

LCEMS POLICY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
November 7, 2012

Members Present:

Mary Beth Crawford, M.D.
Chief Daryl McNutt
Chief Barry Cousino
Chief Rick Monto
Chief Ed Ellis
Chief Jeff Kowalski
Chief Luis Santiago
Mayor Angela Kuhn
Peter Ujvagi
David Lindstrom, M.D.
Dennis Cole

Representing:

Hospital Council/St. Luke's
Whitehouse Fire Department
Springfield Twp. Fire Department
Maumee Fire Department
Oregon Fire Department
Sylvania Twp. Fire Department
Toledo Fire
Village of Whitehouse – Mayor
Lucas County Administrator
LCEMS Medical Director
Emergency Services Director

Absent:

Mayor Michael Seferian
Mayor Michael Bell
Chief Kevin Bernhard
Leslie Kohli
Mayor Richard Carr

City of Oregon, Mayor
City of Toledo, Mayor
Lucas County Fire Chief's Association
Springfield Twp. Trustee
City of Maumee, Mayor
Sylvania Twp. Trustee

Attendees:

Jon Ziehr
Vicki Malinoski
Captain Mark Benadum
Mathew Mathias
Lorren Boyken
Jeff Harwick
Daniel Schwerinn, M.D.
Curt Wamer
Jack Morasch
Dr. Todd Brookens
John Barnes
Jim Hightower

LCEMS Administrative Specialist
Toledo Fire – EMS Bureau
Maumee Fire Department
LCEMS Dispatch
LCEMS Dispatch
St. Vincent Mercy
First Care Ambulance
ProMedica
ProMedica
Air Guard Fire
Mobile Care

Call to Order

Dr. Crawford called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

November 7, 2012

Minute Approval

The minutes from the October 3, 2012 meeting were distributed to review. Chief Monto made a motion to accept the minutes which was seconded by Chief McNutt. Minutes were accepted as printed.

Committee Reports:

Paramedic Committee

Jeff Kowalski reported this committee met on October 15th. Mike Ramm gave CE updates for the month of September. Dr. Lindstrom informed the committee of an upcoming meeting with Dispatch to discuss the Clawson cards. He also mentioned there has been a cut back of dispatches in the last 6-9 months due to revision in cards. Pat mentioned with the new CAD there will be a computerized Clawson card system. Chief Kowalski mentioned there was discussion regarding CE breakout sessions where departments are broken up. Dr. Lindstrom said he felt good about this and it will be continued. The topic of Stroke facilities was discussed and that there is no designated facility yet. Also discussed were the St. Anne diversions, power load lifts with no recommendation, CPAP for the first responders, student paramedics riding on the life squads and qualifications for procedures and medications allowed to be given, Versed back on the first responder vehicles. Also discussed was the instance where a delivery of a child and the mother went to the hospital in to different life squads and the confusion at the hospital with the suggestion of having bands on these types of instances. There was discussion around the 20 minute out of service topic.

Dennis Cole said he wanted to expound on the issue of banding, citing at the last meeting it was suggested using the triage tags in that they are already in the life squads. It was reported the triage tags are numbered and the patients wouldn't have the same number. Chief Cousino suggested getting bands from the hospitals. Jon Ziehr said he would contact the labor and delivery department at a hospital about this.

Dennis Cole reported the county's intent to wait on the power lift cots to see how Toledo Fire liked them.

Dr. Lindstrom said he would like to comment more on the Stroke topic. Dr. Lindstrom reported that in the last three months has there been emergent treatment on stroke patients. In the past there was therapy at the hospital and long term rehabilitation. The philosophy is to take the patient to the closest hospital. UTMC now has an internationalist for strokes where they can pull out a stroke clot. They still say take these patients to the closest hospital.

Medical Committee

Chief Cousino said there is no meeting to report, but the next Medical Committee meeting is scheduled for December 3rd at 8:30 a.m

CE Update

Jon Ziehr reported October CE finished up the State curriculum , instruction of the Morgan Lens and chest tube monitoring. November has the added blood production administration for the national updates along with drownings and infectious diseases. There is no CE in December. Jon also reported Dispatch will have CPR course as well as offering a new CPR course for administration in December.

EMS Billing

Vicki reported October's revenue was \$395,128.69 and to date \$3,683,690.19. Vicki also reported about going to the first annual Med3000 conference, which was heavily attended. Vicki said there is the likelihood of an audit next year.

Dr. Lindstrom reported this will be a RAC audit process (Recovery Audit Contractor). Dr. Lindstrom said this program identifies improper Medicare payments both overpayments and underpayments. RACs are paid on a contingency fee basis, receiving a percentage of the improper payments collected from providers. Dr. Lindstrom also mentioned hospitals have great respect for this process.

Drug Shortages

Dr. Lindstrom reported it was found out Monday and Tuesday there is a Sodium Bicarb shortage which affects some cardiac arrest patients. All we have is what is in the cabinets and he will reach out to some of the hospitals for supplies.

Dr. Lindstrom said we are in the process to get Versed back out on the First Responders. We are currently working on a protocol to get it out.

Dr. Lindstrom reported the drug license applications have been signed to be sent in. In the past we have been late due to the State.

Chief Cousino commented this also slows down the process for billing.

Dr. Lindstrom reported there is also a shortage of Etomidate nationwide.

Dr. Lindstrom reported there is a free APP that shows the drug shortages.

Open Discussion

Dennis Cole reported the SWOT analysis is completed. He said he is looking at setting up another meeting. The decision was made to meeting November 21st at 9:00.

Dr. Lindstrom reported Dennis, Brent and he met with the President and chair of the Emergency Department at St. Anne. They were reaching out and making contact with us and we took the advantage of talking to them about diversion of patients on backboards. It was found out the doctors did not do the diversions it was the nursing staff. Now the doctors have to be advised first for the decision to be made. They want to take patients on backboards.

Dennis Cole reported he wanted to apologize up front regarding discussing jurisdiction contracts. He reported he has been busy with the Viper project which has not been going well and working through the bugs. He asked to hold off until next month.

Dennis Cole reported the CAD training has been initiated with two classes being held today. One started at 0600 to 1400 hrs and the second one starting at 1800 hrs to 0200 hrs. Mobile Data training for that is November 27, 28, and 29th.

Chief Santiago asked for future discussion regarding the billing revenue vs tax revenue and planning the structure of where the money goes, i.e., percentage is going to where.

Dennis Cole reported this is part of the SWOT intent.

Chief McNutt asked about the 2013 budget and nothing about Dispatchers in there. Chief Cousino asked about the status of adding dispatchers in the list of items wanted for LCEMS 2013 Budget. It showed the Advanced Paramedic Program and nothing about Dispatch.

Dennis Cole reported this is a planning document to look at. Value is added where appropriate. It can be changed as long as it stays within the budget. As for hiring, we have to go through the Commissioners.

Dr. Crawford said she would like to hear from Pat on her thoughts and asked that she give a five minute summary on where we stand.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 5th at 8:30 a.m.**