

Paramedic Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2015

PRESENT

Chief Jeff Kowalski
Deputy Chief Michael Ramm
Chief Karen Marquardt
Captain Mark Benadum
Lt. Kirk Keane
Captain Allison Armstrong
Chief Rick Helmski
Kristin Calkens
Deanna Montanaro
Tyler Trease
Quincy Copeland
Aaron Stoianowski
Greg Szumigala
Dan Bonnell
Rachel Doran
John Barnes
Dr. Daniel Schwerin
Dr. Scott Levitt
Greg May
Chief Matt Mathias
Richard Ellett
Martin Fuller
Diana Miner

REPRESENTING

Sylvania Twp. Fire
Sylvania Twp. Fire
TFD EMS Bureau
TFD EMS Bureau
TFD EMS Bureau
Toledo Fire
Springfield Fire
UTMC – EC
UTMC
Toledo Fire
Toledo Fire
Toledo Fire
Toledo Fire
Toledo Fire
Toledo Fire
ANGFD
NWOEMS
Toledo Hospital
Springfield Fire – LS10
Maumee Fire
Maumee Fire – LS7
Whitehouse Fire
Lucas County OMB

STAFF

Dennis Cole
Brent Parquette
Dr. David Lindstrom
Ralph Shearn

Emergency Services Director
QA/QI
Medical Director
LCEMS Dispatch Manager

ABSENT

Sylvania Fire – LS6
Whitehouse Fire – LS9
Jerusalem Twp. Fire

Rod Standiford
Jeff Hibbard
Chief Charles Flack

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Chief Kowalski.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chief Kowalski suggested everyone go around and introduce themselves since there was a number of new faces present.

Minute Approval

The minutes from the May 13, 2015 meeting were available for review. John Barnes made a motion to accept the minutes which was seconded by Tyler Trease. The minutes were approved as written.

Training

Brent reported the compiled CE comments from May were available to read. Brent reported there was also two months of data, CE comments and graphs to look at. Brent reported May's CE was on protocol updates and new drugs and June was Stroke diversion. Brent said there have been a lot of good follow ups from the Interventionist citing the paramedics are doing an exceptional job. September is on ACLS. Brent said the ResQ CPR is throughout the system. October's CE will be on Trauma. Brent said he is looking at "Rescue Task Force Team" training early next year, May/June and it will be an eight hour training day.

QA

Dr. Lindstrom reported the paramedics were introduced to a new drug Ketamine and he is aware of a couple of cases brought to him from the hospital to review. In capturing the data from the paramedics involved, it was given in an inappropriate application. The drug is supposed to be used for the agitated patient, not to be used for sedation or difficulty breathing. Dr. Lindstrom said Brent has pulled all the uses so far, twelve or so and with those not sure if the paramedics are following the protocol.

Dr. Lindstrom reported there are some anecdotal cases where he is working with the paramedics.

Dr. Lindstrom said he is working with Ralph Shearn on adjusting some of the "ProQA questions in an effort to reduce the number of cancellations.

Old Business

ZOLL – Greg Szumigala asked the status of moving away from the ZOLL. Dennis reported in looking at Safety Pad product it was found out they are out for acquisition, so we are waiting to see. The County is out looking at other products. Brent report the ESO was out in Springfield and now with Toledo. Dennis reported we are trying to go away from windows to an app and also to try to move away from a server to a cloud. Brent said we are looking at Physio's Health Vision. Dennis also reported as for the Dragon voice recognition software for ePCRs is only for windows based product and we are looking for an app ePCR.

PulsePoint – Brent reported the program is out of the Sand Box and into live mode. Since going live there have been four events at public places. Brent said the next task is to get all AEDs identified in the county. Brent said there is a sister app where paramedics can add it in and can take a picture. Brent said he would review and identify if it is already known and to designate where it is in a public or private location.

Wall of Honor – Brent reported the UTMC’s Wall of Honor is September 22nd from 11 – 1. Those individuals who are unable to attend there will be a link can watch live on a video computer. The nominees are Karen Peckinpaugh, Tom Couture and Dr. Paul Rega

Open Discussion

Cancelation rate – Captain Armstrong asked what the life squad cancelation rate is. Ralph reported 50%, which remains the same as before ProQA. Captain Armstrong also asked what is the rate the private ambulances are used as life squads. Ralph said he thought it was low, but he would look into it. Ralph also mentioned one of the key issues is the not knowing if there is a paramedic on each first responder. Ralph gave scenarios/examples of dispatches. A long discussion or responses, CAD and resources.

LS Resources – Greg Szumigala reported LS 5 routinely goes to the grounds of Flower Hospital to the Medical Office Building, which sits next to the hospital for patients and take them to Flower Hospital. Greg asked is this the appropriate use of resources. Greg also cited going to the Advanced Specialty Hospitals as well Dr. Lindstrom said the MOB is not part of the licensed hospital and they should call 9-1-1. Those patients are to be treated the same as if they were 2 miles away. Also, it was mentioned just because it is a doctor’s office, doesn’t mean they know how to take care of an emergent patient.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

MDT times – Greg May mentioned times are off with on-scene and enroute as it relates to calling in to Dispatch and the MDT. He mentioned he uses the times that are in the CAD. Greg said radio traffic could be reduced if everyone used the CAD instead of calling in for times. Ralph said it could be the “laziness” of the dispatcher or the paramedics verbalizing times.

Dennis reported there are two signals, one for GPS and one for Verizon. GPS is not completely reliable and point at technology and so dispatch still needs to do this. A lengthy discussion.

Rich Ellett mentioned he uses the MDT, voiceless system and has no problem. Rich said the radio traffic is horrendous and people need to go to the buttons.

EKG patches – Rich mentioned they trialed the Cardio Quick Patch EKG patches and commented they are not very user friendly at all and they do not get good tracings. Brent said we are working to compile the data to send back to the company.

Stand Alone EC – Rich asked if the life squads will be transporting to the stand alone emergency centers. Dr. Lindstrom said we will transport to licensed free standing ERs. We will divert from them just as we do for STEMIs, RACE and cardiac arrest patients. Dennis said they are getting radio sets to communicate.

Special Medical Committee Meeting – Dr. Lindstrom reported there is a Medical Committee meeting after this meeting to discuss the Mercy Mobile Stroke Unit and how it may be used.

Committee attendance – Marty Fuller mentioned he has attended this committee meeting for a number of years and commented that it was refreshing to see the number of attendees at this meeting.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m. The next meeting will be Monday, November 9th at 9:00 am.