

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD

January 10, 2014

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board met in a regular session at the Public Safety Services Center, First Floor Conference Room 130, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida, at 10 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Dr. Stephen Haire, Morton Plant Hospital (Chair)
Dr. Paula Pell, All Children's Hospital (Secretary)
Dr. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital
Dr. Dominique Thuriere, Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
Mr. Kris Hoce, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare
Dr. Jeremy Ingram, Bayfront Medical Center

Members Absent:

Mr. Brian Flynn, Palms of Pasadena Hospital (Vice-Chair)
Mr. Anthony Degina, Largo Medical Center
Dr. Henry Kurusz III, St. Petersburg General Hospital
Dr. Stephen Feilinger, St. Anthony's Hospital
Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society

Also Present:

Craig Hare, Emergency Medical Services
Dr. Angus Jameson, Associate Medical Director
Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate Medical Director
Carl Brody, County Attorney's Office
Greg Woodrum, Emergency Medical Services
David Hudak, Emergency Medical Services
Kelly Cullen, Morton Plant Mease
Mark Postma, Sunstar Paramedics
Debbie Vass, Sunstar Paramedics
Vicki Glenn, Sunstar Paramedics
Amy Norman, HCA Healthcare
Karen Macauley, All Children's Hospital

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Haire called the meeting to order at 10 A.M. A roll call was taken and it was determined that there was a quorum. There were six voting members in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 5, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. Chairman Haire requested clarification concerning a comment on destination protocol and Mr. Hare provided the clarification. Mr. Hoce motioned for approval. Dr. Thuriere seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Jameson presented the 2014 Medical Operations Manual for approval. Dr. Jameson briefed and answered questions on all new protocols and significant changes.

There was discussion of the King Airway and what observations concerning its use have been noted from the field thus far. Following the discussion, Dr. Bellini requested an update on King Airway at future meetings. Mr. Hare stated that staff would add the King Airway to the list of items for future updates and thanked members of the Board for providing feedback on its deployment to this point.

Dr. Bellini congratulated Dr. Jameson on the format of the manual noting that the color coding made it much easier to move quickly to the desired section.

After discussion, Chairman Haire called for a motion on this item. Mr. Hoce made a motion to approve the 2014 Medical Operations Manual as presented by Dr. Jameson. Dr. Bellini seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

EMS DIRECTOR

Mr. Hare provided background on the current Medical Director position and made the recommendation that the EMS Medical Control Board nominate Dr. Angus Jameson to be appointed as the named EMS Medical Director for Pinellas County.

Dr. Pell made a motion that Dr. Jameson be nominated as the EMS Medical Director. Dr. Bellini seconded the motion and the nomination passed unanimously.

Mr. Hare requested feedback from the Medical Control Board related to updating the current bylaws. There was discussion and support for allowing alternate members. Mr. Hare stated that staff would draft updates to the bylaws and bring them back to the Medical Control Board for review at a future meeting.

Mr. Hare stated that the new protocols would be trained during January CME and that they would be effective February 5th. Going forward new protocols would be rolled out on the first Wednesday of the month on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Hare briefed that his office was working on narcotic control improvements and that funding had been identified through a State EMS Grant. The improvements includes going to an electronic type of lock that has a powered key that can be downloaded and will track all transactions when the narcotics box is opened. Mr. Hare stated that staff would present the narcotic control plan to the Medical Control Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Hare said that staff would recommend to the EMS Authority to extend the current ambulance agreement with Paramedics Plus for one-year and that this would then be the last extension offered before the contract must go to bid per County Purchasing ordinance.

Mr. Hare stated that the ALS First Responder Agreement was being renewed in two phases. The first phase has been completed and involved meeting with all fire chiefs to develop a service agreement that all were comfortable with. Phase two will involve Dr. Moeller working with city managers to develop a sustainable financial platform to adequately support the first responder program.

Mr. Hare concluded his brief by stating that emergency power upgrades were being made at EMS headquarters to bring the facility to one common voltage by installing two new matched generators and associated switching gear.

OPEN FORUM

Dr. Pell requested a staff update on Priority Dispatch. Mr. Hare responded that staff had met with the EMS Management Committee and prioritized working on the EMS Rules & Regulations that had not been updated since 2005. Mr. Hare stated that the issue of Priority Dispatch would be taken up by the newly established Dispatch Review Committee. This committee is a combination of the Emergency Fire Dispatch Committee and the Emergency Medical Dispatch Committee.

Ms. Cullen added that the EMS Management Committee had met once and that another meeting was scheduled for late January. Ms. Cullen said that she did not expect any major changes with priority dispatch prior to mid-year.

Mr. Hare agreed and stated that there is a feel from the 9-1-1 dispatch that implementing the law enforcement dispatch will be their highest priority in the coming months.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 10 A.M. in Conference Room 130 at the Public Safety Services Center, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hoce made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Bellini seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

An audio recording of this meeting as well as any correspondence received is on file at Emergency Medical Services.