

**PINELLAS COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

June 15, 2018

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council met at EMS & Fire Administration, Conference Room 130, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida, at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Dr. David Weiland, Pinellas County Medical Association – Chair  
Chief Anthony Tedesco, Clearwater Fire Department  
Chief Ian Womack, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue  
Chief Tom Jamison, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association  
Dr. Kenneth Webster, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society – Vice-Chair  
Gayle Guidash, Pinellas County Health Department  
Mayor Wanda Dudley, Mayors' Council (Kenneth City)  
Karen Mullins, Citizen Representative (District 1)  
Jeri Reed, Citizen Representative (District 3)  
Mike Jones, Citizen Representative (District 4)  
William Holmes, Citizen Representative (District 6)  
Jorge Mercado, Citizen Representative (District 7)  
Chief Terry Tokarz, EMS Leadership Group  
John Peterson, Sunstar Paramedics  
Julie Peluso, Independent Fire District Elected Official - Secretary  
John Jones, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Absent:

Mayor Max Elson, Mayors' Council (South Pasadena)  
Mayor Julie Ward Bujalski, Mayors' Council (Dunedin)  
Mayor Woody Brown, Mayors' Council (Largo)  
Anne Scofield, Citizen Representative (District 2)  
Jason Dorr, Citizen Representative (District 5)  
Susan Byrd, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter  
Dr. Eric Carver, St. Petersburg College

Staff Present:

Jim Fogarty, Director, Safety & Emergency Services  
Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director  
Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate EMS Medical Director  
Carl Brody, County Attorney's Office  
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Chief David Mixson, South Pasadena Fire Department  
Chief Doug Zimmerman, Palm Harbor Fire Rescue  
Ashley Hoskins, Pinellas County Health Department  
Lt. Travis Witt, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Dr. Weiland called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Roll was taken and it was determined that there was a quorum. There were 16 voting members in attendance.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 16, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Mercado motioned for approval of the minutes and Ms. Mullins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

There were no citizens to be heard.

## **REPORTS**

- Director, Safety & Emergency Services – Mr. Fogarty
  - Budget Update – Last year the EMS Fund funded the ALS First Responder contracts up to actual costs and added capacity in terms of added seats for several providers. This year's budget intends to do the same. 50% of Engine 16, Engine 19, Squad 39, Medic 40, and Peak 45 were funded last year. This year they will be 100% funded and St. Petersburg's Engine 2 will be added. Costs have increased by 3%, which was expected. Revenues associated with the fund have increased 8%. Looking 6 years out, there is predicted Fund stability. It will be just under 25% this next year, and will exceed 25% going forward, without a millage increase. Towards the 6<sup>th</sup> year, it will rise to just above 30%.
  - Sale of Paramedics Plus – Due diligence and sale process complete. All of the necessary components of the Assignment Letter have been completed. The new company is Paramedics Logistics of Florida doing business as Paramedics Plus.
  - Hospital Data Exchange – Bayfront, Bayonet Point, Northside, Largo Medical Center, Palms, St. Pete General, Trinity have all been connected. BayCare and Florida Hospital are in the works. Training on how to capture encounter numbers will be rolled out by Sunstar.
  - Call Growth Management Initiative – There are several pilots developing that will attempt to understand and manage call volume growth. One focuses on falls and is a preventative program. Another involves law enforcement looking at inappropriate use of 911 and implementing an enforcement process. There are several studies, one of which looks at what kind of growth is happening, what types of calls exactly.
  - Data Driven Focus Group – The group was given a primer on Priority Dispatch and how it all works. It was well attended and informative. This was a component of understanding growth management and allowed discussion for next steps in further implementation of Priority Dispatch. Another component is a study that will verify the accuracy of the Alpha determinant.
  - USF Partnership – Dr. Jameson and EMS are working on a partnership with the University of South Florida to share a Ph.D. research position. Partly to help study the call growth patterns, but also for other things that need to be researched/studied to make some short and long term decisions both based on clinical care and for operational issues in the system.
  - Emergency Pediatric Care online training will begin in July and wrap up in November. It will be a 16 hour course.
  - Disaster Preparedness and Response Award – The State of Florida issues this award annually. Pinellas County EMS Protocol and Equipment Coordinator David Hudak has received this award due to his successful development of the Disaster Carts that are used,

not just in times of disaster such as Hurricane Irma, but also during major events in our community such as the races or the PGA Tournament. He will be recognized at the State meeting in July.

- EMS Medical Director – Dr. Jameson

- EMS Symposium Week – This was held the week before the official EMS Week and was a voluntary training program that went on the entire week. There were many different events – hands on practice, cadaver lab, skills training, and physician led lectures. It was a collaboration between the County, physicians and facilities around the county. Over 300 people showed up over the course of the week. It will be an annual event that grows and gets better each year. Participants were polled and the response was overwhelmingly positive.

As part of this, on Friday of that week the County in conjunction with the American Heart Association hosted a community Stroke Symposium. There was great participation. It resulted in several points of consensus that will guide us moving forward as a system of care in the community. The Medical Control Board will be briefed on those points of consensus at the next meeting.

- Hospital Data Exchange – There is data flowing back and forth between EMS and the hospitals that are connected. Bi-weekly meetings have begun with a team of engineers to fine tune the implementation to make sure the data is flowing the way we want it to and that we are getting the information that is needed.
- Law Enforcement Naloxone Program – There have now been close to 20 administrations of Narcan by law enforcement. They are being tracked and analyzed. Tarpon Springs Agency was just trained. A large portion of the County has it. The 20 cases are being reviewed – no negatives, many good outcomes. In 6 months or so Dr. Jameson will present data showing how successful the program has been.
- Opioid Task Force – Meets monthly and has strategies, goals, objectives and tactics. It's a consortium, so there's a lot of people at the table but there isn't one person responsible for anything. Ongoing goals and projects were discussed.
- Emergency Medical Dispatchers – Dr. Jameson is engaging with them in a more formal way as part of quality improvement/management. He is reviewing calls and developing quality improvement focused on improving how the call taker recognizes someone is in cardiac arrest, and then how quickly they can get the caller to start doing CPR. Other systems have shown up to a 10% increase in survival by nailing down the process of getting the person on the phone to begin CPR.
- USF Partnership – Dr. Mannion, the current EMS Fellow is graduating in a few weeks. The incoming fellow, Dr. Tershakovec will take over those duties on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- First Responders – Chief Jamison had no report.

- Sunstar – Mr. Peterson

- EMT of the Year for Pinellas County was Aaron Dill, who is a Field Training Officer with

Sunstar

- State EMS Award – Sunstar’s Director of Quality Initiatives, Debbie Vass, is receiving the Larry S. Jordan Hall of Fame Award at this year’s State Awards.
- The collective bargaining agreement with Sunstar’s Union was ratified in May and is for another 3 years.
- The site review for Sunstar’s Critical Care Ambulance Accreditation is complete.
- Call Volume – May – Overall ambulance transports was 15,208. It’s down over 3% from the previous year. The first few weeks of June have been very heavy.

### **APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/VACANCIES**

- Mike Jones – newest citizen representative approved last month
- Appointment of new Vice Chair – Ms. Peluso nominated Dr. Webster. Mr. Mercado seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Various other appointments and reappointments –
  - Citizen Representative – District 2 – Larri Gerson primary – Travis Palladeno as alternate
  - Mayor Nominations – appointees will be received on August 1<sup>st</sup> before next meeting
  - Pinellas County Health Department nominated Gayle Guidash primary – Ashley Hoskins as alternate
  - Emergency Nurses Association nominated Nancy Hopkins primary – Brenda McCarthy as alternate

Ms. Mullins made the motion to approve the nominations. Dr. Webster seconded the motion. The nominations were approved unanimously.

### **OPEN FORUM**

- Pinellas County Osteopathic Society replaced their Legislative Night with First Responders Recognition night. It will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Carillon. The main award for the event will be the John Morroni Award. There will be 9 awards given. It is a patriotic dinner event with an honor guard. Congressman Gus Bilirakis will be the keynote speaker.
- Dr. Weiland will be retiring from HCA as of the end of the month but will remain in his capacity with Pinellas County Medical Association and member of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on September 14, 2018 at 10 A.M. at the EMS & Fire Administration, Conference Room 130, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Weiland adjourned the meeting at 10:50 A.M.

An audio recording of this meeting as well as any correspondence received is on file at the Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration.