



Emergency Medical Services Council



Health Services Building – MC L963 525
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Operations and System Communications Committee

Tuesday, July 9, 2024, 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"> 1. Mark Anderson, Ridgeview Ambulance Service 2. Charlie Sloan, Hennepin EMS 3. Tony Ebensteiner, North Memorial Ambulance 4. Dan Klawitter (West MRCC)- Temporary Chair for today 5. Kevin Miller, Allina Health EMS 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pete Tanghe, MD (North Memorial Health Ambulance) 2. Andrew Slama, Edina Fire EMS 3. Tony Martin (Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office Primary Dispatch), Chair 4. Chief Dale Specken, Hennepin County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Guests	Staff
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tyler Lupkes, MESB Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kristin Mellstrom

1) Welcome and Introductions – Dan Klawitter accepted the role as temporary Chair of the committee today in Tony Martin’s absence. Dan called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. with a quorum present. Today’s agenda and the meeting summary from April 9, 2024 were approved.

2) Hospital Destination Matrix

A matrix that hospitals have previously updated in 2021 was discussed to determine which data points would be most useful for medics when they are searching for the

best facilities for certain patient impressions such as the need for Labor and Delivery, trauma, stroke and cardiac arrest care. Many data points that were in the previous version of the matrix will be moved to a new spreadsheet that MRCC's may use to help when determining resources for less common situations or patient needs such as decontamination or high consequence infectious diseases.

Dan and Staff will circulate the draft matrix to metro region ED Medical Directors so their hospital leadership can update the information. This information, while not part of an official EMS Council policy on patient dispositions, has been requested by medics in the metro system frequently in the past two years. The information gathered from EDs will be added to the matrix document and sent to EMS providers and MRCC's. West and East MRCC's will post the information in their communications centers to aid dispatchers; EMS providers could use the data to inform their protocols and policies.

Currently, the EMS Council does not have a set of patient protocols; the single remaining policy related to patient dispositions is contained in Ordinance 9, Section VII, Subsection 4, which requires that patients are given their choice of hospital destination/disposition unless circumstances related to the metro hospital system resources limit patient intakes or the patient's medical condition necessitates transport to one or more specific hospitals due to the ED's medical appropriateness.

- 3) **Communications Policy Updates** -tabled until next meeting
- 4) **Medical Control Radio Checks**-tabled until the next meeting
- 5) **Data Request from Hennepin County Public Health Staff for the Ordinance 9 Staffing Study, Part 2**

Staff provided the Hennepin County Board Part 1 of the Staffing Study, which used data from the public MNStar database. The analysis concluded that patient care provided by crews staffed by two paramedics did not clearly show better outcomes on the EMSRB's nine performance measures than a one paramedic and one EMT crew configuration. This supported Hennepin County's recommendation to the County Board when Ordinance 9 was amended June 7, 2022. The second part of the staffing study was designed to address questions posed by the Hennepin County Board regarding costs of different staffing configurations, and barriers to recruitment, training, and retention of medics and EMTs. Staff requested a set of data from each EMS provider to answer these questions.

EMS providers subsequently asked Staff to get clarification from the Hennepin County's Attorney's Office about the types of data that may be publicly available if a data request is received (e.g. from media, citizen, court-order, etc.). While data are considered private, and there would be no individual patient data because the data

request focused on organizational staffing management and budgeting, some types of data requests (e.g. court-ordered) may need to be released to the requesting agency. Due to concerns about data privacy, 9-1-1 EMS providers did not forward the requested data for Part 2 of the staffing report to Hennepin County Public Health staff.

On June 7, 2020, the Hennepin County Board approved a timeline to review reports and make a final decision about Ordinance 9, Section VII, Subsection I: Staffing Standards by Dec. 31, 2025. A local decision about any EMS ordinance would need to be moved to the state EMS Board (formerly EMSRB) for approval.

6) Public Education

No updates

7) Equipment Exchange

No updates

8) Partner Agency Reports

No updates

9) Legislative Updates

No updates

10) The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Meetings

Second Tuesday of Jan., April, July, Oct. from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. online