

**EMS Administrative Board  
February 7, 2017**

**1. Open the meeting**

**2. Approval of agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted by Les Riel. Aaron Markham seconded. Motion carried.

**3. Introduction of attendees:**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Juan Acosta	Aaron Markham
Norm Childress	Tammy Pettis
Gary Hanna	Les Riel
Dave Lynde	Tim Smith

**Board Members Absent:**

Rand Elliott	Tom Sevigny
Phil Nelson	

**Department of Emergency Medical Services**

Tony Miller, EMS Manager	Diane Koch, Office Specialist
Wendy Moudy, Training Coordinator	

**Alternate – Nathan Craig**

**4. Open Public Input.**

None

**5. Communication**

Surveys were an will be reviewed under Chair Report

**6. Approval of Previous Minutes**

Motion to approve the previous minutes by Norm Childress. Seconded Les Riel. Motion carried.

**7. Report from Chair**

2016 YCDEMS Administrative Board Review

Of the original 5 surveys returned all data points were marked as effective and greater or not observed.

There was a recommendation to develop Key Point Indicators (KPI) to track and report.

One survey was received on Monday. It had the following complaints listed:

- OTEP makeups have been cut back
- Wants AHA CPR / FA classes to obtain and maintain these certifications.
- Modules not completed by 1<sup>st</sup> of year

- EMT courses relying too much on on-line testing
- No initial courses offered below EMT
- No protocols below EMT
- Levy should be reviewed
- Advanced First Aid classes should be developed and offered and there should be protocols for AFA.
- The office should bill for services, so agencies pay for the services they use

Discussion followed regarding the State does not support AFA, so there are no protocols. Under WACs246976260 if cannot respond on a 911 call if you are not a trauma verified agency. In order to be trauma verified, you must meet the minimum requirements for providers responding.

Since the WACs will be opening, that this would be the time to have a bill that includes AFA Suggestions for assistance included:

- take to Washington State Association of firefighters
- take to Prehospital TAC, then to Governor Steering Committee.
- Dave Lynde offered to set Nathan up with someone who works with legislature that he knows
- Aaron suggested Senator Van De Wege, as he was a paramedic

Future consideration include:

- Develop Electronic survey, possibly using "survey monkey"
- One for administration and one for providers
- Approach survey from alternative point of view by getting questions from the end users

## **8. Reports from Committees and/or Agencies**

### a. YCDEMS

#### i. EMT Academy

Article on EMT Academy in paper on front page of Saturday, February 4th

There are 25 students in class. Two dropped one prior to start and one on first day.

White Swan put three people in and has not paid. Despite repeated attempts at contact Ellen Swan has not responded. If there has been no response the 3 students will either have to pay themselves or leave the class. The students will be informed on Thursday, if there is still no contact from White Swan Ambulance.

In response to comments from the survey:

- OTEP makeups have not been cut back, the office must be notified in advance, to ensure that the makeups are being done correctly.
- Fifty Kindle Fires, have been ordered and they will be checked out to departments that have Wi-Fi. This will allow for immediate feedback to the provider and will cut down on work load and eliminate human error, when entering data into Ninth Brain.

Wendy reported on the EMT academy: The EMT course is now done more on-line than in classroom. We purchased the new e-books and we also purchased the paper back books, just in case. The students are completing a compressed lecture online before class. Then taking a ten question quiz. In order to take the "block exam" in class, these items must be completed, or the student will receive a zero for that exam. All students are allowed to throw out the lowest score. This enables us to closely monitor what students are and are not doing. Current average test scores are sitting at 92%. The EMS online testing, is used to ensure students are ready to take the National Registry Exam. There are key indicators that students must meet, which are already being reached. One person is in the online EMT program and is doing well.

ii. Budget Overview

We were under budget for 2016 by \$22,000.

Since we are only offering one EMT course this year, our line item for Emergency Serv Fees-EMT Train will be less than estimated. This should be offset, as we will not be expending as much for instructors and equipment.

We have 50% of our annual budget in reserves to run office in case levy fails.

We will be sending Wendy to NAEMSE conference in Washington DC. Two instructors are being sent to the West Region EMS Conference to attend the SEI Workshop. The Workshop is part of their requirements to maintain their SEI certification.

## 9. Old Business

a. Term expirations –

Les reported that the Fire Commissioners are meeting next week. He requested Dave bring up the term expirations at that meeting during his report.

Tim Smith was reappointed as the Fire Chiefs Association representative.

## 10. New Business

a. Out of Area Responses and Bills from Fire District #3 – Tony Miller

Fire District #3 was dispatched to a difficulty breathing. We were invoiced for 5 EMTs and 2 firefighters. They were canceled within 15 minutes, never reaching the patient. Six minutes later, they were dispatch again for the same call. We were charged full price for personnel both times.

Fire District #3 was dispatched to White Pass and canceled after 20 minutes. We were billed for 4 EMTs and 2 firefighters. The patient was never reached and in fact Fire District #3 should not have been dispatched, as Ski Patrol had care of the patient and requested an ambulance only. We were billed full price for this call.

The bills came to \$489.54.

Les Riel requested that Tony and Dave to meet with Fire District #3 to discuss agreement and that it should only cover actual costs. Report back at next meeting.

Dr. Acosta made a motion to pay this bill but on the second dispatch for the same call to only pay the dispatch fees. Seconded Les Riel. Motion carried. Fire District #3 will be notified that their response area is being reviewed.

b. EMS Levy Formula – Les Riel

Les Riel requested that a review be done of the EMS levy formula and the distribution. This will be discussed at the next Fire Commissioners meeting. The Fire Chiefs will also be discussing this.

Some of the suggestions are:

- Remove population since it is based on census which is only done every 10 years.
- Adding a line item to help offset ambulance dispatch fees.
- Moneys that are collected in an area from property taxes are not staying in that area. Some areas gain money and others lose money.

All elected officials, Fire Commissioners and Mayors, need to discuss and review the levy together, as well as separately in their own groups.

Discussion followed on how to remedy the perceived inequities in the EMS levy.

Some of the comments were:

- Properties don't get up and move. Citizens do.
- People who are poorer use the system more.
- The issue is really complicated. The voters did not vote on a formula for distribution, but rather voted on a county-wide EMS system.
- If a decision is made to change the formula, then a decision will have to be made for when this goes into effect.
- We want to make sure that the levy is distributed in the fairest and most equitable way possible.

If the board gets a consensus, from the various groups after their meetings, that the formula should change then this information will be forwarded to County Commissioners.

c. 911 Dispatch Fees

The Yakima City Council sent the issue (charging the private ambulance dispatch fees) back to the Public Safety Committee. Nothing is written as to what the dispatch fees paid by fire departments cover. The vote has been postponed until March. The Fire Chiefs and Fire Commissioners groups are meeting next week and will discuss this issue. Consideration will be discussed about adding line item to formula to help defray ambulance costs for dispatch. Approximately \$75,000

If SunCom starts charging the fees and there is no financial help, what will happen

with the private ambulance services? There are two choices either pay fee or not do business in city of Yakima. If was reported that the last meeting with SunCom was the best, as Fire Commissioners, Mayors, and Fire Chiefs attended and none support charging ambulance services dispatch fees as it will disrupt the entire of EMS system. This would cause the system go backwards.

Once the Fire Chiefs and Fire Commissioners meet next week and discuss this, the board will need a special meeting, to vote on sending a letter to the Public Safety Committee, regarding 911 dispatch fees. This can be done with a conference call.

It was noted that when there is an injury from a fall within the City of Yakima only the ambulance is being dispatched. Fire is only going if assistance is needed.

- d. Officer Elections for Chair and Vice Chair  
Les Riel made a motion to keep the current Chair and Vice Chair. Seconded by Dr. Acosta. Motion carried.

**11. For the Good of the Order - none**

**12.** Next Meeting is, May 10, 2017, 9 am at the EMS Office.

**13.** Motion to adjourn by Les Riel. Seconded Aaron Markham. Motion carried.