EMS Administrative Board
November 13, 2024

1. **Open the meeting**

2. **Approval of agenda:** November 13, 2024, request to add October 23, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes. Jim Brost made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition as noted above. Seconded by Joel Byam. Motion passed.

3. **Introduction of attendees:**

Board Members in Attendance:

Jim Borst, Fire Commissioners	Sam Glanzer, Fire Commissioners
Joel Byam, Fire Chiefs	Kevin Hodges, MD, Medical Program Director
Mike Costello, Councilmember, City of Selah	Jim Lange, Fire Chiefs
Kyle Curtis, County Commissioner	Aaron Markham, Fire Chiefs
Sarah Dowen, Hospital Representative, Yakima EMS Council	

Board Members Absent:

Dave Lynde, Ambulance, Chair	Les Riel, Fire Commissioners

Alternate Board Members in Attendance:

Nathan Craig, Fire Chiefs – voting & Chair

Alternate Board Members Absent:

Dan Boyle, Fire Commissioners

Department of Emergency Medical Services in Attendance:

Tony Miller, ES Director	Diane Koch, Office Specialist
Jeremy Rodriguez, EMS Operations Manager/Training Coordinator	

Department of Emergency Medical Services in Absent:

Guest(s): Chad DenBoer, Sunnyside Fire Department

4. **Open Public Input –** none

5. **Communications –** will be done under new business "Recommendations for Administrative Board Positions".

6. **Approval of Minutes:** Copies of August 14, 2024, and October 23, 2024, were sent out and copies available during the meeting for review and approval.
Kyle Curtis moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Joel Byam. Motion approved.

7. **Reports from committees/agencies**
   a. Emergency Medical Services

      i. Fall 2024 EMT Course - Jeremy Rodriguez reported that the students have just completed their second cumulative exam. The scores were a little lower than anticipated, but they are working with the students to get their grades higher. Thursday evenings are going a little longer as the

NREMT exam includes differential diagnoses as part of the exam. Each Thursday night class the instructors are working for an hour or so on differential diagnoses, so that the students will be better prepared when they take their National Registry exam.

ii. Winter 2025 EMT Course – Jeremy Rodriguez reported that the Orientation class was completed last night (11/12/2024). All the students now have access to Ninth Brain and JB Learning.
Commissioner Curtis asked if we have students from Kittitas County. Kittitas County has their own EMS office and EMT courses are offered by Central Washington University and at various fire departments in the county.

iii. 2025 Budget
Commissioner Curtis reported that there will be a preliminary hearing on the county-wide budget, including the EMS office on Monday November 18th. It is expected to adopt the 2025 budget on December 5th.

iv. Gesa Grant
Tony Miller reported that we applied for the GESA grant this year. Jeremy Rodriguez and Nici Parpart Grants Specialist in OEM worked on the grant together. We were awarded $21,000 to purchase HP CPR manikins. Once the funds are received, we will be purchasing 5 adult manikins and 8 child manikins (these come as a 4-pack).

8. Old Business

a. MCI Truck
Tony Miller reported that we have purchased an MCI truck. It is a medium rescue 2006 Ford F-550, 4-wheel drive, walk in box and crew cab 6.0L v8 OHV669454 32v turbo diesel with 20,200 miles. Loxley AL pd $35,000. As a comparison, the rest of the vehicles being sold were around $80,000. Next Wednesday Tony will be flying to Alabama and driving it back, as this was cheaper than having the vehicle shipped. We hope to have it in service in January. Once it is in service, we will be having a press conference. Then we plan to take it out to departments, so that everyone will be familiar with it.
It did come with a full set of JAWS, which are not needed on this vehicle. We are reviewing options on what to do with the JAWS.
The vehicle will be stationed at our office (in the secure parking lot) until AMR has its new station on Goodman Road complete. The plan is to have the AMR supervisors deploy the vehicle and be the Transport Supervisor during an event. There will be an Interlocal Agreement between AMR and Yakima County. The AMR Supervisors will be trained to drive it, as it is bigger than an ambulance.

b. New Employee
Tony Miller reported that we should be able to post for the new position in December.

9. Compliance Review
Joel Byam reported that the committee met last week. The committee members are Joel Byam, Jim Lange, Aaron Markham and Tony Miller. AMR is meeting time requirements and so far, everything has been going well. Some other topics came up:
Posting ambulances have been moved around, to meet the response time requirements. AMR is working on lease agreements for more stations (i.e., YFD Station #92, 40th and Summitview). The station that they have at 2nd and Pine is too small for what is needed.
There were some issues with Zillah/Toppenish area as the volume of calls was greater than expected. This was solved by moving ambulances to different posting areas.

Supply exchange is still working with agencies. If it is too busy and they forget – then there is a QR code to be used and a supervisor will deliver supplies used.
The new AMR building will take about 8 months and will be located on Goodman Road.
For now, we will continue with monthly meetings.

10. New Business

a. Nathan Craig - Recommendations for Administrative Board Positions:
Expiring: Chief Aaron Markham, Commissioner Jim Borst and Councilman Michael Costello
Letter received from Fire Commissioners received reappointing Jim Borst.
Next Thursday Chief Aaron Markham will request a letter from the Yakima County Fire Chief's Association reappointing him to the Administrative Board.
Mike Costello has requested a letter from the Conference of Governments reappointing him.

b. Nathan Craig - The Bylaws are to be sent out for review to all Administrative Board Members for review. During the February meeting the board will need to affirm that they understand the by-laws.

c. Nathan Craig - GMR Nurse Navigation Program meeting and it looks like a good program. Ride shares may be the toughest part. This was no cost offer from AMR. The nurses are licensed for the State(s) that they work with, so even though the nurse is in Texas, they will be a Washington State provider. When the nurse answers the phone, "This is nurse (name), for Yakima". This makes it more personalized. Nurses will work with patients for a Lyft from home to hospital or Urgent Care or pharmacy or mental health etcetera. The patient will receive a call back in 24 to 48 hours to follow up. The nurses will also have a list like 211 for other resources. Will work with MedStar also for wheelchair bound. Work with insurance.

Discussion followed on patients who frequently use 911. Educating patients during each call, working with Dr. Hodges to get these patients on a care plan with a social worker.

d. Current rate of overdoses in Yakima County – Tony Miller. Chief Aaron Markham reported that they had 236 overdoses in September/October. On October 7th, there were 10 overdoses in one day. Discussion on overdose calls and the costs associated.

There is a pilot program in 7 counties for administration of buprenorphine. This is an IM extended-release medication that reduces/negates the effects of the withdrawal/cravings after administration of naloxone (Narcan), without making the patient feel high or sleepy.
Dr. Hodges is in the process of talking to the EMS Fellows at the University of Washington to get Benton, Yakima, and Franklin counties into the pilot program.
Link to Pilot Program Information from Washington State Department of Health:
https://doh.wa.gov/newsroom/department-health-partners-local-responders-tackle-opioid-crisis#:~:text=The%20pilot%20program%20allows%20EMS,administer%20buprenorphine%20in%20the%20field.

11. Next regularly scheduled meeting is 09:00 on February 12, 2025. In person will be at the EMS Office in the classrooms. Zoom information will be forthcoming.

12. Meeting adjourned. Joel Byam made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Hodges. Motion carried.