



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Established 1985

Business Meeting Minutes February 6, 2020

1. Call to Order

President John Burgess called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. at Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One located at 10222 Bujacich Rd NW. According to the sign in sheet there were 7 Departments/Agencies represented by 21 attendees made up of Chiefs, Commissioners, Secretaries and/or visitors.

2. Flag Salute

Chief Burgess led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to Gig Harbor. They have 4 people retiring and with that replacing those positions. Adding 20 new firefighters in addition to that. Never taken on that many people at once. First group starting April 1 then some laterals in June and another group in the fall. Moving towards 3-person engine companies.

Chief Olson introduced Fire Service Training Director at Bates, Todd Wernet. Please come to with any questions, concerns, etc. Looks forward to partnering and working with. He has 35 years in the Fire Service. Self-introductions around the room.

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chief Sharp and seconded by Chief Fiacchi to approve the November 7, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Treasurer's Report – Denise Menge

See Treasurer's Report on the backside of the Agenda. Chief Backer moved and Chief Nixon seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

6. Guest Speaker – GEMT

Having some technical difficulty, guest speaker to present shortly.

7. Unfinished Business

Nothing at this time.

8. New Business

A. Division Statement of Purposes/Goals update – President John Burgess
President Burgess stated our goal is to make these meetings as effective as they can be. A key element is to have key people in positions to do the work and report back to the group on what is going on. Overall reminder that we come back together and report back to the group. One vacancy knows of at this time, Chief Nixon – TEW Training and Exercise and TEW Equipment. The RCC oversees the training and exercise and equipment. Region 5

State Homeland Security program. Funds from the Feds. Every year look at funds that come in and look at grant requests for that money. Have one position on the RCC and an alternate that sits on the council. He and Karl Roth was the alternate and not replaced. Need an alternate and then a replacement for him when he retires in June. If anyone is interested, please contact and let him know. Chief Burgess stated if you are interested or if you have someone in mind for this position, please let him know. McElligott suggested having Captain or higher level individuals interested.

Guest Speaker

Vice President Sharp stated booked out for a few months, but if you have anything, please feel free to send to him. Introduced Ericka Campbell-Fulghum, MBA – GEMT with Washington Healthcare Authority. Heavy lift to get it started in the state and now starting to see the benefits of it. Currently have 131 participants in the program. Powerpoint presentation given, copy attached. Email: HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov

The Association thanked Ericka for the presentation. President Burgess thanked Central Pierce for all of their work on this and leading the charge. Chief Olsen stated that goes to Keith Wright.

DIVISION REPORTS - Detailed:

9. **EMS – Russ McCallion**

Not present.

10 A. **Metro Training – Woody Juarez**

Not present.

10 B. **Training – TEW Training/Exercise – Tom Mason / Gary McVay**

Not present.

10 C. **Training – TEW Equipment – Todd Magliocca / Steve Nixon**

Nixon reported grant funds were identified and awarded. Everyone approved should be aware of that. He missed the meeting yesterday.

11. **Fire and Life Safety – Eric Waters**

Reported throughout last year working on coordinated water system plan. Framework for water systems throughout the County. Upgrades to existing and new water systems. Planning in and around water flow gaps. Worked to include number of tables and also a planning element added. HGR consultant hired by County to facilitate this process should have draft plan to County by May. Fire Code update at state level this year and will trickle down to local jurisdictions. Looking at setbacks. Plat configurations based on setbacks, potential on draft stops, how projections come into play with side yard setbacks. Specific provisions for planning not to sidestep fire code requirements. 10,000 plus square foot single family dwellings building to require fire flow. Meeting every Tuesday right now to address and go through 17C Chapter.

12. **Logistics – Steve Richards**

Not present.

13. **Operations – Ed Goodlet**
Not present. Chief Backer stated that he's not sure that Ed is the current Chair.
14. **Volunteer Services – Eric Skogen**
Not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Detailed:

15. **UASI Committee – Todd Magliocca**
Nothing to report.
16. **Emergency Management Committee – Eric Watson**
Reported EOC was activated. Gary McVay will be there until 7:00 pm tonight, flooding in Orting and South Prairie. Tomorrow reopen for recovery. Soon email notice for annual pre-summer meeting with weather forecast, etc. In conjunction with DEM late April early May.
17. **700 MHz User Group Committee – DORMANT - John Burgess**
18. **Banquet/Awards Committee – DORMANT - Steve Richards**
19. **Nominations Committee – DORMANT - Backer / Gibson / Sharp**
20. **Audit Committee – Steve Nixon / Paul Stueve**
Nixon stated he will do one more.
21. **CISM Committee – DORMANT - No Representative**
22. **Good of the Order**
Chief Olson reported engagement with Master Builders of Pierce County on 4 community plans that cover Central Pierce are open. Lended us to deal with some current problems been having. Capital Facilities Plan and Fire Code issues. Have reached an agreement on fire code issues. Embedding them into community plan. Down to 3 foot setbacks with no sprinklers. Good meeting yesterday on fire code issues. CFP and impact fees there is a strong challenge. Just wants everyone to be aware of and look out for. Addressing public policy. Who should pay for the cost of growth? Taxing capacity. Processing through. Chief McElligott asked for the Planning Commission members names.

Chief Meyer stated a notice April 2nd DNR open house at Thurston County Fairgrounds. Good time if you partner with DNR to talk about billing and get to know what they have to offer and relationship. 9:30 to 3:00. Same day as our PC Fire Chiefs meeting.

Chief Nixon stated FF Stair climb is coming up next month. A few Chief Officers participating in that. Encourage to support efforts in that. Reminder you can do team donations.

President Burgess asked Chiefs to help our Division Members get engaged.

23. **Adjournment**
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Menge
Recording Secretary

2020 Meeting Schedule:

Jan 2, 2020 – General – CANCELLED

Feb 6, 2020 – Business – Gig Harbor Fire – 10222 Bujacich Rd NW

Mar 5, 2020 – General – Buckley Fire – 611 S. Division St.

Apr 2, 2020 – Business – Browns/Dash Point BPIC 201 Ton A Wanda, Tacoma

May 7, 2020 - General – Riverside – 4114 56th Ave E, Puyallup

Jun 4, 2020 – Business – Central Pierce Fire & Rescue – 17520 22nd Ave E, Tacoma

Jul 2, 2020 – NO MEETING

Aug 6, 2020 – NO MEETING

Aug ??, 2020 - Joint Meeting with Police Chiefs Association – ??

Sep 3, 2020 – Business – Tacoma FD Training Center – 2124 Marshall Ave.

Oct 1, 2020 – General – Graham Fire & Rescue – 23014 70th Ave E

Nov 5, 2020 – Business – West Pierce – Sta. 21 – 5000 Steilacoom Blvd SW, Lakewood

Dec 3, 2020 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET



Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) Program

Presenter:
Ericka Campbell-Fulghum, MBA
February 6, 2020



Agenda

- About the GEMT Program
- Claims Submission and Claims Payment
- Cost Reports
- Interim Settlement Process
- Final Settlement and Reconciliation
- Information & Resources

About the Program

- This is a **voluntary** program that provides supplemental payments to cover the difference between a provider's actual cost per GEMT transport and the Medicaid base payment, mileage and all other sources of reimbursement.
- The GEMT program is a certified public expenditure program. The local governmental unit certifies their cost on the cost report; in return they receive the federal share as a supplemental payment.

Program Eligibility

To qualify for voluntary participation under the GEMT program, providers must meet the following criteria:

- Provide GEMT services to Medicaid clients under Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act and the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
- Be publicly owned or operated by the state, a city, a county, a fire protection district, a community services district, or a federally recognized Indian tribe or any unit of government as defined in 42 CFR Sec. 433.50.
- Be an enrolled Medicaid provider with an active Core Provider Agreement at the time services are provided.

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How will the GEMT Program benefit my organization?

Figures used for the purpose of this example:

ABC Fire Department, an average cost/transport = \$1200; 500 **qualified** transports during service period; \$140 Medicaid reimbursement; federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) – 50% (50% local government's share necessary for federal financial participation)

Average cost per transport x number of qualifying transports – amount paid for transports x federal matching percentage
= Supplemental Payment

Ex: \$1200 x 500 = **\$600k**

\$600k – 70k = **\$530k**

ABC Fire Department's Share: **\$265k**

GEMT Supplemental Payment: **\$265k**

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Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)

*Subject to change based upon federal guidelines

FMAP Code	FMAP Description	Federal Share Percentage
ACA	Affordable Care Act	90%
PSSI	Presumptive SSI	90%
XIX	Title XIX	50%
XIXE	Title XIX - Enhanced Rate	65%

GEMT Claims Submission

- Providers must submit all claims for eligible services through ProviderOne.
- Providers must enter three (3) line items on the claim submission.
- For Medicaid base payment reimbursement, providers will use one of the appropriate emergency transportation procedure code: A0429, A0427, A0433 or A0434.
- For mileage reimbursement according to the fee schedule, providers will bill procedure code A0425.
- For real-time, GEMT supplemental payment at the individual claim level, providers will bill procedure code A0999. Providers can bill any amount up to the interim average cost per transport.

Service Provided	Service Code Billed	Modifiers	Billed Amounts
Transportation	A0429	RH	\$256.00
Mileage	A0425	RH	\$86.00
GEMT Service	A0999	SE	\$1,200.00 *Interim Average Cost per Transport

Billed amounts used for the purpose of this example

GEMT Claims Payment Formula

1.

INTERIM AVERAGE COST PER TRANSPORT	\$1,200.00
MINUS MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT	\$115.34
MINUS MEDICAID MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$15.24
EQUALS TOTAL UNCOMPENSATED COST	\$1,069.42

TOTAL UNCOMPENSATED COST	\$1,069.42
MULTIPLIED BY TITLE XIX FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE (FMAP)	50%
EQUALS FEDERAL GEMT SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT	\$534.71

TOTAL FEDERAL GEMT SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT	\$534.71
PLUS MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT	\$115.34
PLUS MEDICAID MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$15.24
TOTAL PAYMENT FOR THE CLAIM	\$665.29

2.

INTERIM AVERAGE COST PER TRANSPORT	\$1,200.00
MINUS MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT	\$115.34
MINUS MEDICAID MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$15.24
EQUALS TOTAL UNCOMPENSATED COST	\$1,069.42

TOTAL UNCOMPENSATED COST	\$1,069.42
MULTIPLIED BY ACA FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE (FMAP)	90%
EQUALS FEDERAL GEMT SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT	\$962.48

TOTAL FEDERAL GEMT SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT	\$962.48
PLUS MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT	\$115.34
PLUS MEDICAID MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$15.24
TOTAL PAYMENT FOR THE CLAIM	\$1,093.06

*FMAP Subject to change based upon federal guidelines. Figures used for the purpose of this example

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GEMT Claims Submission and Payment

Service Provided	Billed Service Code	Billed Modifiers	Billed Amounts	Paid Amounts
Transportation	A0429	RH	\$256.00	\$115.34
Mileage	A0425	RH	\$86.00	\$15.24
GEMT Service	A0999	SE	\$1,200.00 *Interim Average Cost per Transport	\$962.48
Totals			\$1,542.00	\$1,093.06

*Figures used from example 1 on the Claims Payment Formula slide
 *FMAP Subject to change based upon federal guidelines
 *Figures used for the purpose of this example

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Interim Average Cost per Transport

Interim Average Cost per Transport:

The average cost per transport certified on cost reports submitted 2-years prior to your current service period is used as the interim average cost per transport.

- SFY 2017 ACPT sets the interim ACPT for SFY 2019.
- SFY 2018 ACPT sets the interim ACPT for SFY 2020.
- SFY 2019 ACPT sets the interim ACPT for SFY 2021.
- SFY 2020 ACPT sets the interim ACPT for SFY 2022.

- Notification will be mailed to your organization to advise you of your interim average cost per transport which goes into effect July 1st.
- The interim ACPT for the current fiscal year is derived from the cost report your organization submitted two years prior.
- The interim ACPT will be loaded into ProviderOne.
- In addition to billing HCA for base payment and mileage, your organization may bill for GEMT supplemental payment at the individual claim level.
- The billed amount for GEMT supplemental payment, in most cases will be equal to the interim ACPT.
- Supplemental payments would be disbursed during the normal payment process and listed on the remittance advice sent to each provider.

Calculating the Average Cost Per Transport

Average Cost per GEMT Service		
1. Cost of MTS Services (from Sch 2)		\$ 3,500,000
2. Indirect Cost Factor Based on MTS Services? (please use drop-down box to select Yes	Yes	\$ 3,500,000
3. If no, please enter the total cost to be used for calculating the Indire	\$ -	-
4. Indirect Cost Factor Percentage (please see notes below)	0.00%	-
5. Administration & General Allocation from Sch 5 (A)		\$ -
6. Administration & General to be included		-
7. Grand Total of MTS Expense (Sum Lines 1 thru 4)		\$ 3,500,000
8. Number of MTS Transports		
Qtr 1 July 1 through September 30		
Qtr 2 October 1 through December 31		
Qtr 3 January 1 through March 31		
Qtr 4 April 1 through June 30		
8.1 Total Number of MTS Transports		4,809
9. Average Cost per MTS Transports (Line 7 / Line 8.1)		\$ 728

MTS Transports By Transport Type		
Medicare/Medicaid	Fee for Service	Other
96	63	987
201	71	1,279
67	96	945
132	159	713
496	389	3,924
Grand Total Number of Transports		4,809

Medical Transport Services (MTS): Services provided by an EMT, advanced EMT, paramedic or registered nurse on an ambulance. Does not include fire suppression or fire safety.

Cost Reports and GEMT Annual Provider Participation Agreements (PPA)

- Providers will submit their cost report within 5 months after state fiscal year (SFY) close (June 30th).
 - For instance, SFY 2019 ended June 30, 2019 which means that SFY 2019's cost report would be due by November 30, 2019.
- Providers can access the most current version of the cost report and the GEMT annual provider participation agreement (PPA) on the GEMT webpage: tinyurl.com/hcagemt.
- Providers must submit an excel version of the cost report, the signed and dated certification page and GEMT Annual Provider Participation Agreement (PPA) in PDF format to HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov.

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GEMT Audits

- Desk review is performed to audit cost reports.
- Reported expenditures are reviewed during desk review of the cost reports.
- Cost reports are analyzed, including the comparison of the most recently reported expenditures to prior period expenditures to identify audit risks.

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GEMT Interim Settlement Process: Overcompensated

GEMT Interim Settlement Process	Example
1. Total GEMT payment received billing the interim average cost per transport (ACPT).	\$200,000
2. Calculate total GEMT payment your agency would have received had you billed the actual ACPT.	\$150,000
3. If payments received billing the interim ACPT were HIGHER than payments you would have received had you billed your actual ACPT, your agency will be invoiced the difference.	$\$200,000 - \$150,000 = \$50,000$

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GEMT Interim Settlement Process: Undercompensated

GEMT Interim Settlement Process	Example
1. Total GEMT payment received billing the interim average cost per transport (ACPT).	\$50,000
2. Calculate total GEMT payment your agency would have received had you billed the actual ACPT.	\$200,000
3. If payments billing the interim ACPT were LOWER than payments you would have received had you billed your actual ACPT, your agency will be issued a lump sum payment to bring you up to cost.	$\$50,000 - \$200,000 = -\$150,000$

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GEMT Final Settlement and Reconciliation

- Two years after any given state fiscal year has closed, the corresponding cost report will be final settled.
- For example, state fiscal year 2019 closed June 30, 2019.
 - The final settlement for SFY19's cost report would occur after June 30, 2021.
- During final settlement, a comparison is performed to determine what fire departments would receive for GEMT services after the two-year maturation period.
- Compares final settlement amount that would be paid two-years later to interim supplemental amount that was paid or recovered during the interim supplemental payment process.

1234567890 GOOD GUYS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Invoice Date	Final Settlement	GEMT Amount Received @ Interim	Provider Share Admin Cost	Net Payment / (Owed)
	A	B	C	D = A - B - C
08/23/2019	\$778,000	\$778,000	\$6,250	(\$6,250)

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GEMT Administrative Fee Formula

Administrative fees are assessed during the final settlement and reconciliation process.

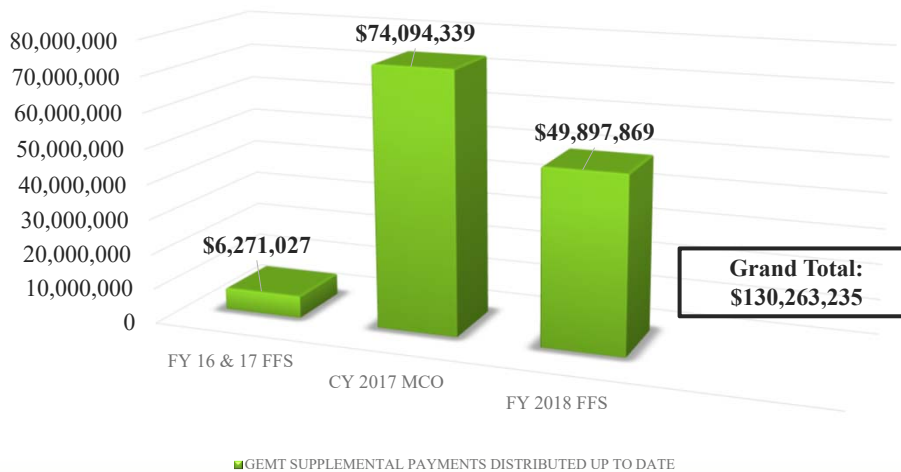
GEMT Administrative Fee Formula	Example
Total cost to administer the GEMT program.	\$100,000
÷ Total number of Medicaid transports performed by all GEMT providers who participated in the program during the specified service period.	\$100,000 ÷ 8,000
= Administrative Fee per transport.	= \$12.50
× Total number of Medicaid transport performed by specific GEMT provider.	\$12.50 × 500
= Administrative fee due from the specified GEMT provider.	= \$6,250

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GEMT Timeline

- ❑ The state fiscal year begins July 1st and ends June 30th of the consecutive year.
- ❑ July: Interim Average Cost per Transport is Finalized.
- ❑ September: Final Settlement and Reconciliation, Provider Statistics and Reimbursement (PS&R) reports sent.
- ❑ November: Cost Reports and GEMT Annual Provider Participation Agreement due.
- ❑ April: GEMT Interim Settlement Process.
- ❑ June: End of State Fiscal Year.

GEMT PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS



How do I enroll in the GEMT program?

NEW PROVIDERS

To enroll in the GEMT program as a NEW provider, submit the following to HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov :

- Provider Participation Agreement.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)-approved GEMT cost report.
- The mailing and/or physical address or both for the fire department/district.
- The name of the fire department/district's main point of contact, and if applicable, the name of the fire department/district's second and third points of contact.
- The email address for the fire department/district's first point of contact, and if applicable, the email address for the second and third points of contact.
- The fire department/district's statewide vendor number.

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RENEW ENROLLMENT

To renew GEMT enrollment, submit the following annually by November 30th to HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov :

- Provider Participation Agreement.
- The CMS-approved GEMT cost report.

Points of Contact for the GEMT Program

Hospital Finance and Drug Rebate Section

- Ericka Campbell– GEMT Program Manager
 - HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov
 - 360-725-1952
- Michelle Corral – Hospital Finance Unit Manager
 - HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov
 - 360-725-1290
- Abby Cole – Hospital Finance and Drug Rebate Section Manager
 - HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov
 - 360-725-1835

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Additional GEMT Information & Resources

- Please visit the GEMT website at: <https://tinyurl.com/hcagemt>
- Join GEMT email distribution list: <https://tinyurl.com/hcaalerts>
- Email questions to: HCAGEMTAdmin@hca.wa.gov