



**Emergency Medical Services Council**

Health Services Building – MC L963  
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**Operations Committee**

**Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

**Online**

**<https://www.hennepin.us/business/work-with-henn-co/ems-planning-reg>**

**Draft Summary**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ryan Quinn, Edina Fire Department, Chair</b></li> <li>2. Jeff Lanenberg, Allina Health EMS</li> <li>3. Mike Fasbender, Fairview Southdale Hospital</li> <li>4. Tony Ebensteiner, North Memorial Ambulance Service</li> <li>5. Darel Radde, Ridgeview Ambulance Service</li> <li>6. Chief Dale Specken, Hennepin County Fire Chiefs Assoc., (Chair)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Charlie Sloan, Hennepin EMS</li> <li>2. Dan Conboy, Lt., Hennepin County Police Chiefs rep.</li> <li>3. Kevin Malacek, Ambulance Service Personnel rep.</li> <li>4. Wade Johnson, PSAP rep.</li> <li>5. Ambulance Service Medical Director (vacant-not counted in quorum)</li> <li>6. Public representative (vacant-not counted in quorum)</li> </ul>
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Staff</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kristin Mellstrom</li> </ul>

**1) Welcome and Introductions** – Chair Ryan Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with a quorum present. After introductions, today’s agenda and the meeting summary from April 10, 2018 were approved.

**2) Nomination for Chair of this Committee**

The committee unanimously approved Ryan Quinn as chair.

**3) Nominations for Open Seats**

Dr. Gregg Jones (Hennepin EMS) and Dr. Pete Tanghe (North Memorial) were nominated. This committee moved both nominations to the Executive Committee to determine the nomination going to the EMS Council.

The rep for the Public is open; Staff will check with Bloomington Public Health and Minneapolis Public Health.

#### **4) Ordinance 9 Review –**

The Workgroup will reconvene in a virtual meeting on June 9. This will be the first meeting since 2020 to finish the work that was started, review the latest proposed ordinance changes (version 3-22-2020), and receive feedback from the committees.

#### **5) Request for Additional Data for Red Patients**

Mercy Hospital, MHealth and North Memorial Trauma Programs sent a request to the committee to consider adding the following data points to pre-hospital communications en route:

- Systolic Blood Pressure
- Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)
- Ventilatory/Respiratory Compromise
- Last-Known Well (Date and Time)

Hospital representatives who were present at today's committee meeting said that this information is being relayed consistently to the hospitals. Staff has not received calls from hospitals that critical information is missing in patient care reports. For now, this request will be sent out as a memo to the five ambulance services as a reminder to include these data when possible in the ePCR. Staff will follow up with Mercy Hospital's Trauma Program Manager to determine if more discussion is needed or if this memo was sent due to specific concerns about missing patient care data. A representative of the group that sent the memo could speak at an upcoming meeting if needed.

Mike Fasbender noted that any special infection prevention precautions were not typically noted in the ePCR until the current pandemic, when Covid information was added. Brief ePCR notes about pre-hospital infection prevention measures that have been taken for a patient is helpful for receiving hospitals to know in advance of the patient transfer when possible.

#### **6) 2021-2023 Response Time Standard Recommendation**

This committee typically makes a recommendation to the Hennepin County Board every two years for a Response Time Standard metric for ALS EMS services in the county. Because a local and state emergency has been in effect since the pandemic was declared in March 2020, Ordinance 9 mandated response time standard was suspended, and data has not been collected and reported since Q1-2019. To anticipate the end of the local and state emergency orders, the committee reviewed the current response time standard and has approved renewal of the 2019-2020 standard as currently written, for 2022-2023. This recommendation will move to the EMS Council and, subsequently, to the county board by the end of this year.

Committee members agreed that the current response time standard does not provide an ideal metric to evaluate pre-hospital care because it includes response times for all 911 calls, many of which do not require a fast response time. For example, calls for transport that are made to 911 for a patient at a nursing home who is in the care of a doctor on site and needs to be evaluated in a few hours, but not urgently, are included in reported response time data.

It was noted that the Ordinance 9 review will address part of this if the proposed changes to the ordinance allow ambulance dispatchers to send ALS or BLS levels of service based on call processing; also, the requirement of a set of response time standards will be removed from the ordinance so

that the EMS Council can determine which performance metrics to use, with the approval of the county board. If the board mandates that a response time component must be included in the performance metrics, the recommendation and metric could be rewritten to focus on only Red patients for whom a fast response is critical to their care. This would be a project for this committee in the future, after the ordinance review process is completed.

**7) Public Education**

No updates

**8) Equipment Exchange**

No updates

**9) Partner Agency Reports**

No updates

**10) The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.**

**Future meetings**, Second Tuesday of Jan., April, July, Oct. from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Hopkins Fire Department, Station #1 and online