

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD**

MEETING MINUTES

June 18, 2020

Zoom Conference Call
COVID-19

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board met via Special Virtual Public Meeting utilizing Communications Media Technology (CMT) on the Zoom platform at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society, Acting Chairman
Dr. Jose Barquin, AdventHealth North Pinellas
Dr. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital
Dr. Brian Charity, Morton Plant Hospital (Alternate)
Dr. Stephen Feilinger, St. Anthony's Hospital
Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg
Dr. Christos Politis, Largo Medical Center

Members Not Present:

Dr. Stephen Haire, Morton Plant Hospital - Chairman
Dr. Jennifer Pearson, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center – Vice Chairman
Dr. Steven Epstein, Pinellas County Medical Association
Mr. Jake Fisher, Palms of Pasadena Hospital
Mr. Lou Galdieri, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare
Dr. Andrea Apple, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg (Alternate)
Mr. Jonathan Ashford, Palms of Pasadena Hospital (Alternate)

Staff Present:

David Hare, Assistant County Administrator
Jason Ester, County Attorney's Office
Dr. Donna Dooley, MD2, Office of the Medical Director
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Ms. Nancy Hopkins, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare (Alternate)
Dr. Matt Nelson, St. Anthony's Hospital (Alternate)
Dr. Aron Schlau, Pinellas County Medical Association
John Peterson, Sunstar
Richard Schomp, Sunstar
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Dr. Joseph Namey called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Roll call was taken, and it was determined that there was a quorum. There were seven voting members in attendance.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6 AND APRIL 9, 2020 SPECIAL MEETINGS - APPROVED

Upon presentation, Dr. Barquin moved, seconded by Dr. Gillis, that the minutes of the April 6 and April 9, 2020 Special Meetings be approved. Upon call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

COVID-19 OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Craig Hare presented a COVID-19 operational update, as follows:

- Condition Yellow remains in effect, and operations are running smoothly under the COVID-19 Fire/EMS Pandemic Response Plan.
- System reinforcement of increased vigilance to safety messaging and precautionary measures.
- Emergency personnel continue to follow baseline PPE protocol.
- Live Streams held with Dr. Jameson, EMS Chiefs, supervisors, and crews on a regular basis.
- No work-related COVID-19 cases reported.
- Six 911 staff have tested positive through off-duty exposures, and asymptomatic employees have been set up to run dispatch and radio operations remotely.
- Reported information related to positive cases within three fire agencies, methods of transmission, and mitigation measures, noting the importance of contact tracing and surface decontamination to protect and sustain agency workforce.
- Provided statistical information related to 911 call volume, noting that the system is maintaining a high level of service, and response times are excellent.
- Discussed EMS and Hospital Plan updates.
- Thanked the hospital systems for their support of the Long-Term Care Facility Working Group.

In response to query by Dr. Namey, Mr. Hare related that Dr. Jameson is attending the Board of County Commissioners' (BCC) meeting currently in session and plans to join afterwards; whereupon, Mr. Hare indicated that he will move forward with additional updates.

BUDGET UPDATE

Mr. Hare presented a budget update, as follows:

- Baseline budgets to be funded.
- ALS First Responder Enhancement requests are being held to a minimum due to next year's predicted decrease in commercial property values. Cost-neutral requests are being considered.
- Announced the approval of Medic 7, an ALS-First Responder non-transport vehicle, noting that additional unit will allow for workload and response time issues to be addressed.
- St. Petersburg plans to switch its current medic units to civilian, non-firefighter paramedics, adding that Medics 1 and 3 will be located in downtown St. Pete, and Medic 7 in Northeast St. Pete.

MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Greg Woodrum introduced Dr. Aron Schlau, relating that he is the incoming president of the Pinellas County Medical Association (PCMA); whereupon, Dr. Schlau briefly discussed his work with and goals for the PCMA, noting that he appreciates the invitation and looks forward to working with the Board. Mr. Hare thanked Dr. Schlau for his participation and congratulated him on his appointment to the medical association.

NON-COVID OPERATIONS UPDATE

Mr. Hare presented a summary of regular operations, as follows:

- Referred to a photograph and presented information on Marine 23, Pinellas County's new South County Rescue boat, noting that the unit was purchased with EMS and BP Oil Spill funds. Marine 23 will provide support to Marine 22, a secondary water rescue utility, to assist with water extrication.
- Later in the meeting, discussed the recent transition of SWAT paramedic support to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, connections between the two offices, and field duty.
- Sunstar's three-year contract extension is being presented for approval to the BCC on June 23. Program changes highlighted:
 - Expansion of the Critical Care Transport (CCT) program to include a staff critical care nurse on day shift Monday through Friday, to pair up with new critical care ambulance and crew already in the field running 911 calls.
 - Addition of a Special Operations Supervisor to manage ambulance support for special events and Special Needs Shelters.
 - Hiring one full-time employee for Central Supply Warehouse support.
 - Plans to purchase and install the Stryker Power-LOAD System for its ambulance fleet, relating that it is a powered cot loading system that improves operator and patient safety by supporting the cot throughout the loading and unloading process.

2021 MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL UPDATE PLAN

Dr. Donna Dooley, standing in for Dr. Jameson, provided an overview of upcoming protocol changes:

- Preparation to field-test Pediatric King Airways.
- Evaluation of junctional tourniquets for SWAT medics.
- Adding Push Dose Pressers as a new option for field medics for temporary management of shock states.
- Revisiting Stroke to simplify destination choice to ensure compliance with the State Triage System.

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR (OMD) / ONLINE MEDICAL CONTROL (OLMC) STAFFING UPDATE

Dr. Dooley presented the following staffing updates:

- Dr. Marshall Frank, currently MD3, has stepped down to become the Sarasota County Medical Director and plans to remain on as an OLMC doctor.
- Dr. Andrew Smith, our current Fellow, has graduated from his fellowship and is moving to the MD3 Associate Medical Director position.

- Dr. Alicia Nassar, a Seminole native, will be joining the Office of the Medical Director as the new MD4 EMS Fellow starting on July 1, noting that she is connected with Tampa General Hospital.

OPEN FORUM

- EMS Academy: Responding to query by Dr. Barquin, Mr. Hare, with input by Dr. Dooley, provided an update on EMS Academy operations and discussed program expansion, implementation of safety precautions, field training/testing, workforce sustainment, and construction activities at the Center for Pre-Hospital Medicine.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2020, format to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Dr. Feilinger, seconded by Dr. Bellini, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

*Audio and any correspondence received for this meeting is on file at the
Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration.*