

PARAMEDIC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 2022 – Zoom meeting

Members Present:

Chief Mike Ramm
Michael Eck
Joe Cira
David Brown
Richard Ellet
Lt. Zack Reed
Greg Szmigala
Aiden Yoon
Alisa Roberts-Kober, M.D.
Robert DeLeon
Derek Francis
Tim Zwayer, MD
Andrea Donahue
Jonathon Ziehr
Sean Powers
Kristin Calkins
Shawn Wittkop

Representing:

Sylvania Fire
Toledo Fire & Rescue
Toledo Fire & Rescue
Toledo Fire & Rescue
Maumee Fire – LS 7
Toledo Fire & Rescue
Toledo Fire & Rescue
Springfield Twp. – L.S. 10/LCEMS
Promedica
Mercy
Monclova Fire
Promedica
Promedica
Springfield Twp
Mercy Mobile Stroke Unit
UTMC Trauma
Sylvania Twp Fire/LCEMS

Staff:

Dennis Cole
David Lindstrom, M.D.
Brent Parquette
Nicole Zmijewski
Schuyler Beckwith

LCEMS
LCEMS Medical Director
LCEMS
LCEMS
LCEMS

Absent:

Toledo Fire – L.S. 3
Toledo Fire – L.S. 5
Oregon Fire

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chief Ramm at 9:01 am.

Minute Approval

The minutes from the November 8, 2021 meeting were distributed for review. Joe Cira motioned to approve the minutes, David Brown seconded. All approved.

Old Business

Dr Lindstrom discussed changes to the EM resource license. Look at the column that says “number of EC patients” that should include number of admits, plus number of patients in a bed, plus number of patients registered in the ER. Personnel can reach out to him with questions or to connect with Hospital Council.

The EMS dispatch liaisons operated for close to two weeks. It involved having hospital ED staff and volunteers from fire and EMS assist EMS dispatch with efficiently distributing patients to the appropriate hospitals during red alerts. It helped personnel understand what happens during EMS bypass. Decided to wind it down after two weeks because it didn’t seem like a good use of folks time because everyone’s time is stretched so thin. Dr Lindstrom has been working with Ralph Shearn with the COG who has been great at updating the training in real time.

Hospitals have started using BLS bypass before and after ALS bypass, so we created a method to geographically distribute patients for BLS bypass, it’s basically the same as for ALS bypass. Dispatchers are using geography, relative size of ER, how many patients taken there recently as a thinking matrix. Race, STEMI, trauma are treated differently. Joe Cira asked if there is anything with that process that looks into ALS vs BLS assignments. Dr Lindstrom said yes. Mercy Sylvania has been a continued challenge, they should be able to take BLS cases.

Due to frequency of Code Red bypasses, dispatch is no longer assigning destination facilities as soon as you get on scene, doing it after declaration of case. Dispatch is tracking those runs but wouldn’t switch destinations mid transport.

Aiden asked if there is a way to have lifesquads have a pre-designation before the facility is assigned because they’re more likely to need a specific facility. Dr Lindstrom said no, there are resources available to help folks have situational awareness about what is going on, with EM resource or other things. Very helpful to have comments in addition to numbers of what the ER’s are really struggling with.

Dr Lindstrom said we are trying to work with long term care facilities about which cases need transport. If you have specific problems with those places contact him directly so he can deal with those on a case by case basis.

Nikki gave an update that January CE has been changed to virtual. Reach out to her if you need anything changed with your account. February will be virtual as well.

Chief Ramm discussed their priorities for the next Fire Chiefs meeting. Internship details will be high on the agenda.

New Business

Dr Lindstrom discussed COVID testing. He has been trying to get rapid tests for fire chiefs. About a month ago he ordered un-proctored tests from ODH directly. The state responded that they have no more tests available. He is ordering “professional” tests that are licensed under CLIA. We put an order in for 2000 of those tests, when they come in they will be distributed to the departments. They’re packaged in a pack of 40 with one developer bottle. These are proctored tests and they were the only tests we could get our hands on. Will deliver those this week according to how many departments requested. It will be up to individual departments how they administer these tests. Positive results will be reported to County Health Department. Most

folks being tested will likely be symptomatic. If this test is negative but they have symptoms, contact HWO to schedule PCR test.

Open Discussion

Dr Lindstrom said there is a lot of good info from hospitals. Monoclonal antibody infusion – this is helpful for people that are high risk. This is less effective for Omicron than it was for Delta, a new infusion has been developed but that is in very short supply. National Guard is running a testing site to try and minimize the number of people going to the ER for testing.

David Brown from Toledo Fire asked if there is any new info about LS 11 and having it be full time. Dennis said there has been no discussion about changing it to full time. David said folks on LS 1 are interested in having that discussion.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:37am. Motion by David Brown second by Joe Cira to adjourn. All approved.

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, March 14, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., in person with virtual as an option.