

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Klickitat County Emergency Medical Services District No. 1

July 27, 2026 – 3:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Klickitat County Emergency Medical Services District No. 1 (KCEMSD1) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2026, at 3:00 pm at EMS Station 1, 1350 N Main Ave, White Salmon, WA, 98672. Also, via Zoom.

Director Don Williamson was the presiding officer. A quorum was present, including Director Tony Gilmer, Ryan Kreps, Director Paul Smith, and Director Alia Breon. All Directors in attendance noted they were able to hear and be heard over Zoom.

Also present, Medical Director Dr. Russell Smith, EMS Chief Nate Herbeck, Finance Coordinator Kelsey Barnes, KCEMS employee Suzie Gilmler, and Turner & Townsend Heery consultants Scott Perala and Heather Peck.

CALL TO ORDER

Director Williamson called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Director Williamson requested a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Director Gilmer made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Gilmer stated he is married to Suzie Gilmer, an EMT with the District. I do not have supervisory capacity and have not negotiated or participated in the collective agreement per the District's Bylaws section 9. I can and have made motions and seconded motions but abstain from voting where personal gain is possibly involved per Robert's Rules of Order. A letter is on file from the district's attorney, Brian Snure, regarding this potential conflict. Also, Director Kreps stated he is the CEO of Radcomp, which does business with the District.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Russell Smith: KC Dr. Russell Smith, KCEMS District #1 Medical Director, commented on the District's Transfer Policy. He expressed concerns regarding the current five-tier classification system used to distinguish between emergent and non-emergent transfers. Dr. Smith stated that the determination of whether a transfer is emergent or non-emergent should be based on the clinical judgment of the responding provider rather than a predefined classification system. He

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further noted that, in his opinion, the current policy may not always serve the patient's best interest.

Dr. Breon clarified that the five-tier classification included in the policy is intended only as a guideline and provides examples of emergent and non-emergent situations. She explained that the classification is not used to determine whether the District will accept or decline a transfer request. Transfer requests are only declined when the District does not have the operational capacity to safely complete the transport.

Dr. Williamson stated that the EMS District is moving forward with the formation of a committee to review and refine the Transfer Policy. The committee will include representatives from both Skyline Health and Klickitat Valley Health to ensure collaboration and input from the EMS District and its hospital partners. The District acknowledged the importance of maintaining a strong partnership with both hospitals while developing and improving the policy.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Perala, representing Turner & Townsend Heery, provided an update on the Goldendale building project. He outlined the proposed approach for redesigning the building into EMS living quarters following the completion of the building purchase. He noted that a Conditional Use Permit will be required to allow residential occupancy.

Perala reviewed the initial building assessment. A roofing contractor evaluated the roof and identified concerns with the existing OSB sheathing due to its lack of structural integrity. He also explained that converting the building to include sleeping quarters may trigger additional building code requirements; however, several of those compliance requirements have already been anticipated in the project planning.

Perala then presented the proposed project approach moving forward, including:

- Utilizing a Construction Manager (CM) Multi-Prime delivery model, which is expected to reduce the project timeline by approximately eight months.
- Soliciting an architect with experience in rural facilities and critical infrastructure.
- Selecting building systems that can be maintained and supported by local contractors.
- Collaborating with the City of Goldendale throughout the project.
- Addressing immediate needs, including roof repairs and installation of a security system, while design and permitting activities are underway.
- Identifying the most cost-effective long-term solution for the facility.
-

Director Krepps requested confirmation that no public or City of Goldendale utilities are connected to the building. Chief Herbeck stated that he will consult with the Districts Accounting Consultant, DZA regarding the District's financial position to determine whether the project should be funded with available cash or through financing. He also noted that a resolution approving the project

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management plan, including the proposed budget, and architect will be presented for Board consideration at the next regular meeting.

Director Gilmer moved to authorize Chief Herbeck to solicit proposals for architectural services for the Goldendale Building project. Director Krepps seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

None noted.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Director Gilmer made a motion to approve the June 2026 Meeting Minutes as amended to reflect that Director Gilmer was the presiding officer of the last meeting, the June 2026 Consent Agenda, Accounts payable in the amount of \$121,245.89 and Electronic Transfers in the amount of \$340,961.35. Bad Debt in the positive amount of \$144.94 and Charity Care in the amount of \$789.48. Director Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Financial Report

Chief Herbeck presented the District's financial report prepared by DZA Accounting Consultants. He reported that the District received \$389,492.39 in ambulance revenue during the month of June. All outstanding warrants from 2024 and 2025 have been cleared.

Chief Herbeck noted that the District recently received several large invoices related to the ambulance recently purchased, as well as a chassis deposit for another ambulance scheduled for purchase at the beginning of next year. The District also received a Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) reimbursement of \$361,677.03.

Chief Herbeck also reported that there were 149 billable transports in June, bringing the year-to-date total to 793 billable transports. This is approximately 115 fewer billable transports than the District had at the same point last year.

Chief of EMS Report

Chief Herbeck presented the Chief's Report. He reported that the District responded to 238 calls in June, bringing the year-to-date total to 1,041 calls. The District also completed 37 interfacility transfers during the month.

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Chief Herbeck reported 390 minutes of Level 0 related to 911 responses and 753 minutes of Level 0 related to interfacility transfers. He explained that Level 0 occurs when there are no ambulances available to respond on either the east or west end of the county. During evening hours, the District staffs three ambulances—one in Goldendale, one in Dallesport, and one in White Salmon. When one ambulance is dispatched to a call, another unit may be repositioned to maintain coverage. Level 0 occurs when no ambulance remains available because units are committed to emergency calls or interfacility transfers.

Chief Herbeck also reported that Medic 1 is currently in the shop for repairs, and Medic 3 has been taken out of service for scheduled maintenance due to high mileage. The District's ambulances logged 15,579 total miles during the month, including 4,249.6 billable miles, 562 miles associated with canceled calls and patient refusals, 131 miles for interfacility transfers involving Life Flight, and 562 system status miles, which occur when ambulances are repositioned to maintain coverage in other areas of the county.

Chief Herbeck reported that the District has taken delivery of its newest ambulance, which is expected to be placed into service within the next two weeks following installation of the power-load system and gurney. He added that Medic 4 will be retained as a backup unit until a replacement ambulance is received next year. Chief Herbeck also reported that the District remains short one full-time paramedic and is exploring the hiring of one to two part-time EMTs. He announced that former Administrative Assistant William Harryman's retirement celebration will be held on Friday at 4:00 p.m. Director Williamson then asked for an update on the employee currently on Labor & Industries (L&I), and Chief Herbeck responded that the claim remains under review and is not expected to be resolved until approximately October.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

KCIFA Report – None.

Union Local Report – None.

Update on Transfer Policy

Director Williamson noted that the discussion regarding the Transfer Policy occurred during Public Comment. He stated that the District will establish a committee to review and update the policy, ensuring representation from both hospitals and the Board of Directors. The District plans to hold discussions with representatives from both hospitals as part of the policy review process. Director Williamson welcomed recommendations on appropriate hospital representatives who could participate in the review and provide input on the updated policy.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Liability Insurance Invoice (Eduris)

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Director Gilmer made a motion to pay the Liability Insurance invoice from Enduris for \$89,997.00. Director Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Resolution 2026-02 to Adopt Proposed Levy Tax

Chief Herbeck provided an update on Resolution 2026-02, which would authorize the District to submit a proposition to voters at the November 3, 2026 election to convert the District's current six-year EMS operating levy rate of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation into a permanent levy. The Resolution is currently under legal review and may require amendments based on attorney recommendations.

Director Gilmer moved to approve Resolution 2026-02 and Exhibit A to adopt the proposed permanent tax levy with any amendments recommended by legal counsel. Director Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consider Approval of Draft Letter to Klickitat County Planning Department Regarding the Comprehensive Plan

Director Williamson presented a draft letter to the Klickitat County Planning Department regarding the County's Comprehensive Plan update, which occurs approximately every 10–15 years. He noted that the long-term plan currently addresses fire rescue, and law enforcement services but does not include EMS services. The purpose of the letter is to request that EMS services and the role of the EMS District be recognized and incorporated into the County's long-term planning efforts.

Director Williamson moved to approve the draft letter to the Klickitat County Planning Department for their consideration. Director Gilmer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Grant/Bond Committee

Chief Herbeck reported that he is working with Heather Peck from Turner & Townsend Heery to identify potential grant opportunities to support the new building project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board will now convene in Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the performance of a public employee. The Executive Session is expected to last 17 minutes. No final action will be taken during the Executive Session. At the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board will return to Open Session, and members of the public will be invited to return.

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The board exited executive session at 5:15 pm.

Following Executive Session, Director Williamson made a motion to . Director Gilmer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

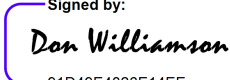
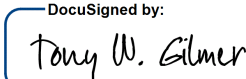
Hospitals are great partners.

FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting will be August 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at KCEMS EMS Station 1 in White Salmon, WA and via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, Director Williamson asked for a motion to adjourn. Director Gilmer made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 5:19pm.

Signed by:  01D40E4826E14EE...	8/30/2026
Approved	Date
DocuSigned by:  E0D0170A309A472...	8/31/2026
Attest	Date

Submitted by: Kelsey Barnes August 6, 2026