

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD**

MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 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. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital  
Dr. Brian Charity, Morton Plant Hospital  
Dr. Stephen Feilinger, St. Anthony's Hospital  
Dr. Jennifer Pearson, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center  
Ms. Nancy Hopkins, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare  
Mr. Glenn Saldanha, Largo Medical Center  
Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society  
Mr. Jake Fisher, Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Members Absent:

Dr. Raj Mathur, Florida Hospital North Pinellas  
Dr. Jeremy White, Florida Hospital North Pinellas  
Dr. Paula Pell, All Children's Hospital (Vice-Chair)  
Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Medical Center  
Dr. Beth Girgis, Bayfront Medical Center

Staff Present:

Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director  
Dr. Stephanie Tershakovec, EMS Fellow  
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration  
Jason Ester, County Attorney's Office  
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration  
David Hudak, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Peter Kennedy, HCA Northside Hospital  
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics  
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics  
Karen McCauley, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital  
Jim Barrs, HCA Healthcare

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Dr. Bellini 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 March 15, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Dr. Charity made a motion to approve and Dr. Namey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **DIRECTOR, EMS & FIRE ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Hare provided updates on the following topics:

- **Budget** – Property values are up 8.5% while costs only increased to 3% - EMS System shows fiscal stability and balance over the next 5-6 years

New budget fully funds Engine 16, Engine 19, Squad 39, Medic 40, and Peak Medic 45 – they were 50% funded this year and will be 100% funded in the new fiscal year. The only addition being in the Tyrone Square area. Engine 2 started with a Federal Grant and will convert to 50% funding for the paramedic next year.

Ambulance and Special Operations are both fully funded.

Fire District budgets are fully funded without any increase in tax millage across the 12 districts.

- **Hospital Data Exchange** – up and running with all the HCA hospitals and Bayfront. We are starting to see some use of the data already. We're still working on getting all data fields completely mapped. We're on final approach with BayCare, getting them connected. The next step is training to make sure medics are populating the patient encounter number for each patient off of the wristband which connects the two systems together.
- **USF Partnership** – We're currently working on a partnership with USF to bring on a Ph.D. researcher.
- **Emergency Pediatric Care** – Emergency Pediatric Care is the big push for summer training. All paramedics will be getting 16 hours of the national standard curriculum.
- **Osteopathic Medical Society** – The Osteopathic Medical Society under Dr. Webster is doing a dinner on September 14<sup>th</sup> to recognize First Responders. They would like to also recognize an EMS or Emergency Medicine physician as part of those awards. Pinellas County EMS and Fire Administration will help facilitate the nominations.

## **MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Dr. Jameson provided updates on the following topics:

- **USF Partnership** – This partnership will begin with a demonstration project with one or two immediate deliverables over a shorter period of time to determine feasibility before making it a full time position.
- **Critical Care Team Accreditation** – This visit was successful, including the protocols reviewed at the last Medical Control Board meeting. The team has committed to a complete refresh of the protocol book over the next year with Dr. Frank.
- **Technical Rescue Team Book** – Anticipate a Technical Rescue Team book that will be developed over the next year that will address such things as prolonged extrications from entrapments, collapse and crush/compartiment syndrome etc.

- **EMS Symposium** – the Symposium was in conjunction with, but not during EMS Week. It included a Stroke Symposium. Many medics were trained at several different events. Hospital partners hosted events and provided educators. These events included a cadaver lab. A large number of medics attended voluntarily.
- **SWAT Paramedic School** – coming up at the end of the month. Currently able to leverage resources previously unavailable, including a cadaver lab.
- **911-Systems** – There has been good progress on further integrating the 911 system/Emergency Medical Dispatchers into the Quality Assurance program.
- **Hospital Data Exchange** – Data is flowing between hospitals and EMS. There are bi-weekly conference calls with engineers occurring to work out bugs and get fields mapped. It's anticipated to be running robustly by the end of the year.
- **Mission Lifeline Award** – Pinellas County EMS System qualified for the Gold Plus Mission Lifeline Award. The official presentation has not been made yet, but will occur at the September 21st EMSAC meeting which will be at 10:00am in Rm 130/131 here at EMS.
- **Approval Items:**
  - **Hazmat Medical Operations Manual v.4**– review for final version approval, preliminary approval requested.  
Mr. Saldanha made the motion to approve and Dr. Namey seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - **Protocol M9 Suspected Sepsis (revision)** –  
Dr. Namey made the motion to approve and Dr. Pearson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - **Protocol M2 Solumedrol (revision)** –  
Dr. Charity made the motion to approve and Ms. Hopkins seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - **Protocol AD2 Priority Dispatch and Response Modes to 9-1-1 Call (revision from v13 to 13.1) and AD3 MPDS Local Options (revision)** –  
Dr. Feilinger made the motion to approve and Dr. Namey seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - **AD11 EMS Supply Handling** –  
Dr. Pearson made the motion to approve and Dr. Charity seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Mr. Hare provided an additional update on the ongoing efforts of the Data Driven Focus Group to fully implement Priority Dispatch in order to reduce the number of fire unit responses. St. Pete, Clearwater and Largo are willing to move forward with a substantive reduction in not responding to ground level calls or routine sick person calls. That's 20 to 25,000 calls where an ambulance only response would be appropriate in order to not tie up fire units. This will be a pilot inter-local agreement.

- **Discussion: Stroke Triage and Destination Symposium Consensus Points**
  - Need to address maximizing efficiency on inter-facility transfers
  - Wake-up strokes or outside a TPA window (6-24 hours) with a positive screen would benefit from a direct triage to a comprehensive or endovascular capable facility since they would be outside the window for intervention at a local or primary facility.
  - In window patients, onset to 3 or 3.5 hours, given there's some door to needle time required, there were three strategy options discussed:
    - All comprehensive – directly to an endovascular capable facility
    - Some assessment of whether or not there's an LVO or major stroke to make that determination
    - Take everyone to the closest, then selectively transport some on to an endovascular capable facility
  - Whichever strategy is chosen, ought to be sharing data on these patients the same way we do for STEMI and cardiac arrests so we can make sure whatever strategy selected is working, and if it's not it can be adjusted.
  
- Discussion ensued around a direct question posed by Dr. Jameson: Is there a belief that at this point there's a reasonable amount of literature that should motivate us to go out and write an updated stroke triage protocol that includes a decision point regarding endovascular ready vs. intravenous ready destinations?

Consensus was in support for Dr. Jameson to utilize the consensus points from the Symposium, along with the literature and craft a reasonable evidence based protocol to bring back to the group in September.

#### **SUNSHINE LAW – JASON ESTER, SENIOR ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- Reminder that any discussion between any two Medical Control Board members outside of a public meeting constitutes a meeting that should be within the Sunshine Law which requires public notice, and recorded minutes and is prohibited. That includes an actual conversation, emails, texts, Facebook, blogs, or any format outside of these meetings where topics might be discussed that could conceivably come before the board is outside the Sunshine Laws.

Any accidental violations can be remedied by being made public at the next meeting, as long as they are reported.

#### **OPEN FORUM**

Discussion of meeting dates going forward

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. at the EMS & Fire Administration, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Bellini adjourned the meeting at 11:10 A.M.