

Paramedic Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2013

PRESENT

Chief Jeff Kowalski
John Barnes
Lt. Kirk Keane
Lt. Kim Hood
Captain Mark Benadum
Captain Jeff Hibbard
Brian Biggie
Nicole Knepper
Bri DeChristopher

REPRESENTING

Sylvania Twp. Fire
180th ANGB
TFD EMS Bureau
TFD EMS Bureau
TFD EMS Bureau
LS 9 – Whitehouse Fire
Great Lakes Emergency Nurses
MSCH
MSVMC

STAFF

Dennis Cole
Brent Parquette
Jon Ziehr
Pat Moomey
Loren Boykin

Emergency Services Director
QA/QI
CE Program Administrator
Communications Manager
LCEMS Dispatch

ABSENT

Toledo Fire – LS1
Toledo Fire – LS2
Toledo Fire - LS3
Toledo Fire – LS4
Toledo Fire – LS5
Sylvania Fire – LS6
Maumee Fire – LS7
Oregon Fire – LS8
Springfield Fire – LS10
Jerusalem Twp. Fire

Dan Desmond

Rod Standiford
Rich Ellett

Chief Charles Flack

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chief Kowalski.

Minute Approval

The minutes from August 12, 2013 meeting were available for review. A motion was made by Jeff Hibbard to accept the minutes which was seconded by Mark Benadum. The minutes were approved as written.

Training

Brent reported the paramedics are in the midst of ACLS this month. October's CE will be the last CE month which it will be on pediatric issues. Next year's CE schedule should be out next month.

QA

Dr. Lindstrom reported there are a smattering of cases in which he meets with the paramedics involved and their administration.

Old Business

Cooling Collars – Brent reported the new revised cooling collars are being trialed on LS6 and 10. All the stock has been used up. Brent said the evaluation paperwork was incomplete due to not having the temperatures. Brent is going to discuss with Dr. Lindstrom how we are going to move forward with this.

New Business

Power Lift - Dennis Cole reported the first vehicle has gone down to Loudenville to be retrofitted. All the backup vehicles will be fitted first. Dennis also reported a representative from Stryker will be here to add the compatibility kits to the cots. Dennis said the rotation for the cots and squads will start the week of September 16th and should be able to get two a week done. Brent reported there is a link for the Power Lift training if needed.

Open Discussion

Tasers – Kirk Keane asked how patients that are tased be treated as it relates to age. Is an EKG to be done if they are under the age of 40 and is a life squad to transport. Kirk cited the incident where a young person in Florida died because of being tased. Dr. Lindstrom reported there has been an increase in the number of questions in the last month regarding patients being tased. He said he asked Damon if a policy in dispatch had changed to send a squad. Dr. Lindstrom said we were originally opposed to life squad transport. Historically paramedics were told not to remove the barb and if the tased patient has medical complaints, then they are to be transported by a life squad. Dr. Lindstrom said the sheriff's people and police have upped the request for life squads for these patients. With much discussion, Dr. Lindstrom said that if a person is single tased, first responder should be dispatched, no life squad, but if there is multiple tasing, a life squad is to be dispatched. Currently there are no dispatch cards for tasing. Dennis suggested contacting Clawson to see if they are addressing this.

Mark Benadum reported he wrote a protocol for the basic EMTs. He said he did some research on line and it is split across the nation. Mark said the personnel are to evaluate the patient. The only time they are to remove a barb is for CPR. Mark said taser barbs are not to be removed if they have penetrated the eye, breasts, genitals, spinal column. Mark said he did not write the protocol for multiple tases. Mark reported he sent the protocol to Dr. Lindstrom and Brent.

Cooling collars - Kirk brought up the issue of the cooling collars as it relates to traumatic cardiac arrest patients. Brent reported they are FDA clearance and the paramedics need not put the cooling element in the collar.

Dr. Lindstrom reported the collars are effective. Two hospitals in Cleveland have been using them. Their clinical outcomes are not out there yet.

Activity Log Kim reported the Activity Log is running out of pages. Brent reported they can change out at the Annex. Kim also asked about the stickers on the plastic bags that hold the medication citing it sometimes covers the expiration date and it can't be seen. She asked if the stickers can be put on the cards.

Disaster trailers – Dr. Lindstrom reported the disaster trailers are being restocked. Dr. Lindstrom explained that when there was a shortage of Morphine and Valium, they had to be pulled off for the use on the life squads. We will be restocking the trailers with Versed and Fentanyl.

IO – Jon reported LS9 had a cardiac arrest patient where the EZ IO needle was fused together with the plastic outside and they couldn't get it out. Jon reported when the paramedics started using the IOs several years ago, there were issues like this. Dr. Lindstrom said something should be said at CE if there is an issue with a product or suspicion of manufacturer error, it should be reported.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33a.m. The next meeting will be Monday, October 21st at 9:00 a.m.