

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD**

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

March 15, 2018

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board met at the EMS & Fire Administration, 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. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital
Dr. Stephen Feilinger, St. Anthony's Hospital
Dr. Jennifer Pearson, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center
Ms. Kelly Cullen, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare
Mr. Anthony Degina, Largo Medical Center
Dr. Paula Pell, All Children's Hospital (Vice-Chair)
Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Medical Center

Members Absent:

Dr. Raj Mathur, Florida Hospital North Pinellas
Dr. Jeremy White, Florida Hospital North Pinellas
Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society
Mr. Roger Haney, Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Staff Present:

Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director
Dr. Marshall Frank, Associate EMS Medical Director
Jim Fogarty, Director, Safety & Emergency Services
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
Jason Ester, County Attorney's Office
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration
David Hudak, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

John Peterson, Sunstar Paramedics
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
Kailey Hogan, Student

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Dr. 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 8 voting members in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 24, 2017 meeting were presented for approval. Dr. Feilinger made a motion to approve and Mr. Degina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR, EMS & FIRE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Hare provided updates on the following topics:

- **Paramedics Plus** - In the process of being acquired by A&M Capital and just about ready to go to closing. On March 20th the Board of County Commissioners as the EMS Authority approved an Assignment Agreement which gives the County's consent to that sale. There will be no change in local management team, no change in employees, no change in ambulance contract. The change in parent companies should be seamless.
- **First Responder** – Currently working on budget – going into next year the units that were added this fiscal year will go from 50% to 100% funding.
- **Ambulance Service** – Sunstar's Communications Center was reaccredited and their Emergency Medical Dispatch Program continues to be ACE accredited.
- **Growth Management** – Currently working with cities and fire districts towards an inter-local agreement. What was previously called Priority Dispatch, is now called Growth Management. One of several efforts is a pilot working with Clearwater, Largo, St. Petersburg, possibly Seminole - regarding not sending fire units on low priority non-life threatening calls. Once pilot data is ready for review, it will be presented to the Medical Control Board.
- **Unlicensed Wheelchair Transport** – Shannon Behnken, a consumer affairs reporter, covered an instance of an unlicensed wheelchair transport that came into Pinellas County from Miami. EMS has sent a letter of cease and desist to that company and all forms of the company. Additionally letters were sent to all hospitals, nursing homes, adult living facilities asking them to only use a specified list of authorized wheelchair/stretchers van providers. The next step is sending out letters to the transport brokers.
- A judge is needed for Professional of the Year Awards for EMT, Dispatcher, and Paramedics. - Ms. Cullen volunteered to judge

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Jameson provided updates on the following topics:

- **Physician Staff** – In the process of bringing on board a new Online Medical Control physician, Dr. Rich Rodriguez - Associate Director of ER at St. Joe South

Dr. Jameson introduced Marshall Frank. Dr. Frank is the newest Associate Medical Director. He was one of our Online Medical Control physician's for several years. He is Fellowship trained in EMS, board certified in EMS, and was previously the Director of Aeromed at TGH

- **Active Shooter Protocols** - Dr. Jameson discussed an active shooter case and that new EMS active shooter protocols worked well. They continue to be refined and improved.

Mr. Hare discussed concerns about the length of time it took to secure the scene, and the adoption of the Rescue Task Force as a result of meeting with law enforcement to improve that.

- **2018 Protocols** – Going well. Cards 45 and 46 related to categorizing non-emergency requests to BLS vs. ALS vs. Critical Care Team Units are still being beta tested

- **Hazmat Protocol** – The book is completely re-written. Dr. Jameson is anticipating bringing it before Medical Control Board in June.
- **CME** – Going well – The first Pediatric Training class ever is set for this fall – Dr. Jameson passed around the instructor resource that was developed with input from across the system.
- **Wellness Initiative** – Ongoing. Dr. Jameson has, several times, had the opportunity to refer an individual paramedic for an immediate or within 24 hour sit down with a mental health professional, outside of the EAP.
- **911 Quality Improvement** – Dr. Jameson is beginning work with the new 911 Center Manager to improve quality there. There is an opportunity to implement national standards regarding various types of patients. Anticipates showing significant developments by the end of the year.
- **First EMS Week Symposium** – Held the week before EMS Week – a weeklong program including: Critical Interventions, hands on skills, cadaver time, physician lecture series and then Stroke Symposium on Friday, May 18th at the end of the week.
- **CCT Site Visit** – there will be a review of accreditation this spring.

Critical Care Protocol Discussion/Approvals:

- **CS4 Hospital Destination Policy draft improvements** – Dr. Jameson asked for feedback before finalizing a draft – in regards to System Status Management bypass and divert status for hospitals – He wants to create formalized criteria for when it goes into effect and when it can be turned off. He is looking for consensus as to what the criteria should be. Group discussion ensued regarding possible criteria. Dr. Jameson asked everyone to review suggested tools (NEDOCS)(CEDOCS).

Group discussion followed Open Forum regarding the NEDOCS/CEDOCS tools.

- **CS16 Aortic Emergencies (Revision) (F19)(F20)** – Critical Care Team specific– interfacility transports - Establishing more concrete blood pressure management parameters – adding Esmolol and Nicardipine to manage these patients. Rather than being directed by the sending or receiving physician, standing protocols will be in place which create a minimum standard for managing blood pressure and hemodynamic status in these patients.

Group discussion ensued regarding possible concerns about the protocol. Dr. Jameson and Dr. Marshall addressed the concerns.

Dr. Feilinger proposed a motion to approve revisions of CS16, F19 and F20. Dr. Pearson seconded the motion. Revisions to protocol CS16 passed unanimously.

- **CS26 Pediatric DKA (New)** – Separates out a pediatric DKA from an adult DKA – the goal was to establish a reasonable fluid, insulin and glucose strategy for these patients based on what's available.

Group discussion ensued regarding the proposed protocol changes.

Dr. Pell proposed a motion to approve Protocol CS26. Dr. Bellini seconded the motion. New protocol CS26 passed unanimously.

- **CS27 Pediatric Shock (New)** – separates out from cases of adult shock to make certain these patients are being treated appropriately.

Dr. Pell proposed a motion to approve CS26. Dr. Bellini seconded the motion. New protocol CS27 passed unanimously.

- **CT4 Rapid Reference Sheet** of pediatric vital signs taken from Hantevy book and collated for rapid reference – support piece to previous protocol.

Dr. Pell proposed a motion to approve CT4. Dr. Gillis seconded the motion. CT4 Pediatric Vital Signs passed unanimously.

SECRETARY VACANCY

- Mr. Degina was nominated as Secretary by Dr. Pell. Mr. Degina's nomination was seconded by Dr. Haire. Nomination passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

- Additional updates were requested regarding cards 45 and 46. Mr. Hare and Dr. Jameson provided a review. They are working well. Calls are a few minutes longer which is a concern so questions may be reformatted or omitted. They are serving their intended purpose – of 2871 calls handled by BLS, only 16 had to be upgraded.
- Updates were requested regarding HDE. Mr. Hare provided a brief review. HCA and Bayfront have signed the agreements. Data is flowing bi-directionally with HCA facilities. Baycare is very close, 95% complete.
- Dr. Jameson discussed difficulties being experienced with opportunities for airways management practice and has started discussions with larger anesthesia practices in the area regarding partnerships for more opportunities for paramedics to develop and maintain skills.
- Mr. Hare suggested a briefing on outreach for Special Forces medics. Dr. Jameson discussed current a Sunstar executed program for the Special Forces Medics Local Air National Guard Medivac Wing at Clearwater Airport to support them in their training and get them experience.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. at the EMS & Fire Administration, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Haire adjourned the meeting at 11:05 A.M.