

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 28, 2013

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council met for an annual meeting at Public Safety Services, First Floor Conference Room 130, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida, at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Dr. Adam Berko, Citizen Representative (Chair)
Chief Donald Sayre, Pinellas Advanced Life Support Providers Assoc. (Vice-Chair)
Chief Robert Weiss, Clearwater Fire Department
Chief Steve Knight, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue
Chief James Angle, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association
Capt. Glenn Luben, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Gayle Guidash, Pinellas County Health Department
Kelly Cullen, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter
Mayor Travis Palladeno, Mayors' Council (Madeira Beach)
Mayor Patricia Gerard, Mayors' Council (Largo)
James Terry, Independent Fire District Elected Official
Anissa Raiford, Pinellas County Medical Association
William Israel, Citizen Representative
Blake MacPherson, Citizen Representative (Secretary)
Ray Neri, Citizen Representative
Anne Scofield, Citizen Representative
Dr. Scott Kuebler, Citizen Representative
Mark Postma, Sunstar Paramedics
Dr. Phillip Nicotera, St. Petersburg College, Health Education Programs

Absent:

Mayor Kathleen Mortensen, Mayors' Council (Belleair Beach)
Mayor Chris Arbutine, Mayors' Council (Belleair Bluffs)
Julie Baker, Citizen Representative
Carl Lavender, Citizen Representative
Dr. Kenneth Webster, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society

Also Present:

Craig Hare, Public Safety Services
Dr. Angus Jameson, Associate Medical Director
Carl Brody, County Attorney's Office
Greg Woodrum, Public Safety Services
Chief Robert Polk, Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue
Chief Joe Accetta, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association
Chief Tom Jamison, East Lake Fire Rescue
Chief James Marenkovic, Gulfport Fire Department
Chief William Scott, Pinellas Advanced Life Support Providers Assoc.
Capt. Ian Womack, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
Vicki Glenn, Sunstar Paramedics
Rob Smith, Sunstar Paramedics
Susan Byrd, All Children's Hospital

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 24, 2013 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Neri made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Israel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

EMS Administration: Mr. Hare introduced Dr. Angus Jameson who is the EMS Associate Medical Director.

Mr. Hare also briefed improvement efforts that have been made such as streamlining protocols, decreasing online medical consults, reducing lower level quality assurance reviews, teaching crew resource management and starting emergency fire dispatch.

Mayor Palladeno asked if Fitch & Associates were asking for a 60-day extension on their report and Mr. Hare responded that Fitch had made that request and he anticipates it being approved because of the good progress that had been made to this point.

In response to questions from Chief Knight, Mr. Hare briefed about recent elected official tours of ambulance operations and the progress being made on the new communication center.

Chief Angle asked if the 60-day Fitch extension meant that the final report would be completed by mid-July and Mr. Hare responded that that would be the deadline for all efforts related to the report and that the EMS Fire Transport Special Committee would receive the draft report sometime towards the end of June.

EMS Medical Director: Dr. Jameson briefed that the medical direction physicians have been visiting various system agencies to hear their concerns. He also updated the EMS Advisory Council on recent protocol changes.

Sunstar: Mr. Postma briefed that Sunstar is noticing a much lower transport volume for this time of year. Mr. Postma also announced that Kim Pickett has been hired as the new Director of Clinical Services for Sunstar.

First Responders: Chief Angle briefed incident dispatch statistics from calendar year 2012 thru the present. Chief Angle also reported that the fire chiefs were meeting with Fitch & Associates to clarify information required for the study and had also met with Public Safety staff to discuss Phase 3 priority dispatch implementation.

SELECTION OF EMSAC OFFICERS (CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, SECRETARY)

Mr. Woodrum announced the following nominations received for the officer positions:
Chair- Dr. David Weiland, Ms. Kelly Cullen and Mr. Ray Neri
Vice-Chair- Chief James Angle
Secretary- No nominations received.

Each nominee told a little about themselves and their qualifications to hold the position. Dr. Weiland was not present so Ms. Raiford briefed the members on his qualifications.

Chairman Berko closed nominations and called for a show-of-hands vote for the position of Chair. Ms. Cullen was elected by a majority 12 of 19 voting members.

Chairman Berko closed nominations and called for a show-of-hands vote for the position of Vice-Chair. Chief Angle was elected by a majority 14 of 19 voting members.

Chairman Berko closed nominations and called for a show-of-hands vote for the position of Secretary. Mr. Neri was elected by a majority 12 of 19 voting members.

Chairman Berko called for nominations to fill two vacant positions on the Executive Committee. Dr. Weiland and Chief Knight were nominated to fill the positions.

Chairman Berko closed the nominations and called for a show-of-hands vote for each nominee. Both Dr. Weiland and Chief Knight received unanimous votes.

OPEN FORUM

Chief Knight introduced Capt. Ian Womack to the EMS Advisory Council and briefed operations at the recent St. Petersburg Grand Prix.

Mayor Palladeno made a suggestion that the EMS Advisory Council recommend to the EMS Authority that Phase 3 of Priority Dispatch be delayed to coincide with the new Fitch study extension period.

After discussion, Chief Angle made a motion that staff prepare a letter to the EMS Authority from the EMS Advisory Council recommending that implementation of Phase 3 of Priority Dispatch be extended 45 days to coincide with the extension date of the Fitch & Associates report. Mayor Palladeno seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Berko announced that he was resigning from the EMS Advisory Council and that this was his last meeting. Mr. Hare thanked Dr. Berko for his service to the community and to the EMS Advisory Council.

Dr. Berko made a motion that Mr. George McCarthy be recommended to the EMS Authority to fill his vacant position. Mr. McCarthy had previously been selected by the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on June 27, 2013 at 10 A.M. That meeting will be held at the Public Safety Services Center, 1st Floor Conference Room 130, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Neri made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Israel seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

An audio recording of this meeting as well as any correspondence received is on file at Public Safety Services – EMS Division.