

PARAMEDIC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2022

Members Present:

Chief Mike Ramm
Michael Eck
Joe Cira
Robert Reed
Lt. Zack Reed
Greg Szmigala
Jeff Nissen
Paul Johnson
Chief Mark Mullins
Robert DeLeon
Derek Francis
Tim Zwayer, MD
Andrea Donahue
Jonathon Ziehr
Sean Powers
Kristin Calkins
Deputy Chief Zach Bingham
Lauren Fisher
Chief Matthew Homik
Mary Britton
Greg Wilcox
Chief Josh Hartbarger
Jeff Hibbard

Representing:

Sylvania Fire
Toledo Fire & Rescue
Oregon Fire
Toledo Fire/LCEMS
Oregon Fire
Mercy - Zoom
Monclova Fire - Zoom
Promedica - Zoom
Promedica - Zoom
Springfield Twp - Zoom
Mercy Mobile Stroke Unit - Zoom
UTMC Trauma - Zoom
Waterville Fire - Zoom
Zoom
Monclova Fire - Zoom
Promedica - Zoom
Sylvania Fire/LCEMS - Zoom
Whitehouse Fire – Zoom
Whitehouse Fire – Zoom

Staff:

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

LCEMS
LCEMS Medical Director - Zoom
LCEMS
LCEMS
LCEMS
LCEMS / Sylvania - Zoom

Absent:

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

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chief Ramm at 9:00 am.

Minute Approval

The minutes from the January 10, 2022 meeting were distributed for review. Zak Reed motioned to accept meeting minutes, Joe Cira second, all approved.

Old Business

Dr Lindstrom gave an update on issues with long-term care centers - they've worked through issues with those facilities, they did training with staff. Continue to contact him with any issues with the long-term care facilities.

Chief Ramm said he has not seen a code red come through anytime recently.

Nikki gave update on in-person CE. Some folks requested a print out of the power point slides; folks agreed that would be helpful. Tammy said it might be helpful if folks could bring their computers in to take notes with, too. Nikki said they would likely offer both.

There was discussion on issues with face sheets getting jammed in the lockers. Folks are not signing in when they take equipment. Folks are being contacted as it happens but Zak talked about having it come through EMS Bureau rather than from Nikki or Mike. The message might get across better if the EMS Bureau addresses it.

Chief Ramm said he let folks know at the most recent fire chiefs meeting about the new paramedic internship program. There are some questions from the non-operating chiefs. He is tasked to sit down with the folks who organized the program to work out these issues – most of the issues have to do with money.

New Business

Joe Cira asked if it was possible to run an arrest scenario again. Nikki said yes they are going over it in April CE.

Kristin with UTMC said that the state did authorize UTMC to move back to level 2 trauma center and they have intentions to do this in May. This will be provisional for a whole year starting in May. Verification for level 2 is due in June of following year.

Dr Lindstrom said on the state website on stroke, stroke alert, interventional stroke, it shows UTMC at a level that did not include interventional stroke. They have been in communication and UTMC has responded in writing assuring us they have the qualifications and staff for neuro-interventional stroke, they will add it to the verification at the next qualifying.

Dennis gave an update on vehicles. One is in the pipeline now and it will be at least two years before we receive the two additional. Zak asked if we should be ordering more because the timeline is so long, Dennis said it was discussed; but, at this point, it is a budgetary issue.

Zak asked if there is a contingency in place for these vehicles because there are so many issues. Dennis said the whole system for ordering trucks is backed up but there are 6 spares in the fleet.

Paul said we are down several spares. What is the protocol if backups go down and front line vehicles go down? Dennis said there is an agreement with different jurisdictions to use their vehicles. Dennis said historically EMS has agreed not to compete for grants with fire departments. Zak said there are grants available for training so we could free up some money that way. Dennis said he looks at all those opportunities and will chase down grants if there is potential.

Open Discussion

Craig said we are completely out of saline flushes in the county. Should have some back within the next couple of days. There has been a national shortage. Zak asked what the recommendation is if you don't have a flush. Dr Lindstrom said once a bag is punctured it is only good for 24 hours. Should access smallest size bag, label it and date it, so the next crew can dispose of it when it expires.

Zak asked if there was any more thought of expanding Operative IQ to all the lifesquads. Dennis said yes it is being done right now, Craig said he just rolled out lifesquad 10 last week. Working on either Maumee or Whitehouse next, will try to do one jurisdiction a month. Craig was asked to talk about what is exchangeable between life squads. There has been some misunderstanding about what is allowable. Board of pharmacy says medication cannot cross pharmacy licenses. But if you're using a county box everything is exchangeable. What about other supplies like equipment, Craig said yes that equipment is exchangeable. Brent said if this is an ongoing problem to let him know so it can be addressed.

Ordering system – how does that work on life squads? Craig explained how it will work with Operative IQ - rig check in morning which creates an ordering list in the software. You tell the software where you're going to pick it up. Instead of having journals to log meds, it will be done electronically. Will be able to track expiration dates, it is downloaded on the tablets and it is on the Lucas County MDT's, and will make sure the check sheet program is on a station computer.

Tammy discussed the drug exchange for expiring meds, have discovered that some things are not a hand to hand exchange. Some things are being delivered a month ahead of time. Monthly ALS inventory, when you see meds that are going to expire. It happens frequently with Versed. Could keep them in the locker but they might be forgotten about. Dennis said he will address this. If something is being dropped off then the replacement should be taken at that time as to avoid confusion and exceeding PAR levels. Brent said they are looking at ways for medics to destroy non-controlled meds themselves. Expirations carry through the end of the month in which they expire. Annex said they will do a hand to hand exchange with a medic and go through meds for each delivery so there's not as much confusion.

Joe Cira asked if we could get an update on creating a position to investigate BLS/ALS and the future of transport in the County. It is being discussed at the Policy Board, Dennis does not have an update.

Mark motioned to adjourn at 9:49am, Zak seconded. All approved.

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