

**PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES
June 20, 2024**

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

Dr. Matt Nelson, St. Anthony's Hospital – Chair
Dr. Brian Charity, Morton Plant Hospital
Dr. Matthew Smith, AdventHealth North Pinellas – (Alternate)
Dr. Siddarth Goyal, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg (Alternate)
Diane Conti, HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital – (Alternate)
Dr. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital
Matthew Novak, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare
Nancy Hopkins, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare (Alternate)
Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society – (Alternate)

Members Not Present:

Dr. Jennifer Pearson, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center
Dr. Sebastian Strom, Largo Medical Center
Dr. Meghan Martin, Pediatric Physician
Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg

Staff Present:

Patrick Allman, County Attorney's Office
Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director
Dr. Michael Lozano, MD2
Dr. Kenneth Dumas, OMD Fellow
Jim Fogarty, Bureau Director, SES
Jessica McGlothlin, SES
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
David Hudak, EMS & Fire Administration
Leyna Lacognata, EMS & Fire Administration
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Dr. Stephen Haire and Family
Dr. Hasan Rasheed, Morton Plant Hospital
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
Jazmin Soloman, Sunstar Paramedics
Chief Tony Tedesco, Clearwater Fire Rescue
Chief William Gorham, Clearwater Fire Rescue

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Dr. Stephen Haire called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and Lynn Abbott determined that a quorum was present. There were 8 voting members in attendance.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 21, 2024 MEETING - APPROVED

Upon presentation by Dr. Haire, Dr. Joseph Namey moved, seconded by Dr. Brian Charity and carried unanimously, that the minutes of the March 21, 2024 EMS Medical Control Board meeting be approved.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

RECOGNITION OF DR. STEPHEN HAIRE

Craig Hare announced that Dr. Stephen Haire is retiring after 27 years with Morton Plant and 19 years with the Medical Control Board (MCB); whereupon, Mr. Hare presented Dr. Haire with a plaque and, with input by Dr. Jameson, recognized his dedication and service to the MCB. Dr. Haire thanked the Board for its support over the years and shared future plans to travel and spend time with family.

Mr. Hare reported to members that the Board of County Commissioners approved the appointments of Dr. Matt Nelson as St. Anthony's Hospital primary representative and Dr. Stephen Feilinger as alternate. Dr. Nelson's election as Chair to the EMS Medical Control Board followed meeting protocol. No objections were noted.

Dr. Haire passed the gavel to Dr. Matt Nelson, who chaired the remainder of the MCB meeting.

CLINICAL UPDATES

Dr. Jameson brief members regarding the following topics:

Approval Items

- Protocol Revisions Approved:
 - Referred to documents in the agenda packet titled *CS23 Clinical Standard – Medical Operations in Unusual and Austere Environments, Protocol CS23; Leave Behind Narcan Protocol Updates, Protocols C1, C4, M12, P3, P6, P9, and CT15; and Addition of Shock Index and TXA for Assessment and Treatment of Hemorrhagic Shock, Protocols A3, M1, M11, T1, T2, and F30*, and provided an overview pertaining to the updates to the above-mentioned protocols, and no objections were made.

Following discussion, Dr. Roberto Bellini moved, seconded by Dr. Brian Charity, that *Clinical Standard – Medical Operations in Unusual and Austere Environments, Protocol CS23; Leave Behind Narcan Protocol Updates, Protocols C1, C4, M12, P3, P6, P9, and CT15; and Addition of Shock Index and TXA for Assessment and Treatment of Hemorrhagic Shock, Protocols A3, M1, M11, T1, T2, and F30* be approved. Upon call for the vote, the motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Jameson shared that all protocols are available on the Office of the Medical Director website at www.pcemsomd.com.

Report/Discussion Items

- Freestanding ED (FSED) Utilization:
 - Referring to a document titled *FSED Data Visualization, June 2024 Update*, Dr. Jameson noted there have been no significant changes or trends identified at this time. Working to schedule another FSED Sub-committee meeting.
- Trauma Triage Study Updates
 - Completed study day for trial of applying Rapid Assessment of Mentation and Pulse (RAMP) versus Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (START) triage in adults, in partnership with Calvary Church's student center. Conducted an immersion scenario with full ballistic gear with new and seasoned EMS crews performing triage and initial stabilization of a large number of patients. Successfully collected data, noting there is a scarcity of adequate literature on the effectiveness of triage schemes, especially pediatric triage. Considering moving forward with a similar pediatric version in the next few weeks. Hoping to generate our own evidence-driven data before deciding to move to RAMP adoption. These IRBs are approved through USF. Mental health resources to be provided onsite. Shared plans to recognize participants of the study projects at the next MCB meeting in September.
- Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) Adoption Plan:

- Noted that trauma literature has not moved towards MAP as a measure of resuscitation yet, so plans are to stick with systolic and shock index for hemorrhagic or traumatic injuries. On the medical side, it is reasonable to move forward with adopting MAP as our guiding metric for resuscitations. Plans to bring forward the protocols to the MCB Board in September and defer the move to MAP towards the end of the year, noting there will be a full month of dedicated in-service training in December. Likely to be deployed around the first of the year. Discussion had regarding the deployment of TXA for trauma patients in the fall timeframe.
- Safe Haven for Babies:
 - Legislative update would allow parents to surrender an infant up to 30 days old without criminal consequences at a safe haven with no questions asked, can call 9-1-1 for assistance.
- Freestanding Birthing Centers:
 - Legislative update would allow C-sections to be performed on women deemed at low risk of complications outside of hospital setting. Discussed concerns, working to collaborate with local facilities.
- Office of the Medical Director (OMD) Staffing:
 - Congratulated Dr. Kenneth Dumas on his upcoming graduation, noting work to pass State Boards to become an EMS physician. Plans to stay on full-time with OMD, to transition to MD4 on July 1 to be primary contact for education, training, and QA.
 - Dr. Jeffrey Darko has completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at Vassar and is scheduled to start with OMD on July 1.
- Clinical Operations:
 - Storm season is here and expected to be busy.
 - COVID is making a resurgence. There have been several ER-level sick patients recently.
 - Thanked Dan Zsido for his work with *Leave Behind Narcan*, equipping law enforcement and helping the EMS community and civilians from a safety standpoint.
- Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) Registry:
 - Provided information pertaining to the CARES Registry, noting the program was created to assist communities in establishing standard outcome measures for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest by connecting 9-1-1 dispatch, EMS providers, and receiving hospitals in the emergency cardiac care process.
 - Dr. Jameson indicated that the CARES program is working to reunite cardiac arrest patients with 9-1-1 dispatchers, EMS crews, and hospital staff who assisted in their chain of survival.

EMS SYSTEM UPDATE

Craig Hare provided an overview of the following topics:

- MCB Members:
 - Dr. Roberto Bellini has nominated Dr. Craig Kizewic to serve as his alternate for Mease Countryside Hospital.
 - Dr. Brian Charity is nominating Dr. Hasan Rasheed as his alternate for Morton Plant Hospital.
 - Dr. Krista Gillis has nominated Dr. Siddarth Goyal as her alternate for Bayfront Health St. Petersburg.
- EMS Staffing:
 - Jeff See has been hired as Quality Assurance Coordinator with EMS & Fire Administration.
- Budget:
 - Jim Fogarty briefed the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on the 9-1-1, Ambulance Billing and Financial Service, and Fire Rescue budgets, noting good dialogue.

- BCC approved the Redington Beaches EMS Station. Madeira Beach to handle design and construction; discussed future medic unit.
- ALS First Responder Budget:
 - Baseline budget increase for FY23-24 to FY24-25.
 - 6-year financial forecast – balanced with adequate reserves
 - EMS Authority may do a partial rollback to give taxpayer relief.
- FY24-25 EMS System Enhancement Recommendations:
 - North County Rescue Lieutenant for Palm Harbor Station, LR 65.
 - South Beaches Rescue Lieutenant for St. Pete Beach, LR23.
 - Seminole Rescue 29, working with Seminole on deployment plan to integrate future Bay Pines Fire Station.
- FY24-25 Pilot Projects:
 - 2 ALS First Responder Units that can serve as transport units to improve response coverage.
 - Working with Clearwater for Rescue 49A and Pinellas Suncoast for Rescue 27.
- ImageTrend:
 - New monitors in place, recreating reports and performance tracking.
- Data Server:
 - Software system to improve data analyses.
- Health Information Hub (HIH):
 - Meeting with healthcare system on July 11 at 10:30 a.m.
 - Leyna Lacognata is project lead.
 - LifeNet has been rebooted, STEMI 12-leads.
- Ryde Central:
 - New software to schedule hospital non-emergency and interfacility transports and discharges.
 - Plans to meet with hospitals' IT departments.
- Sunstar Administrative On-Duty Update:
 - Since implementation, EMS system has experienced a reduction in transport numbers.
 - Assists with FSED transfers.
 - Program is going well.
- Active Assailant:
 - Provided an overview of the EMS and Fire Working Group's creation of a new Countywide Active Assailant Response Plan that has combined approximately 12 different Active Assailant SOPs into one comprehensive countywide Mass Casualty plan for Sheriff, local law enforcement, County staff, Fire Chiefs, 9-1-1, and hospital training.
 - Chief Tony Tedesco is project lead, and Dr. Michael Lozano is USF IRB lead.
 - Presented information regarding an upcoming workshop and joint field training exercise.
- Sunstar Critical Care Transport Program:
 - Mission is to improve ambulance responsiveness.
 - Jazmin Soloman is lead. Adam Bates is the Critical Care RN.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Following discussion of a scheduling conflict with the AHA ECC meeting, Dr. Jameson requested that the next meeting be changed to September 26, 2024, and no members objected.

Next EMS Advisory Council meeting to be held September 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the John Morroni EMS & Fire Administration Building, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Conference Room 130, Largo, Florida, at 10:00 A.M. Meeting to be in person.

OPEN FORUM

Discussion ensued regarding facility capability to receive STEMI 12-leads, and Dr. Jameson provided information about the STEMI alert process, noting the importance of the Health Information Hub (HIH).

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Dr. Joseph Namey, seconded by Dr. Brian Charity and carried unanimously, Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at 11:01 A.M.

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