PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
MEDICAL CONTROL BOARD

MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2026

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 (Primary) – Chair
Brent Burish, HCA Florida Pasadena Hospital (Primary) – Vice Chair
Dr. Matthew Smith, AdventHealth North Pinellas (Primary)
Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg (Primary)
Dr. Siddarth Goyal, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg (Alternate)
Dr. Dan Leiding, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center (Primary)
Dr. Jacob Eastman, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center (Alternate)
Dr. Craig Kizewic, Mease Countryside Hospital (Alternate)
Dr. Brian Charity, Morton Plant Hospital (Primary)
Dr. Hasan Rasheed, Morton Plant Hospital (Alternate)
Matthew Novak, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare (Primary)
Nancy Hopkins, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare (Alternate)
Dr. Robyn Ache, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society (Primary)

Members Not Present:
Dr. Sebastian Strom, HCA Largo Medical Center (Primary)
Diane Conti, HCA Largo Medical Center (Alternate)
Dr. Meghan Martin, Pediatric Physician - Secretary

Staff Present:
David Hare, Director, Safety & Emergency Services
Sean Davenport, Interim EMS Director, EMS & Fire Administration
Dr. Angus Jameson, Medical Director
Dr. Andrew Smith, MD3
Dr. Morgan Uebelacker, MD4
Dr. Zachary Gilbert, MD5
Patrick Allman, County Attorney's Office
Sabina Ortiz, Safety & Emergency Services
David Hudak, EMS & Fire Administration
Tom Hund, EMS & Fire Administration
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
Jazmin Soloman, Sunstar Paramedics

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Dr. Matt Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Roll call was taken, and Lynn Abbott determined that a quorum was present. There were nine (9) voting members in attendance.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2026 MEETING – APPROVED

Upon presentation, Dr. Matthew Smith moved, seconded by Dr. Robyn Ache and carried unanimously, that the minutes of the June 18, 2026, EMS Medical Control Board meeting be approved.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

INTRODUCTIONS

Sean Davenport introduced himself as the Interim Director of EMS, assuming responsibilities previously held by Craig Hare. David Hare added that the Director of Clinical Services position has been posted and is expected to be filled within the next few months.

CLINICAL UPDATES

Dr. Jameson provided an overview of current system developments:

- David Hare has been appointed Director of Safety and Emergency Services.
- The EMS system completed a successful summer of Emergency Pediatric Care training.
- The Airway Management project is underway, including countywide implementation of video laryngoscopy beginning in January. Training is progressing through a train-the trainer model, followed by station-level practice in December. Plans for a January rollout. Focus will emphasize defect-free airway care aligned with national quality measures.
- LUCAS mechanical CPR devices have been removed from services; related protocols will be deleted.
- Low-Titre Whole Blood program launched with first units deployed. There has been no patient administration yet. Cold-chain and exchange processes were established, with expansion to additional units planned.
- DEA Rule changes include transition from individual DEA practitioner licenses to EMS agency registration, with expected completion in mid-November.
- EMS Innovation conference and statewide stakeholder meetings scheduled at CAMLS in Tampa.

Referring to a document titled *September 2026 Medical Control Board - Medical Operations Manual Protocol Updates Executive Summary Volume 1 Clinical Operating Guidelines and Volume 2 Administrative,* Dr. Jameson provided the following protocol updates:

- **Approval Items**
  - **New Protocols - APPROVED**
    - M13 – Syncope
    - P2 – Pediatric Upper and Lower Airway Disease
    - P15 – Pediatric Stroke
  - **Protocol Updates - APPROVED**
    - CS4 – Hospital Destination Policy
    - C5 – Tachycardia (Wide/Narrow)
    - P3 – Pediatric Medical Cardiac Arrest
    - AD3 – Medical Priority Dispatch (MPDS) Local Options
  - **Protocol Deletions**
    - CP 31 – LUCAS Mechanical CPR Device
    - CT 30 – LUCAS Quick Reference Guide

  Referring to the Executive Summary and pages 8 through 28 of the agenda packet, Dr. Jameson reviewed the new, updated, and deleted protocols, M13 – Syncope, P2 – Pediatric Upper and Lower Airway Disease, P15 – Pediatric Stroke, CS4 – Hospital Destination Policy, C5 – Tachycardia (Wide/Narrow), P3 – Pediatric Medical Cardiac Arrest, AD3 – Medical Priority

Dispatch (MPDS) Local Options, CP 31 – LUCAS Mechanical CPR Device, and CT 30 – LUCAS Quick Reference Guide.

Following discussion and upon presentation, Dr. Brian Charity moved, seconded by Dr. Hasan Rasheed, that M13 – Syncope, P2 – Pediatric Upper and Lower Airway Disease, P15 – Pediatric Stroke, CS4 – Hospital Destination Policy, C5 – Tachycardia (Wide/Narrow), P3 – Pediatric Medical Cardiac Arrest, AD3 – Medical Priority Dispatch (MPDS) Local Options, CP 31 – LUCAS Mechanical CPR Device, and CT 30 – LUCAS Quick Reference Guide protocol updates be approved. Upon call for the vote, the motion was approved unanimously.

EMS SYSTEM UPDATE

Sean Davenport, Interim Director of EMS, provided an overview of the following topics:

- The whole blood program is progressing well, with additional equipped units forthcoming.
- The airway management project is advancing with new training resources and equipment.
- First Due: The County's new Learning Management System (LMS) program is underway to consolidate scheduling, credentialing, and education platforms.
- Wheelchair Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COPCN) review is being conducted with providers to ensure Rules and Regulations compliance, noting improved monthly reporting.

OPEN FORUM

- Ryde Central rollout: Sunstar reported security review completion and anticipated implementation within 30 days.
- Suncoast Crisis Center: Discussion regarding recent changes to services and impacts on hospital responsibilities.
- Tax Reform: David Hare noted projected impacts and future Board involvement in potential EMS budget reductions if Amendment 3 passes;
- Pulsara Integration: David Hare briefed members pertaining to ongoing County coordination with the Pinellas County Sheriff's office related to Pulsara integration, noting that implementation is dependent on other system upgrades.
- Health Information Hub (HIH) – Dr. Jameson provided an update on EMS involvement with the HIH project, adding there has been significant movement on signed data-sharing agreements.

NEXT MEETING

The next MCB meeting will be held in person on December 17, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at the John Morroni EMS & Fire Administration Building, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Conference Room 130/132, Largo, Florida 33774.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Craig Kizewic moved, seconded by Dr. Robyn Ache and carried unanimously, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

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