

Paramedic Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2014

PRESENT

Chief Jeff Kowalski
John Barnes
Lt. Kirk Keane
Captain Mark Benadum
Rich Ellett
Jeff Hibbard
Tony Santiago
Chief Rick Helminski
Nicole Knepper
Chief Mark Mullins

REPRESENTING

Sylvania Twp. Fire
180th ANGB
TFD EMS Bureau
TFD EMS Bureau
Maumee Fire – LS7
Whitehouse Fire – LS9
Toledo Fire – LS4
Springfield Fire
St. Charles Mercy Hospital
Oregon Fire Dept.

STAFF

Dennis Cole
Dr. David Lindstrom
Brent Parquette
Pat Moomey
Jon Ziehr

Emergency Services Director
LCEMS Medical Director
CE Administrator
Dispatch Manager
CE Program Administrator

ABSENT

Toledo Fire – LS1
Toledo Fire – LS2
Toledo Fire - LS3
Toledo Fire – LS5
Oregon Fire – LS8
Jerusalem Twp. Fire

Dan Desmond

Chief Charles Flack

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Chief Kowalski.

Chief Kowalski reported the Policy Board scheduled for January 8th had been cancelled due to the weather.

Minute Approval

The minutes from November 18, 2013 meeting were available for review. A motion was made by Rich Ellett to accept the minutes which was seconded by Mark Mullins. The minutes were approved as written.

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Training

Brent reported CE has started back up. January's topic is Peds and OB. The first class was cancelled due to the storm. Brent reported when there is a Level 3 called and UT cancels classes, LCEMS will follow suit. Brent also mention he is capturing e-mail addresses of the paramedics who attend CE and those scheduled for a CE that is cancelled will be notified by e-mail as well. Jon reported the make-up class for the first CE session is held January 13th in the evening.

QA

Dr. Lindstrom reported he has had a few anecdotal cases that he handles with the departments and takes the findings of that and funnel it back through CE.

Old Business

Vacuum Mattresses - Rich Ellett asked again about the vacuum splints. Dennis reported nothing as yet. Rich said it would be good to use them opposed to the backboards for the elderly.

Dr. Lindstrom reported he is in support of them, especially for the elderly but it is probably a cost issue and maintenance of such. Brent reported it works well with small departments because it is not used as much. Brent also reported that in the future paramedics will not be backboarding patients at all, just collar and put on a cot.

New Business

Open Discussion

New rigs – Dennis reported the new rigs are not in yet, due in any day now. Dennis also reported he has not heard back from any of the fire chiefs regarding representatives from their departments who want to be involved in discussion of future make up of new rigs. Dennis noted an item for discussion would be a jump seat. Chief Kowalski reported his representative would be Rod Standiford.

Pharmacy Meds – Dr. Lindstrom reported fairly good shape. Narcotics at the hospitals has eased up also.

Lockers – Dennis inquired about locker stockage at the hospitals citing the new changes in stocking. Rich reported it's been okay. Linen availability was also discussed.

Warmers – Kirk asked if the life squads could get blanket and saline warmers. It was reported this issue has been discussed in the past. Dr. Lindstrom reported blanket warmers would be big and cumbersome and don't know how it would accommodate in the life squad. Dr. Lindstrom reported the problem with saline the temperatures would get lost in the environment. Jon suggested a warmer that would be plugged in and kept underneath the seat.

BLS/ALS – Tony brought up an issue of the system being busy and life squads being called to a scene when they are second or third due. Tony cited an instance where there was a patient who was a slip and fall head injury where there was a paramedic on scene with BLS transport and why they couldn't transport the patient in lieu of waiting for a life squad. Tony also reported after the patient reached the hospital, the patient had decreased LOC and projectile vomiting. Dr. Lindstrom reported it was good that ALS transported for the good of the patient. Dr. Lindstrom reported currently there is a committee studying the system and issues like this. Dr. Lindstrom said as the medical director in a tiered system the right thing was done for specializing the ALS unit.

Dennis reported emphasis is on following the protocols. A discussion ensued.

Rich reported there are instances where just the opposite occur. Rich cited Monclova cancelling life squads. Dr. Lindstrom reported Monclova acts independently.

CAD & Pulse Point – Mark inquired into the status of CAD and Pulse Point. Dennis reported TriTech believes the intersection fix will be delivered in early February, at which time go-live training will be rescheduled. Dennis said as for Pulse Point, it is linked to CAD and he needs to have further discussion with the chiefs regarding concerns that the program puts everything out there, but the program can't be put into effect until the new CAD is in place.

Pharmacy Licenses – Dr. Lindstrom reported the pharmacy licenses are signed and distributed.

Burn Center – Rich asked if St. Vincent's Hospital has a burn center. Dr. Lindstrom reported they still have a recognized burn unit. Dr. Lindstrom also reported the physician who was involved with the unit has passed away and he is awaiting information if it will continue.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

With no further business, Chief Mullins made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Rich Ellett, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next meeting will be Monday, February 10th at 9:00 am.