

Minutes of Municipal EMS Board Meeting held on October 23, 2007

The October 23, 2007 meeting of the Municipal EMS Board was called to order by Dr. Michael Levy at 7:03am in Room 830, City Hall at 632 West 6th Avenue in Anchorage, Alaska. A quorum was present.

Present

Dr. Michael Levy, Chair
Dr. Richard Brodsky
Dr. Tim Silbaugh
Dr. Matthew Wolf
Dr. Gilbert Dickie

Dr. Keith Winkle
Dr. Sami Ali
Dr. Frank Sacco
Sandy Coons, RN
Robert Bowler, FF/PM

Excused

Mary Leemhuis, RN
Debbie Gariiepy, RN

AFD Staff

Craig Goodrich, Fire Chief
Doug Schrage, Deputy Chief (Ops)
Soren Threadgill, Assistant Chief (Liaison)
Brian Keene, Assistant Chief (Ops)
Tim Garbe, Acting Chief of EMS

Jeff Dobson, Battalion Chief (Training)
Chris Bushue, Battalion Chief
Michael Crotty, EMS Battalion Chief
Molly Cullom, Contract Administrator
Rhodora Mallari, Office Associate

Guests

Denis C. LeBlanc, Municipal Manager
Bruce Bartley, Fire Chief, Chugiak VFD

Darrell Carlson, TransCare
Doug Green, Guardian Operations Mgr.

Approval of Minutes from Last Meetings

There was a motion to approve the September 25, 2007 Board minutes; Minutes approved with two amendments: Page 3, should state Dr. Winkle; page 6 comment from Dr. Levy on Code 99's should state 2 people had poor outcomes. Welcome back to Dr. Wolf and welcome new member Rob Bowler, AFD Paramedic.

Agenda Changes: None

Old Business: PAS Expansion

- Darryl Carlson (former CEO and founder of Transcare, representing Transcare today for Samantha Jeklicki) states Transcare's standing orders are proprietary. It is Transcare's opinion that Guardian obtained the Transcare orders illegally. Dr. Levy received copy of a letter from attorney's office addressed to Dr. Stirling stating formal demand to cease and desist use of the orders.
- Dr. Levy proposes AFD wants to use the AFD MOM area-wide, and for PAS providers to use a MOM subset that addresses changed scope for private providers. Dispatch protocols are being developed.
- Motion by Dr. Dickie, seconded by Dr. Winkle: In 2008, MAB will adopt an area-wide set of medical operating orders. In the interim, the 2007 MOM will be provided to current PAS (and to Girdwood and Chugiak ambulance services) for scrutiny and input, then consideration of their input and feedback will be conducted at an upcoming meeting; then to be forwarded to AFD to provide the final document of the 2008 MOM. Approved with unanimous consent.
- Clarification was provided this motion requires Transcare to use these new orders.

- Mr. Green provides overview of Guardian, anticipates starting with 2 ambulances operating 24/7.
- Discussion over ordinance language not allowing self-referral/self-request of an ambulance, rotational dispatch protocols and provision that anyone can request a specific ambulance company.
- Clarification is provided that Guardian is an ambulance provider for Anchorage, not just for their own flights. Also that Guardian will not be able to pull ambulances out of the dispatch rotation to await one of their flights.
- CMO Crotty states development of draft Dispatch protocols is underway, may need Board and MOA Legal to review the policy; the current draft states inbound flights can request their own ambulance subject to their availability.
- Guardian needs a letter from the MAB approving a set of standing medical orders; Guardian awaits this letter as their final item for submission and has hired staff.
- The 2008 MOM will not be ready for some time. Guardian has been training to the 2007 MOM; there are a few transport protocols in the PAS orders that are not in the MOM.
- Dr. Brodsky moves to approve the standing orders for Guardian using the 2007 MOM until the 2008 version is finished and abstracted for PAS; and the dispatching protocol needs to be finalized quickly so we are ready to implement if Guardian is successful in securing a license. Seconded by Dr. Sacco with the following additions: For patients on drips being transported from one facility to another within the MOA, those transports are not in Guardian's scope until those protocols are developed and approved; for patients coming in on drips with a flight crew that has been signed off – they can be transported by Guardian. Motion is passed unanimously; the Board will provide a letter to Guardian.
- Discussion that the MOM protocols exceed what the PAS can provide. Discussion that Transcare does not contact AFD to take over patient care where patient conditions deteriorate – several years ago that practice was discontinued.
- PM Bowler recommends testing to standards of care when regional medical protocols are in place, discussion on this topic and decision that it is a separate issue.
- CMO Crotty states if Guardian's application is ready for approval, the Board could authorize them to function under the 2007 MOM with specific exceptions or additions to the scope of practice by Memorandum.
- Guardian offers to provide details for additions or exceptions to the 2007 MOM, to standardize in accordance with the current Transcare Orders; also would provide another set of recommendations to the 2008 orders.
- PM Bowler moves a testing exam be issued to Guardian staff on the Standing Orders in 2007 MOM. Amendment to the motion to have the competency testing apply to the 2008 area-wide orders that will be universal, and apply to all PAS. Bowler clarifies the motion to test Guardian on the 2007 MOM protocols. There is no second.
- New motion on training/testing from Winkle seconded by Dickie: Moved that the 2008 area-wide MOM protocols would have competency testing process implemented for all PAS; process to accomplish testing and who will do it is still to be developed. Passed unanimously.
- Mr. LeBlanc asks for clarification on the issue of Guardian calling from FBX and requesting a Guardian ambulance. Dr. Levy thought it was going to Legal, CMO Crotty states it will be defined in the Dispatch P&I, current language states calls are

routed through dispatch and requests for specific PAS providers will be honored if they are available.

Administration Reports: EMS BC Tim Garbe

- AFD new hire testing is completed. Conditional employment offers extended to 40, including twelve with paramedic certifications. Academy begins 11/27.
- Ryan Staten has received provisional MICP license and began his AFD ALS Internship earlier this month.
- October EMS Shift Meetings on 10/29 & 30 at the Training Center. Retired FF/PM Debbie Schneider to be presenting on obstetrics and neonatal resuscitation advances. The patient safety and medication protocol update for AFD will be completed.
- AFD FluPOD disaster exercise (flu shots) scheduled for this week 10/25 – 27. Coincides with DHHS exercise for mass vaccinations of populace in an epidemic/pandemic. CMO Crotty adds AFD is tying in with the citywide vaccination program and also prepare for vaccinating AFD personnel if we ever had a large scale emergency.
- Chief's Scheunemann and Strahan will be attending the Anchorage Quarantine Station Tabletop Exercise this Wednesday (24th). The purpose of the Anchorage Quarantine Station Tabletop Exercise is to bring together emergency response, public health, and healthcare partners to identify and address issues associated with communicable disease detection, prevention, and response at the Anchorage Seaport.
- Admin Update: Executive Staff
 - Chief Schrage states monitoring CSP has been stepped up, AFD making regular visits and spot checks; satisfied they are in contract compliance. LeBlanc adds that this is due to an incident at Transfer Station where a client was not treated properly and captured on video.
 - The Assistant Chief of Training position is still vacant; Chief Schrage continues to fill in that role.
- Welcome Robert Bowler, FF/PM to the board.
- Mr. LeBlanc gives update on 10% wholesale alcohol tax proposal for April ballot, handout provided to the Board on plans for revenue usage with 70% to public safety and 30% to community based programs. 5000 collected signatures/7500 needed by 11/15/07. It was moved to send a letter to the Assembly chair stating EMS Board support for the Mayor's proposed budget, seconded and passed unanimously.

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

- Reviews the master version of the revised 2006 Utstein for Anchorage; overall numbers are still great. Chief's Sigsworth, Foster, Scheunemann and Dr. Levy met with AHA representative for the Northwest Region; AHA has grant money and wanted to see if AFD could get some funds.
- A violation occurred when a local hospital refused to take a patient that was on campus. It was reported, no harm done. The medic was right in what he did but need to re-emphasize at shift meetings that they should walk the patient or take the patient into that hospital and not allow denied access.
- New devices coming along as the money allows; non-nasal cannula, non-faced mask, Venturi mask for CPAP.

- Presented at the meeting of Eagles was a protocol to providing field cooling for comatose victims of cardiac arrest by paralyzing to facilitate cooling so they don't start shivering.

New Business

- Mr. LeBlanc comments difficulty dealing with the Rescue Mission on Tudor; there may be newspaper articles suggesting the City is inflexible, but we continue to work with them and find them a new location, but they seem unwilling. Dr. Brodsky notes the tremendous hazard to pedestrians crossing in that area and suggests a signal light if they remain in that area.
- Mr. LeBlanc states Bragaw extension will be called Elmore Road from Providence Drive to DeArmoun.

Calls for the 'good of the order': None

Adjournment: The October 23, 2007 MAB meeting was adjourned at 8:48 am.