

**PINELLAS COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

John Morroni EMS & Fire Administration Center  
Conference Room 130/132  
12490 Ulmerton Road  
Largo, FL 33774

March 18, 2022 / 10 A.M.  
Hybrid Meeting (Physical Quorum & Virtual Attendance)  
Zoom Login

<https://zoom.us/j/5214889993?pwd=WS9VYi9ib01QUTdXaS8wRWw1SStDZz09>

Meeting ID: **521 488 9993** / Passcode: **1234**

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes: December 17, 2021
3. Citizens to be Heard: 3-minute time limit; Topic relevant to EMS Advisory Council
4. Officer Elections – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Executive & Selection Committees - Greg
5. Selection Committee – Recommendation to Fill Citizen Vacancies
6. Drone Presentation – HazMat Team
7. Recognition – Charlene Cobb, Sunstar Paramedics, Public Outreach Coordinator
8. Recognition – Sunstar Paramedics – Accreditation – CAMTS, ACE, and CAAS
9. Update – Computer Aided Dispatch – Jim Fogarty
10. Update – ALS First Responder System Enhancements – Craig Hare
11. Emergency Medical Responder and BLS Ambulances to 9-1-1 – Craig Hare
12. Approval – Proposed EMS Rules & Regulations for Emergency Medical Responder – Craig Hare
13. EMS Director Report
14. Hospitals Update – Craig Hare
15. Medical Director Report
16. Fire Chiefs' Report
17. Sunstar Report
18. Affiliates & Stakeholders
19. Open Forum
20. Next Scheduled Meeting – June 17, 2022
21. Adjournment

**Note: This meeting has been publicly noticed and advertised.**

**Pinellas County**  
**Emergency Medical Services**  
**Advisory Council**

	<b><u>Member</u></b>	<b><u>Alternate</u></b>	<b><u>Agency or Representation</u></b>	<b><u>Term Starts</u></b>	<b><u>Term Ends</u></b>
	Mr. Craig Hare		EMS Authority Executive Director	Non-Voting	n/a
	Dr. Angus Jameson		EMS Medical Director	Non-Voting	n/a
1	Ms. Karen Mullins		Citizen Representative - District 1	Mar 2021	Feb 2023
2	Ms. Larri Gerson		Citizen Representative - District 2	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
3	Ms. Jeri Reed		Citizen Representative - District 3	Nov 2021	Oct 2023
4	VACANT		Citizen Representative - District 4		
5	Ms. Becca Tieder		Citizen Representative - District 5	June 2021	May 2023
6	VACANT		Citizen Representative - District 6		
7	Mr. Jorge Mercado		Citizen Representative - District 7	Mar 2021	Feb 2023
8	Ms. Jo Dee Nicosia	Ms. Denise Whitfield	National Alliance on Mental Illness	Mar 2021	Feb 2023
9	Mayor Joseph Manzo		Mayors' Council - Belleair Beach	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
10	Mayor Sandra Bradbury		Mayors' Council - Pinellas Park	Mar 2021	Aug 2022
11	Mayor Woody Brown		Mayors' Council - Largo	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
12	Mayor Chris Alahouzos		Mayors' Council - Tarpon Springs	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
13	Ch. Scott Ehlers	Ch. Anthony Tedesco	City of Clearwater Fire Chief	Oct 2020	Sept 2022
14	Ch. Ian Womack	Capt. Thomas Kras	City of St. Petersburg Fire Chief	Nov 2021	Oct 2023
15	Ch. Chad Pittman	Ch. Scott Young	Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association	June 2021	May 2023
16	Ch. Terry Tokarz	Ch. Doug Zimmerman	EMS Coordinator	Oct 2020	Sept 2022
17	Mr. Richard Schomp	Mr. Jeremy Tinter	Sunstar Paramedics	Nov 2021	Oct 2023
18	Capt. Michael Leiner	Capt. Brian Browne	Pinellas County Sheriff	Nov 2021	Oct 2023
19	Dr. Eric Carver - Chair		St. Petersburg College President	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
20	Ms. Gayle Guidash	Ms. Ashley Hoskins	Pinellas County Health Department	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
21	Ms. Nancy Hopkins	Ms. Brenda McCarthy	Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
22	Dr. Aron Schlauf	Dr. Paul Anderson	Pinellas County Medical Association	Sept 2020	Aug 2022
23	Dr. Anthony Ottaviani	Dr. Kenneth Webster	Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society	Nov 2021	Oct 2023
24	Comm. Julie Peluso - Vice Chair	Comm. Kevin Kenney	Independent Fire District Elected Official	Mar 2021	Feb 2023

**Executive Committee**

Dr. Eric Carver - Chair  
 Comm. Julie Peluso - Vice-Chair  
 VACANT - Secretary  
 Mayor Joseph Manzo  
 VACANT

**EMS Management Committee**

Mr. Craig Hare  
 Dr. Angus Jameson  
 Dr. Donna Dooley  
 Ch. Chad Pittman  
 Ch. Terry Tokarz  
 Ch. Mark Zipeto  
 Ms. Nancy Hopkins  
 Comm. Julie Peluso - Chair  
 Mr. Richard Schomp  
 Ms. Judith Weshinsky-Price  
 Mr. Richard Pauley  
 Mr. Doug Gladstone

**Support Staff**

Mr. Matthew Tolnay - Assistant County Attorney  
 Mr. Greg Woodrum - EMS Administrative Manager

**Selection Committee**

Mayor Woody Brown  
 VACANT  
 Mr. Jorge Mercado  
 Ms. Karen Mullins  
 Ms. Larri Gerson

**PINELLAS COUNTY  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**HYBRID REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 17, 2021**

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council met using the Zoom online meeting platform and in person at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Dr. Eric Carver, St. Petersburg College – Chair  
Commissioner Julie Peluso, Independent Fire District Elected Official – Vice-Chair  
Chief Chad Pittman, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association  
Dr. Anthony Ottaviani, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society (Alternate)  
Dr. Aron Schlau, Pinellas County Medical Association  
Gayle Guidash, Pinellas County Health Department  
Jo Dee Nicosia, National Alliance on Mental Illness  
Karen Mullins, Citizen Representative (District 1)  
Jorge Mercado, Citizen Representative (District 7)  
Mayor Joseph Manzo, Mayors' Council (Belleair Beach)  
Mayor Woody Brown, Mayors' Council (Largo)  
Mayor Sandra Bradbury, Mayors' Council (Pinellas Park)  
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics  
Chief Scott Ehlers, Clearwater Fire Department  
Chief Thomas Kras, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue (Alternate)  
Capt. Michael Leiner, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office  
Chief Doug Zimmerman, EMS Coordinator (Alternate)

Absent:

Larri Gerson, Citizen Representative (District 2)  
Jeri Reed, Citizen Representative (District 3)  
Mike Jones, Citizen Representative (District 4)  
Becca Tieder, Citizen Representative (District 5)  
Mayor Chris Alahouzos, Mayors' Council (Tarpon Springs)  
Nancy Hopkins, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter  
Brenda McCarthy, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter (Alternate)

Staff Present:

Jason Ester, County Attorney's Office  
Dr. Angus Jameson, Pinellas County Medical Director  
Dr. Andrew Smith, MD4  
James Fogarty, Bureau Director, Safety and Emergency Services  
David Hare, Deputy Director, Safety and Emergency Services  
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration  
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration  
David Hudak, EMS & Fire Administration  
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Lourdes Benedict, Assistant County Administrator  
Commissioner Kevin Kenney, Independent Fire District Elected Official (Alternate)  
Chief Scott Young, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association (Alternate)  
Julie Bacon, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics  
Phil Borum, Sunstar Paramedics  
Chief Mike Carpenter, Largo Fire Rescue  
Chief Rick Graham, Lealman Fire Rescue  
Chief Allen Smay, Lealman Fire Rescue  
Chief Jim Millican, Lealman Fire Rescue  
Chief Scott Sanford, Palm Harbor Fire & Rescue  
Chief Brett Schlatterer, Pinellas Park Fire Department  
Chief Rob Angell, Pinellas Park Fire Department  
Chief Alex Bowlby, Pinellas Park Fire Department  
Chief Andrew Hughes, Pinellas Park Fire Department  
Chief Josh Saavedra, Safety Harbor Fire Department  
Capt. Josh Pennino, Safety Harbor Fire Department  
Chief Ian Womack, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue  
June VanScoyoc, Citizen

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Dr. Eric Carver called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Roll call was taken, and Greg Woodrum confirmed that a quorum was met. There were 13 voting members in attendance.

Dr. Carver asked for a moment of silence to honor the memory of Bill Holmes, Citizen Representative for District 6, and reflected on Mr. Holmes' many years of service to the EMS Advisory Council (EMSAC) and to the community.

### **MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2021 MEETING - APPROVED**

Upon presentation by Dr. Carver, Jorge Mercado moved, seconded by Mayor Woody Brown and carried unanimously, that the minutes of the June 18, 2021 meeting be approved.

### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

There were no citizens to be heard.

### **NEW CRITICAL CARE UNIT UPDATE**

Jeremy Tinter provided an update on the new Critical Care vehicle, CC2, reporting on the vehicle's technological specifications, crew member support, and service operations.

### **SYSTEM REVIEW PLANNING UPDATE**

Jim Fogarty discussed strategic needs and critical improvements in the development of a comprehensive plan for rollout over the next five years and presented a five-point system review on the following topics: transportation, workforce, education, revenue, and call center. Members provided input, and various agencies discussed concerns and expectations for moving forward.

### **REPORTS**

#### **Director, EMS & Fire Administration - Craig Hare**

- Introduced Dr. Anthony Ottaviani as Dr. Webster's alternate.
- Announced the following staffing changes:
  - Fire Chief Mike Burton has retired from Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue, and Jeffrey Davidson has been selected as Pinellas Suncoast's new Fire Chief.
  - Jason Gennaro has been hired as East Lake Fire Rescue's new Fire Chief.
  - John Peterson has relocated to Charlotte, North Carolina, to accept a new position as Executive Director of Mecklenburg EMS Agency (MEDIC) in Charlotte, NC. Richard

Schomp has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer for Sunstar Paramedics; Jeremy Tinter, to Director of Operations; and Kim Lacina, to Director of Clinical Services.

- Dr. Jameson is considering a request to become the next State EMS Medical Director in a part-time role, noting Dr. Kenneth Sheppke, State EMS Medical Director, is being promoted to Deputy Secretary, and long-term EMS Director Steve McCoy has been promoted to Bureau Director.
- Nearing the end of the Dr. Jameson's contract, the County will go to competitive bid for Medical Director and supporting services. Asking for a member to represent EMSAC on the Medical Director Bid Evaluation Committee.
- Provided a statistical update on bed delays and transports, noting contingency plans for the next wave.
- Entered into a three-year agreement with Sunstar for increasing its wage plan, a \$20 million investment over three years to raise salaries for paramedics and EMTs, excluding management. Noted that the rate adjustment helped to level off the number of staff exits.
- Trued up Fire Rescue budgets. Largo, Lealman, Seminole, and St. Pete Beach were able to keep a 3 percent cap.
- Added Engine 65 for Palm Harbor, a new north county rescue unit.
- Worked with Oldsmar and Safety Harbor on contractor-funded units, adding Medic 53 for Safety Harbor and Medic 54 for Oldsmar.
- Sunstar renewed accreditations for the Communications Center, Ambulance Services, and the Critical Care Program, noting there are only a handful of services in the world that have all three accreditations.
- Technical Rescue agreement to go before the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on January 11, 2022. Capt. Todd Livingston has retired, and Lt. Joe Ward is the new Tech Rescue Team Commander.
- Hazmat Drone equipment in order, training complete, and ready to deploy. Waiting on final certificate from the FAA.
- EMS & Fire Administration is hiring a Growth Management Analyst and EMS Academy Training Coordinator.
- Entering into a new partnership with Pinellas County's Business Technology Services (BTS) to assist with infrastructure, servers, and networking.
- Completed a Sunstar Data Center hardware/software refresh for medical records, dispatch, billing systems, and new mainframe platform for launching into the next generation.
- Provided an update of the Sheriff's Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) bid project, noting bids are being evaluated, and a decision is to be made in early 2022. Project to integrate 911, municipal police, Sheriff's Office, Fire, and EMS on one platform.
- Conducting a countywide radio refresh.
- New Cat 5-rated EMS tower is populated and ready to go-live. Two old towers to be taken down after the holidays.
- Replacing hospital microwave system theaters via Penny for Pinellas funding.
- Provided an update on the EKG Monitor Replacement Project bid process and discussed the Philips Tempus Pro device's features, real-time capabilities, cost, configuration timeline, and training. Contract to go before the BCC on January 11, 2022.
- Pinellas County was once again recognized by the American Heart Association and presented the Mission Lifeline award, thanks to the hard work of Jeremy Tinter and hospitals.
- Discussed the progress of design/construction of various new fire stations and funding sources for Palm Harbor, Lealman, Pinellas Park, Seminole, St. Petersburg, and Clearwater. Noted improvements to the Center for Pre-Hospital Medicine (CPM) facility.
- Partnering with Dignity Health to offer certificates in healthcare leadership and healthcare analytics, noting approximately 20 scholarships were secured for leaders in Fire Rescue, Ambulance Billing, EMS/Fire, and 911.
- Announced his re-election to the International Academy of Mobile Healthcare Integration Board of Directors and presented an overview of its work.

- Jodie Sechler was made Chair of the Reimbursement Committee that reviews all healthcare reimbursements for EMS, Medicare, and Medicaid programs.
- Plans for refreshing the County's Active Assailant approach with awareness training for all firefighters, paramedics, and EMTs systemwide, and replacing all ballistic vests and helmets in mid-2022.
- Thanked the Board for its support over the past year.

### **EMS Medical Director – Dr. Angus Jameson**

- Pinellas County remains on Pandemic Condition Plan Green, taking appropriate patient care precautions and keeping a posture of preparedness for any future waves. Monitoring the Omicron variant and therapeutics closely.
- Presented an update on EMS and hospital operations, staffing issues, transport volume, offload times/bed delays, and educational programs implemented to mitigate potential spikes.
- Dr. Andrew Croft has been selected as the next EMS Fellow to start next July and provided information about his background, education, and affiliations.
- Congratulated Drs. Andrew Smith, Alicia Nassar, and Stephanie Tershakovec, past EMS Fellows, who have passed their boards to become board certified in EMS Medicine.
- Provided a brief overview of the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) and partnerships, noting success with medic treatment referrals for patients with Opioid Use Disorder. Discussed plans to train high school students interested in public safety careers.
- Presented information on the Fusion Group meeting, members, and research projects, noting the group looks at local trends related to substance use in our community and try to come up with solutions. Three projects are scheduled for presentation at the national meeting next month.

### **First Responders – Chief Chad Pittman**

No First Responder report was given.

### **Sunstar – Richard Schomp**

- Provided an overview of the Workforce Stabilization Plan, incentives to recruit and retain staff, and high school public safety education opportunities.
- Reported that Sunstar has stabilized over the last few months due to improvement on total time on task, noting that reduced offload processing has increased the amount of unit hours that are available.
- Expressed thanks to the County for its support of the plan.

### **Affiliates and Stakeholders**

#### **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) - Jo Dee Nicosia**

- Conducted a Frontline Wellness presentation and discussed an award of \$20,000 to work with the local community to look at designing, identifying, and/or enhancing existing agency agreements to provide frontline workers with one-on-one peer support by creating a network of trained peers who can provide that support.
- Provided an overview of the pilot program, curriculum, certification, and training opportunities.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business discussed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Gayle Guidash has volunteered to serve on the Medical Director Bid Evaluation Committee.
- Ms. Guidash announced that Ashley Hoskins is leaving DOH-Pinellas and the open position will be posted.
- Jim Fogarty recognized Craig Hare for his 22 years of dedicated service to Pinellas County.

## **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2022, format to be determined.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mercado, seconded by Mr. Schomp and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 A.M.

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

**Pinellas County EMS - ALS First Responder Program Enhancement Request Summary FY22-23**

**ROUGH DRAFT**

#	Provider Agency	Unit	Positions	Request	Analysis	Recommendation	Requested FY22-23 Funding
1	Clearwater	LR49	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Position to implement Rescue Lieutenant 49.	TBD	TBD	TBD
2	Clearwater	R49A	+2 24/7	Request by City to add +2 24/7 Positions to implement Rescue 49-A (a second Rescue at STA49).	TBD	TBD	TBD
3	Dunedin	R60	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Position to implement Rescue 60. City would maintain Engine 60 as contractor funded. City passed a Resolution in support of the request.	TBD	TBD	TBD
4	East Lake	R57	+2 24/7	Request by District to add +2 24/7 Positions to implement Rescue 57. District would maintain Squad 57 as contractor funded.	TBD	TBD	TBD
5	Largo	ME41	+2 12/7	Request by City to add +2 12/7 Civilian Paramedic Positions to establish a peak time Medic Unit (i.e. Medic 1/3/7 Deployment Approach)	TBD	TBD	TBD
6	North County			Request by North County Chiefs (CL, EL, DU, OL, PH, SH, TS) for Rescue Units for transport reserve capacity.	TBD	TBD	TBD
7	North County	LR	+2 24/7	Request by North County Chiefs (EL, DU, OL, PH, SH, TS) add +2 24/7 Positions to implement Rescue Lieutenants to serve North County.	TBD	TBD	TBD
8	Pinellas Park	PP501	+1 40 Hour	Request by City to add +1 40 hour EMS Administrative Coordinator.	TBD	TBD	TBD
9	Pinellas Suncoast	T28	+0.5 24/7	Request by District to restore 0.5 24/7 funding for partially funded Truck 28 to full funding	TBD	TBD	TBD
10	South Beaches	D23	+ 0.5 24/7	Request by South Beaches Chiefs (PA,SB, TI) to cost share existing District Chief 23 and operate as a Rescue Lieutenant.	TBD	TBD	TBD
11	St. Petersburg	R13	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Position to implement Rescue 13. City would maintain Engine 13 as contractor funded.	TBD	TBD	TBD
12	Tarpon Springs	R69	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Position to implement Rescue 69. City would maintain Squad 69 as contractor funded.	TBD	TBD	TBD
						<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>

As of:



## Emergency Medical Responder – Proposed Rules & Regulations

### Definition:

“Certified Professional” means an EMS Physician, Registered Nurse, Advanced Practice Paramedic, Paramedic, EMT, EMR, Wheelchair Transport/Stretcher Van Driver, or Mental Health Transport Driver who is certified by the EMS Medical Director to perform duties in the EMS System.

“**Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)**” means a county certified individual trained in basic life support and meeting the requirements of Ambulance Driver as defined by Chapter 401, Florida Statutes; and certified by the EMS Medical Director to perform authorized procedures in the course of their duties in the EMS System.

**2.5 - Ambulance Service.** The Ambulance Contractor shall be in full compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the provision of BLS and ALS ambulance services in the State of Florida and Pinellas County. This compliance shall be continuous throughout the entire period of service in the Pinellas County EMS System. Each Ambulance shall be staffed by at minimum of one Certified Paramedic and one Certified EMT for ALS Ambulances; two Certified EMTs for BLS-911 Ambulances; and by at minimum one Certified EMT and one Certified EMR for BLS-Interfacility Ambulances. All Ambulances shall carry, at all times and at a minimum, the equipment specified on the most current pertinent inspection lists from the State and from the EMS Authority. Medical equipment and supplies not specifically authorized are prohibited.

**4.19 Emergency Medical Responder (EMR).** Emergency Medical Responders seeking certification shall meet the following requirements prior to participating in transportation activities:

### Requirements for EMR

- a) Completed Application
- b) Current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Card (issued by the American Heart Association, American Safety & Health Institute, American Red Cross or National Safety Council and must include AED training and Adult/Child/Infant CPR)
- c) Current Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Card (issued by the American Red Cross, American Safety & Health Institute, National Registry of EMTs or National Safety Council)
- d) Completed Orientation by Provider Agency
- f) Completed Background Screening Affidavit
- g) Compliance with all Protocols, Rules and Regulations of the EMS System
- h) Approval of the EMS Medical Director

# 2022 EMS Advisory Council Meetings

January							February							March							April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	31																										

  

May							June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
														31													

  

September							October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	
				1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
25	26	27	28	29	30		30	31																			