



# Emergency Medical Services Council



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**Operations Committee**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**  
**Online**

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

## Draft Summary

Present	Absent
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ryan Quinn, Edina Fire Department, Chair</b></li> <li>Mark Anderson, Ridgeview Ambulance Service</li> <li>Tony Martin (Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office Primary Dispatch)</li> <li>Kevin Miller, Allina Health EMS</li> <li>Charlie Sloan, Hennepin EMS</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dan Conboy, Lt., Hennepin County Police Chiefs rep.</li> <li>Tony Ebensteiner, North Memorial Ambulance</li> <li>Mike Fasbender, Fairview Southdale Hospital</li> <li>Pete Tanghe, MD (North Memorial Health Ambulance)</li> <li>Chief Dale Specken, Hennepin County Fire Chiefs Assoc.</li> </ol>
Guests	Staff
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dan Klawitter (West MRCC)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kristin Mellstrom</li> </ol>

**1) Welcome and Introductions** – Chair Ryan Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with a quorum present. Today’s agenda and the meeting summary from Jan. 10, 2023 were approved.

**2) Open Seats on Committee**

- Non-supervisory ambulance service personnel from an unscheduled Ambulance Provider operating within Hennepin County
- Public representative without EMS industry affiliation, either a rep from a municipal public health authority within Hennepin County or a member of the general public

### 3) System Communications

- **Monthly Radio Checks – Hospitals to West MRCC – Dan Klawitter**

West MRCC continues to support user education and provides technical assistance with identifying and addressing radio equipment failures at medical control hospitals. West MRCC will take over the monthly email reminders to hospitals and Hennepin County staff will continue to collect and report radio check data.

- **Zipit – Dan Klawitter**

West MRCC continues to work to get all west metro hospitals on Zipit. Use of Zipit by EMS to relay information to EDs increases efficiency by saving about 2.5 minutes per call for West MRCC and Zipit provides a place for more detailed patient information to be sent directly to the ED, where those providers can share the information as needed in their hospital.

- **GoodSAM – Dan Klawitter**

Hennepin EMS is piloting GoodSAM for communications between patient and/or crew on scene and the dispatch center. The web-based, HIPAA compliant application can send real time data on the patient. It has been useful to assist in triage decisions at the dispatch center to upgrade or downgrade calls when appropriate.

- **Beacon ED – Dan Klawitter**

Hennepin EMS continues to test this product that provides a real ETA on a map so all incoming ambulances to an ED can be seen on a map. The goal is to push EMS CAD data to all hospitals so physicians can manage incoming patients and activations of special teams with real time acuity data and ETAs.

This could also assist with mutual aid calls if available crews can be seen on a map so a PSA holder could request mutual aid from a nearby unit if a high acuity call could be better served by another PSA holder for some calls.

### 4) Public Education

Charlie (HEMS) described a new initiative at HEMS to add a QR code on the side of the ambulances to advertise public education (e.g. CPR classes) that is available for the public.

### 5) Committee Member Updates

#### **Hennepin County Sheriff's Office – Dispatch – Tony Martin**

- Hennepin County's ARPA-funded alternative response program pilot in Brooklyn Park has been responding for the past few months where a Community Paramedic and a social worker team is dispatched to calls for a person in crisis. This team responds only when the calls have been processed and determined that an ALS transport isn't needed to a hospital and there are no weapons on scene that would pose a safety threat. Next steps are focus on funding this program permanently.
- Brooklyn Park is also planning to add a co-responder model where a social worker can be sent with a police officer to a scene when the patient is in crisis and safety is a concern.

- **CAD to CAD RFP**

Applications for MESB's program to support CAD to CAD have been received. An RFP review committee will decide which applicants will receive funding.

**Allina Health EMS – Kevin**

- Training for EMTs –All EMTs are now being trained to the 911 standard; no difference in training will remain between IFT BLS responders and 911 BLS responders.
- One or two BLS trucks are now scheduled per shift to respond to alpha and omega calls that have been call processed by Allina Dispatch through PRO-QA.
- Allina is collecting data on this change to ensure that appropriate resources are being dispatched for all calls.
- Currently, Allina also has about 30 EMTs now in training to move up to Paramedic.

**Edina Fire EMS - Ryan**

- The ECMO truck remains in Edina for now and responds when called. Please note that early activation of this resource is helpful when it's needed.

**6) Equipment Exchange**

No updates

**7) Partner Agency Reports**

No updates

**8) Legislative Updates**

Funding for MRCC's is still uncertain. It has been incorporated into the House Omnibus Budget however, funding is not guaranteed.

Efforts to gain support for pension funds for dispatchers across the state is considered critical for hiring and retaining dispatch staff. Dispatchers are highly trained, especially in the metro area, but they often leave their jobs after about five to ten years and it's increasingly difficult to find replacement staff for the PSAPs.

**9) The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.**

**Future meetings**

Second Tuesday of Jan., April, July, Oct. from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Hopkins Fire Department, Station #1 and/or online