



Emergency Medical Services Council



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**Operations Committee
Monday, February 05, 2018, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Hopkins Fire Department
101 - 17th Avenue South, Hopkins 55343**

Draft Summary

Present	Absent
1. Jeff Czysen, Allina Health EMS 2. Mike Fasbender, Fairview Southdale Hospital 3. Doug Gesme, Hennepin EMS 4. Shannon Gollnick, North Memorial Ambulance Service 5. Mike Hughes, Edina Fire Department 6. Wendy Lynch, Hennepin EMS & West MRCC 7. Bonnie Paulsen, Bloomington Public Health 8. Darel Radde, Ridgeview Ambulance Service 9. Kevin Rofidial, proxy for Dan Conboy, Hennepin County Police Chiefs Association 10. Asst. Chief Jeff Siems, Edina Fire Department 11. Chief Dale Specken, Hennepin County Fire Chiefs Assoc., (Chair)	1. G. Patrick Lilja, M.D., North Memorial Ambulance Service
Guests	Staff
	1. Matthew R. Maxwell

Welcome and Introductions – Chair Dale Specken called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. with a quorum present. After introductions, the proposed February 5, 2018 agenda and meeting summary from October 10, 2017 summary were approved.

Chair Nomination – Matthew Maxwell explained that Chair Specken’s term will expire in April, and the Committee needs to nominate a new chair. Shannon Gollnick, with North Memorial Ambulance Service, volunteered to chair the Committee.

2019/2020 Response Time Standard Recommendation – Specken explained that the Committee is responsible for making a response time standard (RTS) recommendation to the EMS Council every two years, and at the October 2017 Committee’s meeting agreed to recommend maintaining the current response time standard for the next biennium pending a cross reference with the Metropolitan Council to determine if any city designations have changed. Maxwell explained that staff verified the existing Metropolitan Council

city designations have not changed. The Committee agreed to bring the recommendation – to continue the current standard “as is” for two more years – to the EMS Council in April 2018.

EMS System Communications – Gollnick explained that North Memorial Medical Center (NMMC) and North Memorial Ambulance Service (NMAS) continue to have discussions pertaining to what they feel constitutes the appropriate and ideal patient information ambulance crews should relay when giving a report. Gollnick indicated this isn’t an easy question to answer since different physicians and nurses at NMMC want varying degrees of information. Gollnick added that NMAS provided NMMC with a handheld 800 MHz radio and NMAS crews could call NMMC directly, thus giving NMMC emergency department staff the ability to communicate directly with NMAS paramedics, but NMMC staff didn’t feel carrying the radio around was effective, so the trial was ended. This is an issue NMMC and NMAS will continue to discuss.

Wendy Lynch gave a brief update on Texting 9-1-1 calls to a PSAP, indicating that it is growing, albeit slowly, in popularity. Per Lynch, the intent of texting 9-1-1 calls is to create an easier process for the hearing impaired to contact emergency services. Lynch will update the Committee to the progress of this initiative in the future.

Ordinance 9 Review – Maxwell explained that, at the Committee’s last meeting, members reached consensus to recommend the EMS Council form a workgroup charged with reviewing Ordinance 9 and making recommendations to the Council. Specken referred the group to the *Ordinance #9 Project Definition* and *Ordinance #9 Review Work Plan* documents. The Committee briefly discussed the project definition and work plan, and agreed the documents accurately reflected the background, purpose, role, and deliverables of the proposed work group. The Committee also agreed that no components of Ordinance #9 are “off the table” during the review process.

The Committee spent considerable time discussing a recommended composition of the proposed work group, and how often and for how long the work group should meet to accomplish its goals. The Committee felt that too large a work group would be unwieldy, cumbersome, and difficult to convene frequently enough to get the necessary work done in an efficient and timely manner. But the Committee also recognized the myriad of stakeholders involved in the review process, and felt having the right voices participating in the work was paramount. Ultimately, the Committee agreed a smaller, more nimble, work group that could convene on a regular basis would be able to move this topic forward at a better pace.

The Committee agreed that the work group should be comprised of an operations director or manager from each of the ambulance services operating a 9-1-1 PSA within the county. The Committee recommended the work group meet for two hours, once every other week, for up to a year. Once this workgroup has completed its initial findings, their recommendations will be submitted to each committee of the EMS Council for discussion. Feedback from each committee will then inform the work group in finalizing its recommendations for the EMS Council. A public comment period will also be part of the review process. Final recommendations from the workgroup will be presented to the EMS Council at its October, 2019 meeting, which should give adequate time for the workgroup to convene and the various committees to review the work and provide feedback.

The Committee also felt that having the first workgroup meeting dedicated to a historical conversation about Ordinance #9 and the Hennepin County EMS System – why it came into being, reason for specifics in the law, etc. – would be valuable in helping work group members better understand the work they are tasked with doing.

Report by Non-EMS Committee Members – Specken briefly advised the Committee about an MN Fire initiative that will be looking at PTSD, heart, and mental health concerns for public safety (fire, EMS, and law enforcement) providers.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 3:45 p.m.

Future meetings, Mondays 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Hopkins Fire Department, Station #1:

- January 10, 2018
- April 10, 2018
- July 10, 2018
- October 10, 2018