

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

**MEETING MINUTES
June 22, 2023**

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. Stephen Haire, Morton Plant Hospital – Chair
Dr. Joseph Namey, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society – Secretary
Dr. Jeremy White, AdventHealth North Pinellas
Lacey Rains, Largo Medical Center (Alternate)
Nancy Hopkins, Morton Plant Mease Healthcare (Alternate)
Dr. Stephen Feilinger, St. Anthony's Hospital
Dr. Matt Nelson, St. Anthony's Hospital (Alternate)

Members Not Present:

Dr. Krista Gillis, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg
Dr. Taylor Smith, Bayfront Health St. Petersburg (Alternate)
Brent Burish, Florida Pasadena Hospital
Dr. Adam Copher, Florida Pasadena Hospital (Alternate)
Dr. Roberto Bellini, Mease Countryside Hospital
Dr. Meghan Martin, Pediatric Physician
Dr. Jennifer Pearson, C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center – Vice Chairman

Staff Present:

Jason Ester, County Attorney's Office
Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director
Dr. Michael Lozano, Associate Medical Director
Dr. Andrew Kropp, Associate Medical Director
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
Ken Grimes, Director, EMS Fire & Administration
David Hudak, EMS & Fire Administration
Mark Eggers, EMS & Fire Administration
Chris Jordan, EMS & Fire Administration
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration
Jennifer Peters, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate Medical Director
Michael Crispino, HCA
Alan Bell, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
Chief Andrew Hughes, Pinellas Park Fire Department, Division Chief, EMS
Chief David Kadau, Clearwater Fire & Rescue, Tech Rescue Team
Lt. Ryan Mitchell, Pinellas Park Fire Department, Tech Rescue Team
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics
Jazmin Soloman, Sunstar Paramedics
Larry Marshall, Sunstar Paramedics
Rob Smither, Union President at Sunstar Paramedics

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Stephen Haire called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Roll call was taken, and Lynn Abbott determined that a quorum was present. There were 7 voting members in attendance.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 16, 2023 MEETING - APPROVED

Upon presentation by Chair Haire, Dr. Joseph Namey moved, seconded by Dr. Matt Barquin and carried unanimously, that the minutes of the March 16, 2023 EMS Medical Control Board meeting be approved.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

CLINICAL UPDATE: EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Angus Jameson presented new and updated clinical information on the following topics:

- Pinellas County's cardiac arrest ROSC (Return of Spontaneous Circulation) rates are exceeding both state and national averages by several percentage points on an ongoing basis. In response to query by Chair Haire, Dr. Jameson noted that the success rate is due to specialized training, including 9-1-1 call taker metrics and coordinated Cardiac Pit Crew approach to cardiac arrest management.
- Continued focus on on-scene STEMI and stroke trauma-type patients with time-critical issues.
- Reviewing upcoming recommendations and movement of science relating to pre-hospital hemorrhage control and trauma resuscitation with whole blood. Continuing to work with trauma surgery partners to make sure system is providing as advanced care as possible as close to the point of injury.
- *Health Buddies* is a new initiative under the University of South Florida auspices where an older person enrolls in the program to be assigned an advocate to contact them via phone on an ongoing basis to ensure they have access to needed health resources and be empowered to self-manage their health. Pilot program started in St. Petersburg.

CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT (CCT) PROTOCOLS - APPROVED

Dr. Jameson referred to a document titled *2023 Critical Care Team – Medical Operations Manual Vol. 3 Updates*, and presented an overview of the changes to the following Critical Care protocols:

- CCT-CS3 - Accessing Critical Care Transport, End of Life Transport.
- CCT-M1 - Pain Management, Ketamine.
- CCT-M1 - Pain Management, Bolus Dosing of Established Opiate Infusions.
- CCT-OB1 - Removal of Florida Law SB 698.

Following discussion, Dr. Joseph Namey moved, seconded by Dr. Matt Nelson, that the EMS Medical Control Board approve the 2023 Critical Care Team – Medical Operations Manual Vol. 3 updates. Upon call for the vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Jameson thanked the members of the Critical Care Team and staff present today for their assistance with the critical care updates.

TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

Referring to a document titled *Technical Rescue – Table of Contents*, Dr. Jameson provided an overview of the special types of operations that the Technical Rescue Team performs and briefed members regarding changes to the following protocols under the *Rescue* section:

- TRT-R1 – Care of the Entrapped Patient.
- TRT-R2 – Cold Emergencies.
- TRT-R3 – Heat Emergencies.

- TRT-R4 – Pain Control.
- TRT-R5 – Crush Syndrome.
- TRT-R6 – Procedural Sedation / Field Amputation Support.

MEDICAL OPERATIONS MANUAL 2ND QUARTER UPDATES – APPROVED

Dr. Jameson referred to a document titled *Medical Control Directive 2023-12* and discussed the proposed changes to the Medical Operations Manual (MOM) Volume 1, Clinical Operations Guidelines (COG) protocols as follows:

- Protocol C1 Medical Cardiac Arrest.
- Protocol C4 Bradycardia.
- Protocol C5 Tachycardia.
- Protocol F11 Epinephrine.

Upon presentation by Dr. Jameson, Dr. Stephen Feilinger moved, seconded by Dr. Matt Nelson, that the EMS Medical Control Board approve the Medical Operations Manual (MOM) Volume 1, 2nd Quarter Updates. Upon call for the vote, the motion was unanimously approved.

LEAVE BEHIND NARCAN PROGRAM UPDATE

Dr. Jameson briefed members on the success of the *Leave Behind Narcan* program and provided statistical information regarding treatment referrals and the number of Narcan kits dispersed since January. He presented information related to various distribution locations, harm reduction strategies, pilot programs, and educational efforts to change the paradigm around Opioid Use Disorder from decisions and failures to a chronic relapsing disease of the neurochemistry, noting that community saturation of Narcan can reduce opioid overdoses and save lives.

FREESTANDING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS UPDATE

Noting that the previously discussed protocol change had been made regarding the Freestanding Emergency Departments, Dr. Jameson shared that there has not been a significant change in utilization. The baseline variability has been very high, so they will continue to watch closely to see if a trend develops. No significant change in re-transport numbers as well.

COMMENDATION

Dr. Jameson recognized Dr. Donna Dooley's upcoming retirement with a plaque for her 10 years of dedicated service and a commendation from Pinellas County. Dr. Dooley has been with Dr. Jameson throughout her tenure, but she is not leaving us. She will be stepping back from her Associate Medical Director position to join the Online Medical Control team.

EMS SYSTEM UPDATE

Craig Hare presented an EMS operations report and briefed members on the following topics:

Enhancement Projects

Mr. Hare shared that budgets are in, with a 9% increase for First Responder costs and a 12% increase in taxable value. Enhancement project recommendations are as follows:

- Largo Medic 42 Peak/Civilian Unit Conversion.
- Pinellas Park Squad 36.
- Safety Harbor Medic 53 +1 and 40-Hour Pilot Project.
- St Petersburg + 6 Staffing Positions.
- Tarpon Springs Rescue 69 +1.
- Traffic Preemption Project – Pinellas County, in partnership with the Highway Department, will work with traffic systems in Clearwater and St. Petersburg to bring the technology to 250 to 300 intersections and ultimately improve emergency response times and save lives, thus allowing the system to operate more safely by reducing calls by 10 to 15 seconds and reducing stress for the motoring public.

Staffing

Introduced newly hired and recently promoted employees to EMS staff, noting that the office will soon add a new Clinical Manager to the team:

- Jeremy Capes, Safety and Emergency Services ImageTrend Manager.
- Steve Fravel, EMS Credentials Coordinator.
- Leyna Lacognata, EMS Data Systems Coordinator.
- Lynn Abbott, EMS Administrative Support Specialist 2.
- Jennyfer Peters, EMS Administrative Support Specialist 1.

Dr. Jameson congratulated Dr. Andrew Kropp, who is graduating from his EMS Fellowship with us. He will be working at Sarasota Memorial with their EMS system.

Hexagon CAD

This countywide project is on track and going well. It is the collaboration between 9-1-1, the Sheriff's office, Fire Rescue, local police, and Sunstar. We expect a mid-2024 rollout.

ImageTrend

Our new integrated medical records system is in design with plans to train power users in July, implement testing over the summer, and go-live by November 2024. It will include such things as all EMS and Fire reports, inspections, investigations, and pre-plans. In addition, the Health Information Exchange (HIE) hub will allow us to make a smooth connection with hospitals, sending our EMS records into the hospital medical records system and receiving outcome data back as well.

EKG Monitors

The County just signed a \$9 million contract with Physio to replace all of our cardiac monitors with the LifePak15. Our existing LifeNet systems in the hospitals should be completely compatible.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2023, to be an in-person format.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Haire adjourned the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

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