**REGULAR Quarterly MEETING Minutes**

**August 7, 2024**

**AGENDA**

I. Call to order/Roll Call/Guest Introductions

II. Approval of May Minutes

III. Treasurer’s report – Kirby Clock

IV. Coordinator’s Report – Danny Barela

V.RMD/WCEMSLC Report – Dr. MacKenzie, Dr. Orpet

VI. Old Business

* Pediatric Preparedness
* Cardiac Arrest
* Mental Health
* Communications

VII. New Business

* Pulsara Pilot Project – Kat and Danny
* WRETAC Budget
* Funding Requests

VIII. Roundtable

IX. Next Meeting: November 6, 2024- In Person

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| Agenda Item: | **Called to Order/Roll Call/Additions to Agenda/Guest Introductions** |
| Overview: | Called to order by CJ Malcolm at 1201 |
| Members present:  Excused: Rob Weisbaum, Amanda Hartman, Scott Fitzgerald, Melissa Tuohy | Kirby Clock DCAD, Kayleigh Wright Delta Health, CJ Malcolm Gunnison, Katherine Heidt Hinsdale, Jeff Stephens Montrose, Kim Mitchell Ouray, |
| Guests: | Amber Lillard WESTCO Dispatch Executive, Brent Culver Montrose Fire, Shane Baird Telluride Fire, Jessica Nelsen CDPHE, Kathy Steckel NFEMS, Kat Smith WRHCC, Nicolena Mitchell Colorado EMS for Children, Rebecca Diaz MRH, Roger Rash Montrose County Commissioner, Tad Rowen Chief Montrose Fire District, Tabitha Champlin Ouray, Kelly Thompson CareFlight Director. Chelsea Gardner Telluride. |

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| Agenda Item: | **Approval of May Minutes** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Minutes of the May meeting was emailed to the board members prior to the meeting and brought for review. |
| Action: | *Motion made by Kim, Seconded by Jeff Stephens to approve the minutes as written. No objections. Motion passes.* |
| Attachments: | Minutes will be posted on the Website |

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| Agenda Item: | **Treasurer’s Report** |
| Overview/Discussion: | This was sent out prior to the meeting. Danny discussed the Budget vs. Actuals Budget including payments already received to this point. CJ states something to note is that we are close to 20,000 in the negative on our expenses; therefore we have to go to our savings. Kirby confirms this. At this time it was noted that we have the excess to handle that and part of the issue was the purchase of the vehicle which had more money going out of the savings. We still have a four to five month operating reserve despite this. |
| Action: | *Motion to accept the treasures report and financials as presented made by Kim Mitchell and Seconded by Kayleigh Wright. No further discussion needed, motion passes without objection.* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Coordinator’s Report** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Danny discussed his coordinator’s report which he emailed to the members ahead of the meeting. At this time we are pulling money out of the highway user tax fund and it is being discussed to looking at a fair reimbursement with consideration to a sales tax source. Issued congratulations to Telluride Medical Center for passing their designation with flying colors. There has been discussion to get the pediatric care committee at a different time to allow members to attend both during SEMTAC. Discussion as to defining EMS sustainability. There will also be a tabletop exercise in October at the Montrose Event Center. The focus will be on communications and the continuity of structure in the event of communication breakdowns. Federal grant that we receive from CISA for Gunnison County update includes antennas placed in Gunnison county. We are asking for $400,000 to support the same kind of structural components that enable broadband access for ambulances in the West End. These are demonstration projects so we learn how to do this cost effectively and are able to share this information. At the end as a region we hope to be the source of information for other rural areas that communication issues can be overcome. |
| Recommendations/Action: | *Informational Only.* |
| Attachments: | Coordinator’s Report for August 2024 |

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| Agenda Item: | **RMD Report** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Danny states on the behalf of Dr. MacKenzie and Dr. Orpet that we are starting a new concept going forward and the western Colorado ems leadership council will be shared between the two of them in hopes to make this more for everybody and allowing the medical directors feel more comfortable in their role. They work opposite shifts of each other so it may be beneficial as we move forward. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Pediatric Readiness Update** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Nicolena Mitchell provided an update. She thanked all of the EMS agencies who participated in the EMS readiness assessment. Western WRETAC was one of three in the state that had a 100% response rate. You are able to ask for a copy of your report and share as appropriate otherwise the data is confidential and others cannot see it. Since we have 100% data response this provides a great baseline. Moving forward we are able to provide a reassessment in the future. There is a new interfacility transfer guideline document that was worked on by multiple agencies, it is free, open sourced with multiple sample policies and guidelines. There also new education resources for caring for a child in mental health crisis that is a phenomenal training tool. We have new leadership on the Pediatric Care Committee as Dr. Kathryn Adelgais has ended. Dr. Nicole Feeney is now the new representative and is very enthusiastic. CJ posed the question regarding the pediatric transfer tool’s location and Nicolena notes that she will put the link for this document in the chat on Zoom. We have our 6th COPPER facility. Delta Health came designated at pediatric advanced and showed what kind of amazing work can be done within a rural community. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Cardiac Arrest Update** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Brent Culver provided an update. Dr. Orpet and Dr. MacKenzie will be taking over as RMD’s and he will no longer be the coordinator for this. Affective July 1 2024. Brent is still happy to take questions if needed. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Mental Health Update** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Jessica Nelsen CDPHE provided an update on the path for EMS program. We are consistently seeing growth on the clinical provider side we have 25 providers which jumped from 18 to 25 in the month of July. Currently is working on the website. We are 200 participants throughout the state which shows how beneficial this program and that the stigma is decreasing. Working with a program called behind operational stress, this focuses on overall resiliency and there are hopes to be able to offer this program to all of the EMS agencies across Colorado. Outreach wise she has been traveling to agencies throughout the state upon request. It takes about 20-30 minutes to give an overview and then to ask any questions. At the end there are typically questions on what it looks like for themselves and family. Also of mention, over the last month it has become apparent for a need for the rural areas. July had multiple critical incidents that she worked with rural agencies for resources as some of these smaller agencies do not have the means for a peer support team that some of the larger agencies have. At this time she is looking at regionalizing peer support groups to go to the smaller agencies that have a need but the resources are not available. This is in the beginning stages and more to come. Danny states that CareFlight will provide the critical stress management team as well. CJ states that this program is fantastic and Kim states a regional approach would make sense for agencies such as hers. Shane requested Jessica put her contact information in the Zoom Chat in which she did. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Communications Update** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Danny encourages everyone to be at that table top in person October 8 2024 as these discussions are very valuable. We don’t have the hard data to show what we have done to improve communications as of yet but it will be coming soon. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Pulsara Pilot Project** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Patient tracking taskforce continues to meet. Kat has received wristbands and these should be out to the agencies that are up and running. Kat states the contract was fully executed May 30th 2024. At this point we are pretty much fully implemented within the region. Montrose Regional Health still needs the CEO to sign which hopefully will be any day. Once this happens the agencies will be able to go live with this. The state is developing feedback forms that will go live soon as well. The meetings are every third Wednesday of the month at 11 am and anyone interested can reach out to Kat or Danny for information to attend. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **WRETAC Budget** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Danny states we don’t need to formally approve this as we did this in the May meeting contingent. At this time there was no further discussion warranted. |
| Action: | *Informational Only* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Funding Request Hinsdale** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Kathryn presented this funding request. There is need to improve the safety and operational need of a vehicle including a new command vault. |
| Action: | *Motion made by Kim Mitchell to accept the request presented. Seconded by Kayleigh Wright .No further discussion, no objections, motion passes.* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Whole Blood Coalition** |
| Overview/Discussion: | CJ states that they are looking at the system for rural locations to use as pilot for rotating blood through the region. At this time CJ will reach out to Danny to initiate a small group for this discussion to start. This committee reports to the RMD group and leadership council. Once Dr. MacKenzie is back from vacation there will be plans to get this group together. Kelly Thompson states that she is on the air medical committee as well. The challenges that are coming up is the ability to get Whole Blood on the western slope as the only collection site is currently in Denver. This would change the availability here and how we would be able to get it. CJ, Danny, Rebecca to be involved in this group. |
| Action: | *None.* |

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| Agenda Item: | **Pediatric Care Seminar Group** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Danny requests involvement for group members in the planning of this event. Kim, Kayleigh, Kat, Danny volunteered to be involved in this group. |

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| Agenda Item: | **Roundtable** |
| Overview/Discussion: | Kathy Steckel- Busy with respiratory illnesses this summer.  Jeff Stephens- Dealing with a fire currently keeping them busy.  Shane Baird- Doing well, doing a similar project for IP access and waiting for statement of works. Excited for this! 2 paramedic students that will be starting school (sending to PCC, Denver, and in house hybrid learning program) under a CREATE grant soon.  Tad Rowan- Nothing new to report. Volume is high, busiest month ever this past July with over 500 calls.  Kat Smith- No updates, starting the new fiscal year.  Roger Rash- No updates, appreciates the invite to the meeting.  Amber Lillard- No updates, busy with the fires, traffic, and tourists.  Kayleigh Wright- Trauma review on the 28th, continuing with outreach and volume within the ER.  Kim Mitchell- Starting an EMT Basic class with pueblo and the didactic will be online with the skills instruction in person within the district. Anyone interested can email Kim.  Tabitha Champlin- No updates as of current.  Rebecca Diaz- Trauma Designation Review September 12th, Continuing stop the bleed courses  Gina Lambert- Outreach and working on a hospital MCI plan.  Kelly Thompson- No additional updates. Busy in trauma season.  Katherine- Finished EMT Basic class and now have 3 new basic EMTS with one more on the way this was partially funded by CREATE.  Danny- Met with the award committee set August 1st as the deadline. There are a few really good applicants and felt as though this should be extended to September 1 2024 to allow supporting documentation. This will also allow for these nominations to be pushed forward at the State Level. Danny encourages getting some nominations in, get letters of support as well.  **Next meeting November 6 2024. Danny proposes moving meetings to the first Wednesdays of the month of the quarter. May, August, November and February. A motion was made to move our meetings to the first Wednesday by Kim Mitchell and was seconded by Katherine. No further discussion. Motion passes.** |

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1331.

**Respectfully Submitted – K. Wright, WRETAC Secretary**