

Teller County EMS Council Minutes

March 20, 2025

Northeast Teller County Fire Station #1

Directly Following the Fire Chiefs' Meeting (approx. 10:30 AM)

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Meeting ID: 278 628 044 886

Passcode: Wi3SR9Hy

**Call to Order:** 10:40am

**Members/Agencies Present:**

|                                |                                          |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Chris Cooperrider (SWTCEMS)    | Michelle Wolff (TCPHE)                   |
| Susan Bernstetter (LGFPD)      | Austin May (TCPHE)                       |
| Dave Hansher (UPRHSD)          | Tim Dienst (UPRHSD)                      |
| Dave Rial (NETCO)              | Tyler Lambert (NETCO)                    |
| Tucker Freed (S&R/VFD/Coroner) | Zach Alvey (UPRSHD)                      |
| Jessica Flohrs (TCOEM)         | Sean Keenan (Medical Director, UCHealth) |
| Michelle Boley (TCOEM)         | James McLaughlin (UPRHSD)                |
| JT McLeod (DVFD)               | Leanne Spicer (FVFD)                     |
| Chris Walters (FFPD)           | Jerek Bickford (UPRHSD)                  |
| Dave Quick (FFPD)              | Sean Keenan (Medical Director)           |
| Mary Higgins (TCPHE)           | Ron Fitch (UC Health/PPRH)               |
| Abbie Parker (MCFPD)           | Jesse Avery (CCPD)                       |
| Jen Tobias (WPPD)              | Aric Stahly (SPFPD)                      |
| Kate Leatherby (AVIVE)         |                                          |

**Approval of Minutes:** Motioned by Tim Dienst, seconded by Susan, approved

**Public to be Heard or Items not on the Agenda:**

- AVIVE Presentation of the 4-Minute Community Initiative and the integration of smart AED technology to enhance survival rates in out-of-hospital cardiac arrests. Leatherby emphasized the importance of connecting AEDs with 911 services to improve response times and highlighted successful deployment strategies in Teller County, including the placement of AEDs in mobile library vans. The discussion also covered the challenges of maintaining AEDs in cold weather and the advantages of real-time monitoring for battery status. Mary Higgins advocated for marketing tools to encourage residential AED purchases, while Leatherby confirmed the possibility of negotiating discounted prices for community members. The group proposed collaborative training events at local markets and fairs to educate the public on CPR and AED usage. The presentation will be emailed out. Contact information: [Kate@avive.life](mailto:Kate@avive.life) and 412-812-8288

**Treasurer's Report:** No Report

**New Business:**

- Officer Elections and Vote:
  - Chair (Current: Dave Hansher, UPRHSD)
    - Jerek Bickford (UPRHSD)- nominated by James McLaughlin and second by Dr. Keenan, unanimously approved.
  - Vice-Chair (Current: Jessica Flohrs, TCOEM)

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- Zach Alvey (UPRSHD)-nominated by Tiny and seconded by Keenan-UPRAD, unanimously approved.
- Secretary (Current: Eric Murray, SWTCEMS)
  - Eric Murray (SWTCEMS)- nominated by Tim Dienst and seconded by Susan Bernstetter, unanimously approved.
- Treasurer (Current: Tim Dienst, UPRHSD)
  - Tim Dienst (UPRHSD) - nominated by Jessica Flohrs and second by Aric Stahly, unanimously approved
- New officers will start their new at the next meeting.
- Representative and Alternate for Each Agency report to the Chair **due by March 31<sup>st</sup>**
  - Jessica will send out emails to all participating agencies asking for primary and alternate voting members with contact email to update the distribution list.

### Reoccurring Business:

- **Reimbursement Request-**
  - Dr. Keenan – Requested that the council approve \$20,000 to put towards the Whole Blood initiative out of the Plains to Peak RETAC Funds.
    1. Yes / No / Not Present - Southwest Teller County Emergency Medical Service
    2. Yes / No / Not Present - Ute Pass Regional Health Services District
    3. Yes / No / Not Present - Cripple Creek Fire Department
    4. Yes / No / Not Present - Divide Fire Protection District
    5. Yes / No / Not Present - Florissant Fire Protection District
    6. Yes / No / Not Present - Four Mile Protection District
    7. Yes / No / Not Present - Green Mountain Falls Fire Protection District
    8. Yes / No / Not Present – Lake George Fire Protection District
    9. Yes / No / Not Present - Mountain Communities Fire Protection District
    10. Yes / No / Not Present - Northeast Teller County Fire Protection District
    11. Yes / No / Not Present – Southern Park County Fire Protection District
    12. Yes / No / Not Present - Victor Fire Protection District
    13. Yes / No / Not Present - Dr. Timothy Hurtado
    14. Yes / No / Not Present - Dr. Sean Keenan
    15. Yes / No / Not Present - Teller County Search and Rescue
    16. Yes / No / Not Present - The Teller County Office of Emergency Management
- **Plains to Peak RETAC Report** – Not Present/No Report
- **Medical Directors' Updates**
  - **Dr. Hurtado:** Not Present
  - **Dr. Keenan:**
  - The whole blood initiative for EMS, set to launch in May, was outlined, providing four units of blood from Pikes Peak Regional Hospital. This initiative aims to enhance trauma and medical response in the Teller Region, particularly in areas with high rates of bleeding-related fatalities. The program is modeled after Colorado Springs Fire's successful implementation, which has reportedly saved numerous lives. UCHealth supporting with 2 units at PPRH and 2 on UPRAD

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supervisor units. Jerek has been working on the training and education for dispatchers with a demo to the 3 dispatch centers in April with the procedure to be sent out at the end of April. Will be called Blood Alert for the need of blood on the call for service and the blood transporting unit will be called Blood One.

Working on training and education for the first on-scene EMTs. Record and peer reviews for Quality Medic Control (QMC) recommend SOP or training updates to Fire chiefs. Working on multiple waivers.

### Old Business:

- **Ambulance Authorization to Operate in Teller County Update** – Still with County legal.

### Taskforce/Standing Committee Reports:

- **O2 Taskforce**
  - Backup battery generators arrived for power outage coverage during emergencies due to snow, fire, etc. 6 located at SWTCEMS and UPRHSD, 2 at TCOEM, and 1 at TCPH. Deployed through requests to Dispatch and EMS dispatch to confirm need, EMS will be asking for lift assist for the 100 lb unit from FD or SAR. Will be a 2-person job. Information to sign off on. Gives time for them to plan. Conducted a Lunch and Learn with the O2 companies and one showed up. They provided tons of information. UPRAD has some brochures for people on oxygen for preparing for power outages and other preparedness.
- **MCI Taskforce**
  - Michelle Wolff updated that they ordered supplies to restock the expired equipment. Michelle is working with Austin to get the MCI and Mass Care trailers outfitted with shelves and other organizations to better equip them for response.
- **Awards** – No Report - Abbie needs to get with JT McLeod.

### Agency Reports/General Discussion:

- Jessica (TCOEM) - proposed moving the next meeting to May 8th, 2025, after the TCFCA meeting (approximately 10:30 AM) to accommodate the Recovery Symposium. Approved.
- James McLaughlin (UPRHSD)- The Plains to Peaks RETAC Conference will be the last week of April. Multiple training; labor and delivery, hip fractures, etc. please consider attending. May 19<sup>th</sup> EVES (Escape Violent Encounters) Train the Trainer – 5-day training. 6 spots are open, reach out to Kim Schallenberger at [kschally@plainstopeaks.org](mailto:kschally@plainstopeaks.org) if you have someone interested in attending. Darlyn Baker PMHNP-BC has been teaching families crisis training. The Colorado Crisis contract is up and going through the renewal process.
- Jerek Bickford-From Teller County, 10+year and on helitack crew for wildland. Local, has family here, started as a volunteer with 4 mile Fire, looks forward to being the chair, Zach is insightful and knowledgeable and is involved in multiple projects and boards. He may be reaching out with questions. Working on the Whole Blood dispatch procedure, and is not vary on end user, first of April will be tested. Document forthcoming, by end of April, to request blood on scene is called a Blood Alert, once dispatched the call sign for the blood unit will be Blood 1.

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- Chris (SWTCEMS) - Ryan Brown has done Crisis De-escalation training with Narcan available afterwards training for 35 people including SWTCEMS, CCPD, CCFD, Gaming Officers, with another coming on the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Leanne (FVFD) - 3 new EMT-IVs
- Michelle Wolff (TCPHE) - Denver Public Health has seen overdoses more. Senior Health Fair if interested contact Michelle Wolff, Measle outbreaks, currently none in Colorado. Travel with spring break next week, large events, etc. 90% vaccinated in schools. Response to calls may increase exposure, born before 1957, should be immune, others can get vaccine as booster. Seniors asking more and getting vaccinated. Increase in demand will increase locations. Once exposed cannot give vaccine. Zero pressure room at UC Health. PH Fit testing at hospital. Not sure about reimbursement on vaccine. Last time received a small amount in reimbursement. High risk should get booster and those born before 1957. Insurance should cover. Inoculate first responders. LE/Fire.
- Austin May (TCPHE) - 4 years in environmental health management and now Deputy Director.
- Ron-UC Health upgrades to ER are almost done. Will be able to keep patient with mental health crisis. New general surgeon on staff will help keep from the 9-16 patients transported down the hill a month for surgeries. Whole Blood has great outreach and response. OR busier. CRNA will be hired.
- Michelle Boley (TCOEM) - May 8, ICS 300/400 refresher May 9-11 ICS-300 at TCSO. Flyer will be sent out soon with link to register.
- Abbie (MCFD) - April 5/6 refresher R130/190 and Memorial Day Pancake breakfast. It's MCFD 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Next Meeting:** May 8th, 2025, after the TCFCA meeting (approximately 10:30 AM)

**Adjourned:** 12:42 by motioned by Leanne Spicer and seconded by Dave Rial.