



Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee - Minutes

2024 Q4 Meeting: October 15, 2024

Host: Columbia County Public Health

Primary Membership (*Italics* symbolizes non-voting, ex-officio member)

Jessica Kosydar

Jaime Aanensen

Dr. Joe Skariah

Corey Padron

Mike Fletcher (C911)

Chris Lake (ASA 1)

Josh Marks (ASA 2)

Eric Smythe (ASA 3/4)

Bruce Holsey (ASA 5)

Larry Boxman (ASA 6)

Larry Boxman (ASA 7)

Dr. Jenna Wiley

Don Spurling (Public Member)

Alternate Membership

Katy Curio (ASA 2)

Hailey Palmore (ASA 6)

Dannell Hooper (C911)

Anne Parrott (Public)

Rosemary Clement (Public)

Meeting called to order at 2:37 PM

In-person attendance – Jessica Kosydar, Josh Marks, Katy Curio, Anne Parrott, Dr. Joe Skariah, Eric Smythe, Bruce Holsey, Jaime Aanensen

Virtual attendance – Dr. Jenna Wiley, Rosemary Clement, Don Spurling, Chris Lake, Larry Boxman, Corey Padron, Hailey Palmore

Absent – Mike Fletcher, Shawn Wood,

Guests in attendance – Steve Sharek

Quorum – 7 voting members present, quorum was achieved.

Introductions/agenda additions

Motion made to approve agenda by Chief Marks, second made by Dr. Skariah.

Public comment

Don Spurling requested purpose of committee and goals of committee. Jessica Kosydar provided a brief history of the committee and current agenda.

Approval of previous minutes

Request for approval of Q3 minutes; motion made by Chief Marks to approve with corrections, second made by Katy Curio. Bruce Holsey not listed as attending nor absent. "Mark" Fletcher to be corrected to "Mike" Fletcher. Approved with corrections.

Customer complaint review

No formal customer complaints to review.

Old Business Discussion Items

- Complaint review process & procedures
 - Handout provided with rough draft of online feedback form provided with edit of "time" to be included with intention to be posted to the website. Chief Holsey asked this will come to the county to be provided to the agency? And will the county keep record of this?" Jessica Kosydar acknowledged "yes" to both. Chief Smythe expressed concerns over there being an ability to have anonymous complaints and the ability to validate such concerns. Jessica Kosydar said that ability needs to be there. It is in many forms, including Code Compliance. Don Spurling asked what will happen if there is an anonymous complaint? It was acknowledged if an anonymous complaint goes to a district, they may be unable to investigate. Goal is to have form up on county page prior to Q1. Chief Marks asks the role of Emergency Management in the complaint process and what enforcement entails. Don Spurling asked who is the disciplinary agency? County or departments. Jessica Kosydar said ASA violations are county, others to agencies.

- Quality assurance review process
 - Review of randomized call workflow with handout. Two to three calls to be pulled for review. Original plan was to have a meeting prior; however after review with other committees by Jessica Kosydar, it was put forth that perhaps we do not need a meeting prior. Discussion over what information would be provided. Chief Holsey asked if this would be duplication of efforts? Chief Marks responded yes and no. There may be; however they may be new aspects. And this may help learn from each other. Don Spurling spoke to experience with random audits previously. Chief Smythe brought up the benefit of bringing larger scale calls for review from the group.

- ASA RFP Timeline
 - Per Jessica Kosydar, scoring is next week. The group may be reaching out for clarifying documents. Heads up provided as this may be a quick turn around request. Looking to have a hearing next month. Hearing notice will be sent out.

New Business Discussion Items

- Satellite Emergency Department Steering Committee update- Dr Skariah and Jaime Aanensen
 - Jaime Aanensen provided a background on the group funded by the CCO for the study of the feasibility of establishing a satellite ER in Columbia County. The study should be wrapping up this month. Dr Skariah added this is an off shoot of the hospital feasibility

study that showed it was not financially viable to have a hospital in St Helens. Currently there is a draft RFP going thru the Steering Committee. Dr. Skariah discussed the vision of what a free-standing ER would bring to Columbia County and the barriers. Discussion amongst the group on the benefits and impacts of a free-standing ED.

- Image Trends software user update/discussion
 - Discussion on granting of access and safe guards, system level changes. Hailey Palmore provided update on Mist-Birkenfeld status. Discussion ensued of county housing Image Trends, along with associated cost.
- Starlink Pilot in Mist-Birkenfeld
 - Mobile Starlink and two tough books have been provided to Mist Birkenfeld. Future applications of connectivity discussed. EM has funding for 7 units.
- Alternates needed for ASA 1 and ASA 5
 - Reminder Volunteer Form needs to be turned in and appointments made by County Board of Commissioners
- 2025 ASA Meeting Schedule
 - Motion made to approve by Chief Marks, second by Dr. Skariah, no discussion once dates corrected.
- Additions:
 - Rosemary Clement asked about the impact of trains on our response times. Per Chief Marks, it may add a minute or two. Fire Departments are alerted when trains will come through town to plan ahead. Per Chief Smythe, delays caused by trains are documented. Katy Curio mentioned it had been 2 or 3 years between impacts from trains. Chief Marks adds railroad companies do get fines for blocking intersections for an extended period of time.
 - During Agency Update for ASA 5, discussion of levies, mutual aid, level zero documentation and AVL opened up. Chief Marks remarks that Scappoose has found AVL options at a cheaper price point, but does not yet have buy in. Chief Holsey asks if the county is insisting on requiring AVL, will they be paying for it? The fire districts are already expressing hardship with money and staff and now it is being added. What are the benefits of this system to the districts and to the county? Jaime Aanensen responds this conversation is relevant to CCOM, brought in during the development of the ASA Plan. It has also come from the State. The county is looking into grant funding options.

Agency Updates

ASA 1 – no report

ASA 2 – approval for Lifepak, working on that purchase and training. ETA start of the year. Also, order for a new ambulance to be placed middle of November. 530 days out even with provided chassis.

ASA 3/4 – Moving from Tempest to most likely lifepak. Also putting in an order for two ambulances given the lead time. Discussion with Union hopefully leading to more staffing. Uptick in calls due to the Arbor. Discussion of response times.

ASA 5 – Doing well.

ASA 6 – No big updates, Hillsboro Fire donated an auto pulse so both units will have mechanical CPR. Volunteer almost done with EMT school. Biggest challenges have been unpredictable call volume and volunteers not being confident in transports. An ask made for more training. Also, Hailey attended Rural Health Conference and there is a big push for in-home health, integrated health and community paramedicine. Also, Scappoose received a well-deserved shout-out.

ASA 7 – No report

Emergency Management: New employee – Chip Dryden, Emergency Management Coordinator

Columbia 911 Communications: not present

Columbia County LPHA: New Employee – Kirby Kowalski, Modernization

Columbia County Public Health Officer: - request to continue mutual aid discussion on next agenda

Adjourned at 1601

Next Meeting – 2025 Q1, January 21 2025 at 2:30 PM

Host: Scappoose RFPD