lead time unknown
- ESO Committee (Scott Vachter/Ethan Hupp/Jason Mahle)
 - Charts transferring very well from fire agencies to AMR
 - Still 2 charts due to fire agencies being in contract with ESO
 - All the information from Fire before AMR is on scene goes in both

charts

- AMR meeting with ESO to start having CARES data automatically extracted
 - The State is not extracting CARES data currently
- Clackamas Fire switching to Apple iPads due to the App having technical issues.
 - Molalla FD having technical issues as well
- Bring issues up at next ESO Committee meeting
- EMS Training Group/MAT (Dr. Sahni)
 - In the process of planning Fall training and looking at dates
 - Focus will be on the deployment of the new GlideScopes
 - Very different than previous video laryngoscopes due to having a high angulated blade
 - Possibly moving from 6 days to 3 days
 - At this time, Clackamas Fire will not be participating in MAT this year
- EPAB/Emergency Physician Advisory Board (Dr. Sahni)
 - Meets quarterly and includes all the Medical Directors involved in the County and now expanded to the ED Directors
 - Met in April
 - Discussed the overview of the system
 - Today's discussion will be covering APOT and give the ED an opportunity to give an update
- PSAP (Tony Collins/Cheryl Bledsoe)
 - Nurse Navigation started almost a year ago, last September
 - Now sending around 100 calls a month to nurse navigation
 - BLS return calls do not get a fire response anymore
 - 2400 calls a month – 4% of calls being transferred to Nurse Navigation
 - New In-House Clinician started several months ago
 - Works graveyard shift, Sunday – Wednesday
 - Slowly increasing the number of calls he takes
 - Responds to in the field and phone calls
 - Takes Clackamas County Crisis Line phone calls
 - CCOM has all positions hired
 - Many employees still in training
 - 1 Supervisor retired
 - 2 employees promoted to fill the vacancies
- Labor Committee (Bill S/Mark O.)
 - No updates

Old Business:

- Welcome Ben Sorenson from TVFR, the new ALS Provider Council

New Business:

- Transition Center Update – Glen Suchanek covered in Behavior Health Response Update

General Announcements

- Bill Conway –
 - Clackamas County and AMR have reached a tentative agreement on an Ambulance Service Contract
 - Will be presented and put in Public Record to the Board of County Commissioners meeting tomorrow, July 22, at their policy session
 - Staff's recommendation is the BCC to approve the contract
 - If approved, it will be moved forward for a vote on July 24th or the 31st
 - After the meeting, contract will be signed and put into effect immediately
 - Meeting is available to watch
 - Changes and implementations:

- Clinical performance metrics with Incentives and liquidated damages
- Revised response time requirements with Incentives and liquidated damages
- Providing Nurse Navigation throughout the entirety of the contract
- Secure transport services
- New compliance review processes
- New performance improvement process requirements
- New technology and equipment
- Option to add BLS (Basic Life Support) Ambulances

Next Meeting:

- Next meeting will be October 20, 2025, at 9:00 am.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:07 am.