

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD**

MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2019

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board met at the EMS & Fire Administration, Conference Room 130, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida, at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Dr. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital
Dr. Stephen Haire, Morton Plant Hospital - Chair
Dr. Stephen Feilinger, St. Anthony's Hospital
Dr. Jennifer Pearson, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center – Vice Chair
Ms. Nancy Hopkins, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare
Dr. Christos Politis, Largo Medical Center
Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society - Secretary
Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Medical Center
Dr. Steven Epstein, Pinellas County Medical Association
Mr. Jake Fisher, Palms of Pasadena Hospital

Members Absent:

Dr. Raj Mathur, Florida Hospital North Pinellas
Dr. Jeremy White, Florida Hospital North Pinellas

Staff Present:

Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director
Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate Medical Director
Dr. Stephanie Tershakovec, Medical Director's Office
Jim Fogarty, 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
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Dr. Matt Nelson, St. Anthony's Hospital
John Peterson, Sunstar Paramedics
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
James Barr, Bayfront Health
Marissa LePain, Morton Plant Mease
Ana Smith-Lopez, Intern

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 10 voting members in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 13, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. Dr. Namey made a motion to approve and Dr. Bellini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR, EMS & FIRE ADMINISTRATION - Craig

- Greg Woodrum was promoted to the Exempt Service as the EMS Administrative Manager
- Melissa Hiles was promoted to an Ambulance Billing Manager position
- We are currently recruiting for an EMS QA Coordinator
- We are expanding with a new Administrative Support position to support QA and 911 QA as they pursue further accreditation
- We are adding a clinical manager/data analysis that will also be an Exempt position
- Lynn Abbott has joined staff as an Administrative Support Specialist
- Pinellas County EMS was recognized by the American Heart Association with the Mission Lifeline Gold Plus Award
- Kathy Fenelon, Vice President of the Tampa Bay Region of American Heart Association is retiring, and she will be presented with an award for her dedicated support to our system for the last 25 years
- Budget – 7.49% increase in property values shows that for the next 6 year forecast we will not have to adjust the tax rate and we'll have adequate reserves that allow for making enhancements to the system.
- Fully funded budgets going to next year. 1.3 million this year - next year and following year 2 million – 2 year phased in improvement for the first responder side incorporated
- We are putting about 200 new medics in the system each year, over the last 3 years, sustained
- We're working with a younger work force, preparing for many retirements in the next five years
- Even with the younger work force, patient satisfaction scores are still high and there has been no change in protocol compliance
- Our Ambulance service provider now has 750+ employees
- Sunstar is working on bringing 9 new sprinter type van ambulances into the fleet – cycling out old vehicles, expanding by four.
- We are currently working on a five-year agreement for first responder which includes the two-year phase in of improvements and 3 field supervisors, one in St. Petersburg, one in Pinellas Park, and one in Largo. Also converts rescue units in Gulfport – Rescue 17, Treasure Island -Rescue 24, and Palm Harbor – Rescue 65
- Growth Management – several cities and fire districts are supporting it. An agreement has been signed with Clearwater, Largo, Seminole, Safety Harbor and Lealman to opt into ground levels falls and non-urgent sick person calls to be run ambulance only. Implemented June 5th, it is in its 2nd week. On track to reduce fire rescue responses by about 8000 per year which is a 10% reduction in the participating agencies.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

- We continue to roll out simulation-based training in our continuing education program – We are in our 2nd face to face month. Every Paramedic and EMT in the system is going through simulation based training with medium fidelity mannequins out the stations and at headquarters.
- The expanded and refined Orientation program is going into effect October 1st
- Dr. Stephanie Tershakovec is graduating her EMS Fellowship with us, and will be staying on with Tampa General as well as remaining with us as an Online Medical Control Physician

- Our new Fellow, Dr. Andrew Smith, will be starting July 1st
- Bayfront and All Children's Trauma program has indicated their intent to separate into two separate programs instead of one. That is in process.
- September is the big protocol update meeting – Dr. Jameson requests he be sent any suggestions, concerns, or questions prior to that
- We are partnering with the Juvenile Welfare Board for the Preventable Infant Death Initiative – numbers had been reducing but this year they are going back up. We are redoubling those efforts, partnering with Dr. Phelp and Dr. Arnold with All Children's to incorporate a broader platform to get the message out.
- Opioids – We continue to have Fusion Group meetings. We've trained officers from nearly every law enforcement agency in the County, and deployed Narcan to 1000's of officers in the County. They are effectively and successfully administering Narcan. However, numbers are still rising. Forty deaths at the beginning of the year attributed to a Fentanyl analog unique to Pinellas County. Federal Assets coming into the County to help.

- Dr. Jameson requested motions to approve the following Medical Protocols:
 - Update T1 – General Trauma Care

A motion for approval of Protocol Update T1 – General Trauma Care was made by Dr. Namey and seconded by Mr. Fisher. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Update Epinephrine in Cardiac Arrest

A motion for approval of Protocol Update Epinephrine in Cardiac Arrest was made by Dr. Namey and seconded by Dr. Bellini. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Dr. Jameson provided the preliminary analysis of the data collected so far on the Stroke Triage protocols that were put into place the first week of January. Discussion ensued.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Two year terms ending in March of 2021:

- Chair – Dr. Haire

A motion to elect Dr. Haire as Chairman was made by Dr. Feilinger, it was seconded by Mr. Fisher. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Vice Chair – Dr. Pearson

A motion to elect Dr. Pearson as Vice Chairman was made by Dr. Namey, it was seconded by Dr. Haire. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Secretary – Dr. Namey

A motion to elect Dr. Namey as Secretary was made by Mr. Fisher, it was seconded by Dr. Bellini. The motion was passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

There were no open forum items.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. at the EMS & Fire Administration, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Haire adjourned the meeting at 10:55 A.M.