

Minutes of Municipal EMS Board Meeting held on June 24, 2008

The June 24, 2008 meeting of the Municipal EMS Board was called to order by Dr. Michael Levy at 7:05 am in Room 830, City Hall at 632 West 6th Avenue in Anchorage, Alaska. A quorum was present.

Members

Present:

Dr. Michael Levy, Chair
Dr. Tim Silbaugh
Dr. Sami Ali
Dr. Gilbert Dickie
Dr. Keith Winkle
Dr. Richard Brodsky
Debbie Garipey, RN

Excused

Dr. Frank Sacco
Mary Leemhuis, RN
Sandy Coons, RN

Absent

Robert Bowler, FF/PM

AFD Staff

Michelle Weston, Deputy Chief (Admin)
Erich Scheunemann, Assistant Chief (Ops)
Wade Strahan, Assistant Chief (Ops)
Michael Crotty, Battalion Chief (EMS)

Steve Poggi, Battalion Chief (EMS)
Pat Vincent, EMS Training Specialist
Jennifer Chaleunvon, Office Associate
Rhodora Lontoc, Office Associate

Guests

Bruce Bartley, CVFD Fire Chief
Virginia McMichael, CVFD Assistant Chief
Lt. James Hales, CVFD

Dr. Kenneth Marriott, EAFB
Dr. David Cadogan, ARH

Approval of Minutes: There was a motion to approve the April 22, 2008 and May 27, 2008 Board minutes; minutes were approved with one amendment on May minutes: Page 2, should state Richard Gauntt states condition for release is based on BrAC of <.140.

Agenda Changes: None

Old Business: Dr. Michael Levy, AFD Medical Director

CSP: Dr. Levy presents a month's worth of CSP incident report data – about 50 incidents to ED's. The majority of patients go to ANMC. Dr. Levy notes the data shows the following:

- 17 of the 21 CSP clients who were transported to an ED for a BrAC >.350 could ambulate independently. Of those who were ambulatory, needing minimum aid to walk, their BrAC's ranged from .353 to .473; the non-ambulatory BrAC's ranged from .361 to .416. Nine people transported for other reasons such as altered mental status could not ambulate at all. These people had good BP's generally across the range, assuming the BP's were taken correctly by staff; a few higher BP's in injury clients. The HR's were not elevated, none were over 100. Dr. Levy summarizes that by looking at this data, it does not preclude us from looking at the physiologic measures discussed last month as a determinant for medical transports from sleep-off.
- Dr. Brodsky notes there are few events where there is an intervention or bad outcome, makes it difficult to determine what predicts bad outcomes. Board discusses moving to a physiologic model to determine transports from sleep-off.

- Dr. Dickie moves to change the criteria for medical-clearance transports (from sleep-off) from a BrAC threshold to physiological parameters, motion seconded by Dr. Brodsky and approved by the Board.
- Dr. Winkle proposes using the physiological parameters discussed last month, the motion was seconded by Dr. Ali and approved by the Board.

(Editor's note: The parameters/criteria is added here from the May EMS Board meeting minutes: The eleven-point criteria includes HR >120 and <50, SBP >180 and <90, emesis >4X, current seizure, unable to walk with minimal assistance, severe tremor or hallucinations, blood sugar >250 and <60, significant head trauma in <24 hours old, and suspicious fracture or dislocation in extremity. If none of these criteria were met, the patient was safe to go to a sobering center without further medical evaluation.)

- Dr. Levy suggests a 2 month study period on this change; all Board members voted in favor. Dr. Levy adds that BrAC will still be used concurrent with this test period. Chief Scheunemann asks if the two-month study period includes AFD; Dr. Levy states this will apply to CSP only at this time.
- Chief Weston states AFD is obtaining an old police vehicle for transporting patients from hospital ER's to sleep-off. Estimated cost to put vehicle in service with driver is \$70,000, looking for ways to cut this cost. The budget cycle will begin soon, so requests for budget changes w/level funding for next year must be submitted, however CSP is probably a higher priority issue that may result in some added funding.
- Chief Weston states that AFD Data Systems is currently undergoing a \$30,000 security audit to review HIPAA compliance and systems security.
- ROAM IT project – Chief Crotty gives update:
 - Bio-surveillance has been up and running for a year; Hot spots have been built and are being tested in all hospitals except PROV.
 - ROAM software program was recently sold to another IT firm. Sometime this week or early next week, AFD will assess their ability to fulfill contract and limitation period to see if it is implementable. If not, there are 2 alternative companies to choose from.
 - Project expanded scope to improving States EMS data reporting tool; will need to test it and report to them.
- Chief Weston states the Airshow, Statehood Picnic, and Combat Challenge is coming up this weekend; expecting an extra 40,000-100,000 people in the downtown area so AFD will add extra staffing and two ambulances for that time period.

Administration Reports: Erich Scheunemann, Assistant Chief (Operations)

- 2008 Resuscitation Conference went extremely well. Comments from attendees, vendors, and speakers were all very positive.
- 2009 Resuscitation Conference slated for second week in May for three days; probably at the Captain Cook. Eleven speakers identified and tentatively accepted already.
- Post Cardiac Arrest cooling has been initiated and is being used in the field now.
- Protocols for tourniquets and EZ-IO pedi use developed, anticipated training to begin in July. Deployment will begin after majority of personnel trained (tentatively beginning of August)
- Former Senior Captain/Paramedic Robert St. Clair is returning to the AFD after an eleven month absence (he had been a Fire Marshall in Michigan). Robert will be returning as the FF/PM and will begin reorientation/refresher training in early July.

- FF/PM Debbie Schneider also returned to the AFD after an eleven month absence, has completed her paramedic refresher training and is working on her firefighter refresher now.
- Four probationary employees currently in various stages of their paramedic internships. Another probationary employee is finishing up his internship on the job and will be testing for the National Registry later this summer.
- LifeMed, the merging company of LifeGuard and AeroMed medevac services, has approached AFD with intent to file for a Type II (non-rotational) Private Ambulance Service permit. The new company's anticipated operational start up is October 1st.

Medical Director's Report: Dr. Michael Levy, AFD Medical Director

- PAS issue needs to be visited by the Board; Chief Scheunemann, AFD Admin and Dr. Levy will provide groundwork. The Board will need to look at a prospective set of standing orders, unanimity of purpose and some basic oversight. We will work with the AFD regarding the ordinance and have a working group from the Board to save time and figure out which direction to go; plan to start working on this around August. The presume start date is October 1st.
- Immediate Trial is going forward. Western IRB has given verbal approval, awaiting written approval. We should start seeing print media exposure for the Immediate Trial now that we have the WIRB approval; will start taking patients in July.
- AFD is looking to enhance BLS capability; credentialing of BLS providers will allow them to work independently within the ambulance.
- MOM 3.0 is in the final process of completion; Per Chief Scheunemann we should have it by next month. Completed version will be forwarded to other Medical Directors and services in town to review for any issues or improvements.

Training: Pat Vincent, AFD Training Specialist

- Third quarter EMS training will begin July 8th; will implement tourniquet and EZ-IO pedi policy.
- All EMT's will need to accomplish trauma skills check off; this is a renewal year.
- Third ACLS renewal will be on July 25th.
- Dispatch is presently trying to train all dispatchers to EMT I level, which is 120-hour course.
- Brian Wellman finished his school internship and is back in Oregon; scheduled for his National Registry Practical in Kenai for September 27th.
- APD has 10 new AED's (LP1000).

Chief Bartley introduces Assistant Chief Virginia McMichael and Lt. James Hale who will take on role as EMS Coordinator.

Calls for the 'good of the order': None

Adjournment: The June 24, 2008 MAB meeting was adjourned at 8:06 am.