

LCEMS POLICY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 7, 2009

Members Present

Mary Beth Crawford, M.D. (St. Luke's)  
Chief Richard Monto  
EMS Chief Martin Fuller for Chief Daryl McNutt  
Chief Barry Cousino  
Chief Bill Wilkens  
Chief Fred Welsh  
Pam Hanley  
Mayor Marge Brown  
Chief Kevin Bernhard  
Mayor Tim Wagener  
Mayor Angela Kuhn  
Mike Beazley  
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  
Lucas County Fire Chiefs' Association  
City of Maumee, CEO Mayor  
Whitehouse CEO  
Lucas County Administrator  
Lucas County Emergency Services Director  
LCEMS Medical Director

Absent

Mayor Carty Finkbeiner  
Chief Mike Wolever  
I. Kohli

City of Toledo, CEO  
Toledo Fire Department  
Springfield Twp. CEO

Attendees

Brent Parquette  
Gary Orlow  
Pat Moomey  
Chief Jim Sedlar  
Acting Captain Ken Kantura  
Ed Herrick  
Chief Brian Byrd  
Tom Eisel  
David Miramontes, M.D.  
Todd Brookens, D.O.  
Steve Memsic  
Jay Lowenstein  
Jeff Kish  
Jack Morash  
Kent Appelhans  
Tammy Kovacs  
Julie Goins

LCEMS QA/QI  
LCEMS Manager  
LCEMS Communications Manager  
Ottawa Hills Fire Department  
Toledo Fire EMS Bureau  
Toledo Fire EMS Bureau  
Toledo Fire  
Sylvania Twp. Fire  
TFD/Mercy Health Partners  
PTN/Sylvania Twp. 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, January 7, 2009 in the Emergency Services Building.

**1) Minute Approval**

The minutes from the December 3, 2008 meeting were distributed for review. A motion was made by Chief Cousino and seconded by Chief Wilkens to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

**2) Medical Committee Report**

No meeting report. Next Medical Committee meeting is scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**3) Paramedic Committee Report**

EMS Chief Martin Fuller reported Chief McNutt was unable to attend this meeting and he will be giving the report. Chief Fuller reported this committee met December 8<sup>th</sup>. Chief Fuller reported it was a lengthy meeting. Items of discussion included: inventory of supplies on the life squads, medications expirations dates and costs. Medications in first responder boxes were discussed. CE was discussed along with use of saline locks which should save costs vs. IVs. The issue of whether Cardizem should be carried in the ice containers to prolong its use was discussed.

Also discussed was the Geriatric Protocol and how it affects Level 3 hospitals. Dr. Lindstrom reported there are several pieces that need to come together, i.e. what is the recommendation of the RPAB. Currently the emphasis is on the Level 3 hospitals to provide a recommendation on cases that they can effectively treat.

Chief Fuller reported the committee briefly discussed billing. Also discussed were issues with trauma centers and how to declare. A representative from St. Vincent reported they would like additional information for their criteria to call a trauma alert.

Dr. Lindstrom asked for the support of the chiefs to minimize bloating of medications on the life squads with specific emphasis on storing meds in the action area.

Chief Fuller reported the next Paramedic Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

**4) CE**

Brent reported this month's CE is presenting the newly revised pediatric protocols, Tab 1100. Brent reported they are available on the county web site. Brent reported the paramedics are being introduced to the saline locks along with a protocol as to when they are to be used. February's CE will be on respiratory emergencies and COPD. They will be given medical scenarios around these types of patients. There will also be a lung assessment station.

Dr. Lindstrom reported the CE post test will be given the month after the material is covered. Such as, December's CE test will be given in January and January's CE test will be given in February. This is new, but this will be a way to find out the paramedic's retention of the material

**5) ResQGARD Research Poster**

Dr. Lindstrom reported he wanted to share with this committee the material that will be presented at the NAEMSP conference being held in Florida January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Lindstrom reported this was first put in place by the NASA astronauts who developed severe orthostatic hypotension after prolonged space flight. Dr. Lindstrom explained it was a good augmentation to the patients who have hypovolemia, dehydration and those patients who are on dialysis. Brent explained LCEMS was given 50 ResQGARDs and to date, 28 have been used with positive outcomes.

**6) Other**

Mayor Wagener asked Mike Beazley to expound on the comments made by Commissioner Konop regarding the issue of privatizing EMS. Mr. Beazley reported Commissioner Konop is looking at creative ways to save. Mr. Beazley reported if anyone has concerns they should communicate with the commissioners. Mr. Beazley reported his direction is to proceed with third party billing.

**7) Life Squad radios and mobile data computers update**

Dennis Cole reported we are still having problems with the new MW810 computers disconnecting. We are having one to two disconnects a day. Dennis reported we are working with Motorola in tracking the issue. We don't know why this is happening. Dennis mentioned if anyone is having problems to please call. It's a priority to fix this problem. Dennis reported he has ordered computers for the fire departments to replace the old MW520s. He said 9-1-1 will buy the computers and mounts, but the departments will need to pay for the installation.

**8) Open Discussion**

Dennis Cole reported he is working on the RFP for billing.

Chief Monto reported there was a discussion between the operating chiefs regarding the entities not getting an increase in their contract reimbursement due to the flat sales tax. They wanted to increase the reimbursement from billing revenue. Dennis responded that we had discussed billing revenue would be first prioritized to support EMS system needs such as vehicles, equipment new meds etc. Remaining monies would be used to support first response needs through out the county. Although the exact method of disbursement has not been finalized, monies from billing were intended to be distributed on a per capita basis and not tied to operating jurisdiction contracts.

Dennis commented that this funding source has minimal growth potential because of Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance reimbursement caps. Because medical equipment and supply costs are expected to continue rise, it is expected that the EMS system will require a greater share of these funds each year. Discussion ensued.

Dennis reported they probably won't see any revenue until June. He will have to coordinate with OMB on how funds are appropriated into the system.

Dennis reported that in the sample RFP the vendor was asked to supply the software and equipment for the billing. He asked the Chiefs their opinion on possibly changing EPCR software and computers. It was generally agreed that the preference was to remain with our current EPCR system but the RFP could include this as an option to see what the vendor suggests.

Dennis gave a brief explanation to the Chiefs and elected officials on SB 129 and how it affects the PSAPs.

#### **9) Adjournment and Next Meeting**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am. The next scheduled Policy Board meeting is February 4, 2009.