

Integration Steering Committee Report

10 May 2019

Licensing Task

Notes re: Phone conversation w/ Jason Norris, WA Dept. Of Healt; K. Kuetzing, SJIEMS, N. Collins, SJFD3

We contacted Dept of Health asking for feedback on several issues; EMS license renewal, FD3 license application, Boat 1 licensed as an ambulance and its renewal. Both Jason and Catie Holstein @ DoH are aware of our intent to integrate the two services. The intent has also been made known to the local County EMS and Trauma Council as well as the North Region EMS and Trauma Council. The local and regional Trauma Council is part of the licensing process and the State seeks input from both these entities regarding license renewals and initial license requests.

Holstein and Norris spoke with the CAG earlier in the year and helped to explain the process to the CAG. It was made clear that a license cannot be transferred from one legal entity to another. A new license would have to be issued to FD3. The process involves submitting an application and to make sure to apply for a Trauma verification. The application has a two-part review by DoH, one to verify the business side of the applicant (by Jo Anders) and the other to verify the medical / operations side of the applicant (by Jason Norris). Application then gets sent to the Regional Council with instructions to forward to the local Trauma council for comment and a yea or nay recommendation. That goes back to the Region for a yea or nay vote and then back to DoH for final approval.

The plan suggested was 1) for EMS to renew their existing license. That keeps everything up and running for another 2 years. This is an ALS Ambulance (transport) - trauma verified license. The renewal is due at the end of November. 2) make an application by FD3 for a BLS Aid (non-transport) - trauma verified license. This is a new license that will need to go through the aforementioned process. The current Regional plan has 9 open slots for a BLS Aid designation, so there would be no need to petition the Regional Council to make any changes to their plan. This license would get FD3 into the State systems and potentially ease the license issue moving forward. Time line projected is 6-9 months after submittal.

The licensing of the Boat is probably the most difficult issue. During the previous license renewal, DoH initially denied re-licensing the boat. Upon appealing higher up the food chain at DoH, Chief Martin was able to secure the boat license. The criteria used for outfitting the boat is WAC 246.976.300 which is for ground ambulances. We specifically asked Jason about this issue and asked if we could again grandfather the boat license while we worked on developing criteria specific to marine transport. Jason deferred and would like to speak with Catie regarding the issue. We should hear back from Jason next Thursday. We also made known Eileen Frazer of CAMTS willingness to assist with development of that criteria. The good news is that DoH has their Rules making process open, so now is an opportune time to take on this issue. Bad news is that DoH has mentioned this before to the Rules group and was shot down in flames. Norvin and I will get ourselves looped in to the Rules group notifications to try to stay on top of this issue.

Respectfully, K.Kuetzing