

**PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MEETING MINUTES

September 21, 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:

Chief Anthony Tedesco, Clearwater Fire Department
Chief Ian Womack, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue
Chief Tom Jamison, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association
Gayle Guidash, Pinellas County Health Department
Mayor Woody Brown, Mayors' Council (Largo)
Mayor Max Elson, Mayors' Council (South Pasadena)
Mayor Wanda Dudley, Mayors' Council (Kenneth City)
Karen Mullins, Citizen Representative (District 1)
Larri Gerson, Citizen Representative (District 2)
Jeri Reed, Citizen Representative (District 3)
Mike Jones, Citizen Representative (District 4)
Jason Dorr, Citizen Representative (District 5)
William Holmes, Citizen Representative (District 6)
Nancy Hopkins, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter
Chief Terry Tokarz, EMS Leadership Group
John Peterson, Sunstar Paramedics
Dr. Eric Carver, St. Petersburg College
Julie Peluso, Independent Fire District Elected Official - Secretary
John Jones, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Absent:

Dr. David Weiland, Pinellas County Medical Association – Chair
Anissa Raiford, Pinellas County Medical Association
Dr. Kenneth Webster, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society – Vice-Chair
Capt. Michael Leiner, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Capt. Brian Browne Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Mayor Julie Ward Bujalski, Mayors' Council (Dunedin)
Jorge Mercado, Citizen Representative (District 7)

Staff Present:

Lourdes Benedict, Assistant County Administrator
Jim Fogarty, Safety & Emergency Services
Craig Hare, EMS & Fire Administration
Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director
Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate EMS Medical Director
Dr. Stephanie Tershakovec, EMS Fellow
Carl Brody, County Attorney's Office
Steve Fravel, EMS & Fire Administration
Clayton Grasso, EMS & Fire Administration
Liz Fogo, EMS & Fire Administration
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Chief David Mixson, South Pasadena Fire Department
Ashley Hoskins, Pinellas County Health Department
Chief Rob Angell, EMS Leadership Group

Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
Chief Doug Zimmerman, Palm Harbor Fire Rescue
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics
Chief Mike Burton, Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue
Kathy Fenelon, American Heart Association
Chief Alex Bowlby, Pinellas Park Fire Department
Debbie Vacca, Regional 9-1-1
Lt. Pete Gushee, Clearwater Fire Rescue

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Ms. Peluso called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Roll was taken and it was determined that there was a quorum. There were 19 voting members in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 15, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Ms. Mullins motioned for approval of the minutes and Mayor Dudley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

MISSION: LIFELINE AWARDS PRESENTED BY KATHY FENELON

American Heart Association Regional Vice President of Quality Systems Improvement, Ms. Kathy Fenelon, presented the Mission: Lifeline Gold Plus EMS Award to the entire Pinellas County EMS System as well as individual awards to representatives from: Clearwater Fire and Rescue, East Lake Fire & Rescue, Largo Fire Rescue, Palm Harbor Fire Rescue, Pinellas Park Fire Department, Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue, South Pasadena Fire Department, St. Petersburg Fire Rescue, and Sunstar Paramedics

Awarded, but not present: Dunedin Fire & Rescue, Gulfport Fire Rescue, Lealman Fire Rescue, Madeira Beach Fire Rescue, Oldsmar Fire Rescue, Safety Harbor Fire Rescue, Seminole Fire Rescue, St. Pete Beach Fire Department, Tarpon Springs Fire Rescue and Treasure Island Fire Rescue.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS 1 & 2: CARL BRODY, COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Senior Assistant County Attorney Carl Brody, gave a presentation regarding educating the general population on what Amendment 1 & 2 are, and the effects they will have on their daily lives.

PINELLAS COUNTY REGIONAL 9-1-1 FIRE/EMS CALL PROCESSING: DEBBIE VACCA

Debbie Vacca gave an overview of how fire and EMS 911 calls get processed, including some of the equipment used, protocols, policies, and software.

REPORTS

- Director, EMS & Fire Administration – Craig Hare
 - BCC recruited new County Administrator, Barry Burton
 - If Amendment 1 passes, it would be a \$3 million hit to the EMS Fund. That's a 5.45% of the total of \$55 million that comes from EMS millage.
 - Amendment made to St. Petersburg with a Federal Grant that allowed for Engine 2 in the Tyrone Square.
 - Other Budget Improvements:
 - Logistics coordinator for EMS – currently recruiting for that position
 - Technical Rescue Unit – Tech 14 serving Mid County area, Feather Sound
 - Refurbishing Fleet Bays – replacing vehicle lifts for ambulances

- Water Rescue Program improvements are underway
 - 18 John boats with small gas engines have been distributed
 - Protective equipment is underway – suit, boots, helmet, gloves
- Technical Rescue – 40 hour FEMA Medical Specialist course
 - Tech Rescue commanders working with Dr. Jameson on medical protocols – out early 2019
- High Point East – Fire Protection Agreement signed by the city
- Osteopath Society had their First Responder night and recognized folks across the system
- 911 Accredited Center of Excellence – moving to latest version of software Oct. 1 – collecting data to show that we're at the accreditation levels of performance over 6 months which makes us eligible in early spring/summer for accreditation from National Academy of Emergency Dispatch
- Sunstar redid 3 accreditations in 3-4 month time period
 - Accredited Center of Excellence
 - Coalition of advanced medical transport systems
 - Commission on the Accreditation of Ambulance Service
- Continued collaboration with fire chiefs, Sunstar and Medical Director for rehab policy
- Hosted State EMS Director
- Large initiative to improve stroke care
- Growth Management – subgroup from Sunstar 911 and EMS ensuring data accuracy
- Various program improvements at Allstate and Public Safety
 - Dr. Carver briefed the group regarding these improvements
- EMS Medical Director – Dr. Jameson
 - 2019 Clinical Guidelines were approved
Some of the new protocols included:
 - stroke protocol
 - medical screening and rehab protocols
 - pediatric sepsis protocol
 - 2019 Hazmat Protocol book was approved
 - Critical Care Protocol book is underway for full revision – estimated readiness early Spring
 - Law Enforcement Naloxone Program is going well – over 30 administrations by law enforcement within the last 9 months
 - Continuing and expanding partnership with USF
 - Health Data Exchange – continues to move forward – waiting for the last hospital system to sign the contract
- First Responders – Ch. Tom Jamison
 - Ch. Tom Jamison reviewed system usage statistics provided in handout
- Sunstar – John Peterson
 - Call volume has been relatively flat
 - YTD for ambulance transports up .63% compared to last year
 - Month of August 15,244 ambulance transports
 - On pace this month for another 15,000
 - 100% on each of the 3 accreditations
 - ACE accreditations – Sunstar communications center is one of only 3 services in the world that have reaccredited 7 times
 - Communications center recognized in Las Vegas at the American Ambulance Association National Conference with an AMBY award for Best Quality Improvement Program in the Nation – for work on improving dispatch call taking process for VLS interfacility ambulance program started in January 2017.

PATIENT SATISFACTION & ENGAGEMENT: JEREMY TINTER

- Sunstar, Director of Clinical Services, Jeremy Tinter provided an overview of new patient engagement and satisfaction scores.

INFANT SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH

- Craig Hare and Dr. Jameson provided an overview of the ongoing county wide efforts for the Infant Safe Sleep Public Awareness campaign.

COUNTY EMS GRANT FY18-19

- Craig Hare provided an overview of what the County EMS Grant is, where it derives from, as well as past, currently in progress, and future projects that are funded through the Grant.
 - Richard Schomp gave an overview of what has been accomplished with a rehab unit the need for a new unit.

Chief Tom Jamison made a motion to support using EMS Grant Funds or other funding in the amount of \$180,000 to be directed towards a new Rehab Unit. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mullins and was passed unanimously.

- Craig Hare announced the Florida Department of Health's Hero's Grant Program. It offsets costs of providing Narcan and Naloxone to paramedics, fire and local law enforcement in the amount of \$350,000.

OPEN FORUM

- Greg Woodrum presented individuals for the EMS Management Committee to be appointed by the Chair and confirmed by the Council.
 - Chief Terry Tokarz – Primary EMS Coordinator
 - Chief Mark Zipeto – Primary CME Steering Committee Member

Ms. Mullins made a motion to appoint Chief Tokarz and Chief Zipeto to the above EMS Management Committee positions. Mayor Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- John Jones gave an overview of a NAMI handout regarding mental health services available through NAMI and handout cards he provided.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on December 14, 2018 at 10 A.M. at the St. Petersburg College Allstate Center, Desoto Room AC103, 3200 34th St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33711.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Peluso adjourned the meeting at 11:50 A.M.

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