

Paramedic Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2011

PRESENT

Chief Daryl McNutt
Jeff Hibbard
Brian Dotson
Chief Jeff Kowalski
Greg May
Chief Rick Helminski
Rod Standiford
Rich Ellett
Lt. Glenn Newman
Nicole Knight
Lt. Terrence Glaze
Captain Jeff Romstadt
Kenan Mylander
Jim Fenn
Chad Premo
Dr. Daniel Schwerin

REPRESENTING

Whitehouse Fire – LS 9
Whitehouse Fire – LS 9
Whitehouse Fire – LS 9
Sylvania Twp. Fire
Springfield Fire – LS 10
Springfield Fire
Sylvania Twp. Fire – LS 6
Maumee Fire – LS 7
Toledo Fire – Station 11
Toledo Fire – LS1
Toledo Fire EMS Bureau
Toledo Fire EMS Bureau
St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center ED
Flower Hospital
ProMedica
St. Vincent Medical Center

STAFF

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

Emergency Services Director
Medical Director
QA/QI
Dispatch Supervisor
Annex Supervisor

ABSENT

Tracy Stanford
Keith Mooseman
Chief Charles Flack

Toledo Fire – LS 2
Toledo Fire – LS 3
Toledo Fire – LS 4
Toledo Fire – LS 5
Washington Twp. Fire
Waterville Fire
Jerusalem Twp. Fire

Call to Order

The meeting was called at 9:00 am.

Minute Approval

The minutes from February 14, 2011 meeting were available for review. With no corrections, Jeff Hibbard made a motion to accept the minutes which was seconded by Rich Ellett. The minutes were approved as written.

Training

Brent reported the CE comments and graphs from February were available to review. Brent reported February's CE topic was on CO poisoning and the LP15. There is also hands-on skills with the LP15. March CE is on pediatric emergencies with the speaker oRod Standiford giving a presentation on children with special health care needs, which was well received. There are also skills stations.

QA

Dr. Lindstrom reported there are couple of individual incidents which he is working with their departments.

Old Business

Captain Romstadt asked when the LP15's will be in-service. Brent reported he is working on resolving the data transmission problem. Also the hospitals are not up on line yet for transmission. Hopefully in the next week or two they will be distributed.

Chief McNutt asked Dr. Lindstrom if the UTMC problem was resolved regarding the "holding pattern" some of the life squads encountered. Dr. Lindstrom reported he discussed the issue with the medical director, but not the nursing director. Apparently there is an ongoing issued with one particular doctor. Dr. Lindstrom said if the paramedics find out there is a problem with being backed up, the hospital can be put on by-pass and to call him with any issues.

Al reported the next set of four life squad rigs are in. LS7 and 8 the last to go out. The next set is ordered and due in in August. These squads will go to LS9 and 10 and back-ups.

It was reported the paramedics do not like the brakes on the new rigs in that they are real touchy. Al reported there have been fender cracks and this is due to the mud flaps hung to low. They are going to shorten the the mud flaps. Also the side steps hang down too low and they are being redesigned.

Nicole Knight reported LS1 had several issues, i.e., patient door not being able to be opened, door knobs falling off the cabinet doors, seal broken on the dash and it had to be taped up.

Al reported paramedics need to make a list of issues and when the rig comes back in for first service, they will be addressed unless it is of a urgent nature. Also, Al reported the filter on the catalytic converter smokes. Al said to have it regenerate, the rig needs to either idle at a higher speed a ½ hour or get on the expressway and burn it off.

Open Discussion

The question was raised when are the auto CPR devices going to be in. Dennis Cole reported it has to go before the Commissioners first and then ordered. Brent said once they are ordered, it will take 30 days to arrive. He will then have train the trainer classes before distribution.

Greg May asked the question if the doctor considered the paramedics doing conscious sedation in the field. Dr. Lindstrom reported he has no inclination at this time. The risk is too high and the frequency too low.

Dr. Lindstrom reported he was just at a medical director's conference and most are moving away from paralytic intubation that there are too many negative outcomes. Mostly helicopter transports use it. Most large EMS departments are not using it because the risk is too much.

Rod Standiford asked if there was a change in the composition of the private ambulance personnel, noting that when they are used as a life squad they only have one paramedic. Pat Moomey reported there are not a lot of double paramedics on the private ambulances and we go with the private ambulance when a life squad is more than 10 minutes out. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Nicole Knight reported Toledo Fire test is June 12th and the applications are being taken May 4th through the May 20th.

Brent asked for assistance regarding the Sandhu collars. Brent reported since January 24th there have been 53 cardiac arrests and only 16 collar applications. Brent said it is reinforced in the CE sessions and wants the paramedics made aware of the collar. Brent said we can't do a fair evaluation if it is not used.

Dr. Lindstrom said he is not seeing documentation of the collar be placed post intubation.

Dr. Lindstrom reported there will be a focus in September's CE ACLS class in a shift not to do a carotid pulse check and to check the femoral instead. This will be a huge cultural shift. There will be videos in September to show a "pit crew" response to cardiac arrest.

Terry Glaze asked about changing the med pouches in the ALS boxes to the tubes like the life squads have. Captain Romstadt suggested taking the medications out of the ALS bags. There was further discussion, it was decided this needs to be looked into further.

The discussion of chilled saline was brought up and the two types of containers, Chillcore and Engel Cooler. Dr. Lindstrom there needs to be documentation of the temperature post delivery on patients who are having the ICE protocol used on them. In doing a study we need to look at all the facts and then see if we are impacting or not. A discussion of documentation ensued.

Chief McNutt reported the issue of a paramedic being chair at this committee was brought up a couple of months ago. This was taken to the Policy Board. Chief McNutt reported he is still the chairperson.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m. The next meeting will be held Monday, **April 11th** at 9:00 a.m.