

LCEMS POLICY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 2009

Members Present

Mary Beth Crawford, M.D. (St. Luke's)
Chief Wagener for Chief Richard Monto
Chief Daryl McNutt
Chief Barry Cousino
Chief Bill Wilkens
Tom Eisel for Chief Fred Welsh
Pam Hanley
Mayor Marge Brown
Mayor Tim Wagener
Mayor Angela Kuhn
Dennis Cole
David Lindstrom, M.D.

Representing

Hospital Council
Maumee Fire Department
Whitehouse Fire Department
Springfield Twp. Fire Department
Oregon Fire Department
Sylvania Twp. Fire
Sylvania Twp. CEO Trustee
City of Oregon, CEO Mayor
City of Maumee, CEO Mayor
Whitehouse CEO
Lucas County Emergency Services Director
LCEMS Medical Director

Absent

Mayor Carty Finkbeiner
Chief Mike Wolever
I. Kohli
Chief Kevin Bernhard
Mike Beazley

City of Toledo, CEO
Toledo Fire Department
Springfield Twp. CEO
Lucas County Fire Chiefs' Association
Lucas County Administrator

Attendees

Brent Parquette
Gary Orlow
Pat Moomey
Chief Brian Byrd
Steve Memsic
Jay Lowenstein
Jeff Kish
Jack Morash
Kent Appelhans
Tammy Kovacs
Julie Goins

LCEMS QA/QI
LCEMS Manager
LCEMS Communications Manager
Toledo Fire
MedCorp Ambulance
MedCorp Ambulance
Rumpf Ambulance
ProMedica Ambulance
Life Star Ambulance
Life Star Ambulance
Life Flight

The LCEMS Policy Board meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Dr. Crawford, Wednesday, February 4, 2009 in the Emergency Services Building.

1) Minute Approval

The minutes from the January 7, 2009 meeting were distributed for review. A motion was made by Chief Cousino and seconded by Tom Eisel to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

2) Medical Committee Report

Chief Cousino reported this committee met Monday, February 2nd. Under CE Brent reported on January's CE and February's CE will be Respiratory Emergencies removing Lasix and Morphine. Early use of CPAP and Nitro spray in the pulmonary edema patients. Brent mentioned the protocols are available on the county web site and a disk for the paramedics will be made available sometime mid year. Brent reported he received permission to purchase the King Airway. There was a discussion regarding the Phillips portion of the server and trying to get access numbers from the different hospitals. Brent reported he receives calls from the different hospitals asking about access to get patient reports from the ePCR and it was decided that it was an education piece back to the hospital. A very lengthy discussion ensued regarding the new State Trauma Triage Law. The law doesn't differ between the levels. It was reported at the meeting the county paramedics are moving ahead with the use of saline locks. Brent told the committee there is an ICE presentation being held at Toledo Hospital on February 10th. Also there are two patients living in Lucas County who have a LVAD device (Left Ventricle Assist Device) and St. Vincent and Toledo Hospital are having an inservice on these patients on February 6th.

Dr. Lindstrom expounded more on the Trauma Triage Law. Dr. Lindstrom reported the law passed at the end of December. The law does not distinguish the different levels. In the past we had a variance to the law because the RPAB got together and submitted a variance to the law. Dr. Lindstrom stated we are currently caught in a "catch 22" in that we are left with the position of following the current state law until a variance can be made. There is concern that the other three hospitals will go forward with applying for a trauma level designation. This could greatly reduce Level 1&2 volume to stay viable.

Barry reported the next Medical Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 6th at 8:30 am.

3) Paramedic Committee Report

Chief McNutt reported this committee met January 12th. Brent went over CE issues and he discussed the web piece of the ePCR. There was lot of discussion regarding reduction and storage of medications. Dr. Lindstrom is researching storage issues with the State Board of Pharmacy. Brent also reported on going to a different type of C-collar. There would be less of them to carry on the squad.

4) CE

Brent reported the CE material for February is an updated protocol on Respiratory Emergencies. More judicious treatment going to the use of Nitro spray, continuation of non-invasive CPAP and also sublingual Captopril which will be implemented in March. Also anxiolytic therapy using Versed for the patients who are anxious about the CPAP being applied.

Brent reported in reference to the ePCR and discussions with the hospitals, there are two hospitals who have not identified individuals to access the data, which are St. Anne's and Bay Park.

Brent reported not only are the Saline Locks a cost savings, but they are easier for the paramedics to work with.

Brent reported the web portion of the ePCR is currently on line, it went live Tuesday, February 3rd and paramedics can go on line to edit reports.

Brent reported in regards to the c-collars, he is still awaiting a response from the manufacturer for a system changeover. Brent said the paramedics won't have to carry as many as they currently do.

As for medications, Brent said he is working with Dr. Lindstrom regarding the types and numbers that are carried as well as the removal and the addition of some. This is an ongoing project and budget neutral.

5) Other

Brent reported there is a presentation at Toledo Hospital on an ICE patient. The presentation is February 10th at 12:00 with a luncheon at 11:30. This will give us the ability to look at the patient's definitive care given. Brent reported he is one of many co-presenters and it will follow the case all the way through. Brent reported he was able to sit with the Toledo Hospital staff and it was a very fascinating case.

Brent reported LS5 brought in a 76 year old man in cardiac arrest in which ICE was done. The man had a lot of complications at the hospital. He had medical problems and developed an electrolyte imbalance, a blood sugar problem and pneumonia. The neuro service gave him a poor outcome. When he was discharged from the hospital, he went home with his normal baseline neuron activity. Brent reported there will be a number of vendors at the presentation as well.

Brent reported he has flyers for a presentation on LVAD in-service. Brent reported staff from Cleveland Clinic will be here to discuss the basic operations of the device as well as treatment implications. The first presentation being held February 6th is at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center Auditorium at 9:00 and the second presentation will be held at Toledo Hospital at 1:00 p.m. Brent reported these devices are implanted in the patient to help improve circulation, but the power device is on the outside of the patient. These patients are on a waiting list for heart transplant. Currently there are two people in the community that have this device.

Brent reported there is premise information in the CAD to let the paramedics know if they come across these patients. Brent reported the paramedics will be given information regarding this device in CE.

6) Life Squad mobile data computers update

Dennis Cole reported that they are still working to resolve the problems with the new MW810 computers. Motorola engineers are coming in today to look at the problem.

7) Open Discussion

Gary Orlow reported we have submitted the RFP for billing to the county purchasing department. The ad will go for a couple of weeks. It will probably take a month for the vendors to get back with bids. So far we have a list of five vendors, but there may be more once it is published.

Tom Eisel reported LS6's vehicle was in for PM and they had to use a back-up. While on a run, the vehicle pumped diesel fuel all over and they had to be put in another back-up. Mr. Eisel asked if the back-up rigs were on a preventative maintenance schedule. It was reported yes, the same as the front line vehicles.

Dennis Cole reported he has touched base with The Toledo Hospital fleet manager because they have the same type of vehicles and they experience similar vehicle problems. Dennis reported the PMs can't always pick up upcoming problems. The paramedics have forms on the vehicles to fill out to let us know when there are problems.

Gary Orlow mentioned repair costs have gone up considerably with no new vehicles in sight. The front line vehicles are usually kept in service for five years and the back-ups are kept in service seven to eight years.

Dennis reported he has discussions routinely with the county fleet manager regarding the rigs.

Dennis also mentioned that Toledo Hospital rigs have special sensors to detect driving habits and in the future we may look at this option as well. We are continuing to explore issues.

8) Adjournment and Next Meeting

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 am. The next scheduled Policy Board meeting is March 4th at 8:30 am.