

Broward Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council
December 2, 2021
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES – Skype

Call to Order

Alison Zerbe, Staff, called Skype regular meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Roll Call

Alison Zerbe called roll and quorum established.

Announcements:

Mute audio and if problems with Skype, dial in then, conference ID

Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2021:

MOTION to Accept the minutes of October 21, 2021.

Motion made by: Dr. Frederick Keroff

Seconded: Chief Jon Frasher

MOTION passed unanimously

Presentation by Hatzalah Emergency Medical Service – presenter, Andre Roitman, Executive Director, Inter-Agency Affairs, Hatzalah South Florida EMS, ARoitman@hsfems.org, 305-803-8302

- Created in New York in 1960s due to an incident in a Synagogue. It's based according to Jewish Orthodox law; strong in Jewish community but services all faiths.
- Hatzalah means rescue.
- Started with 40 volunteers now close to 5,000 volunteers, ambulances, etc.
- One hundred percent volunteer organization; every member at least an EMT and some Paramedics. More training for better outcomes. Works side by side with local 911 systems.
- Operational 24/7.
- Expanded into many communities in the United States and other countries.
- They all have full trauma kits, radios, full equipment and go in their private vehicles to a call. They have signage on vehicles and uniforms to signify they are Hatzalah.
- Not for profit medical emergency; no funding from local government; funded by private donations. Don't charge for the services.
- Andre Roitman, Hatzalah for 20 years, is a state licensed EMT. His industry is in financial field.
- 13 years ago started in Miami-Dade; started in Aventura when a patient collapsed and nobody knew what to do.
- Everyone relies on Hatzalah to guide Jewish laws in case of emergencies.
- As of January 2020, requested from cities of Hollywood, Hallandale, and Lauderdale to extend services into Broward County. Also extending into Palm Beach.

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- In July, 2021 Governor DeSantis signed into law a bill that allows faith-based organization established over ten years to be able to extend the services beyond the first response and to go into patient care in transport.
- Two weeks later the building in Surfside collapsed. At scene within 10 minutes with in 30 minutes had 50 volunteers on site. When Surfside condos came down Hatzalah got over 300 prescriptions for residents within two hours. Then gave patient care to the residents.
- First thing they do is call local agencies to begin communication. Started process of relationship with local hospitals.
- As of December, hope to start transporting. Now they are responding in Aventura then into every city they services. To-date they have purchase six new ambulances.
- Hatzalah has CAD system to track and record all their response time and fire department's time. Every dispatcher is state licensed EMT and responder.
- Emergency calls through hotline 305-919-4900 and dispatch services.

[Recommendation for Appointment/Reappointment:](#)

N/A

[Recently Approved Appointments/Reappointments by Commission 10-19-2021](#)

Chief Matthew Whitton, EMS Chief, of City of Pompano Beach, appointed by Lamar Fisher 11-4-2021

[Vacancies:](#)

Advanced Life Support (ALS): County Provider

Advanced Life Support (ALS): Private Provider

American Heart Association, Broward County Chapter

American Red Cross, Broward County Chapter

Appointee of Commissioner Beam Furr

Appointee of Commissioner Mark D. Bogen

Appointee of Commissioner Tim Ryan

Appointee of Commissioner Michael Udine

Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.

Hospitals: Memorial Healthcare System, Administration

Law Enforcement Representative, Union Representative

[Committee Reports:](#)

[Legislative Update – Alison Zerbe reported](#)

- SB502 – (COPCN) Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity. This requires a county with a population exceeding One million people to any applicant if the applicant has been operating in the state for ten years or more. Have to have three

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COPCNs in other counties in Florida. They have provided Intergovernmental Affairs a fact sheet about this. As of this morning, temporarily postponed.

- SB330 – Medicaid modernization. This authorizes Medicaid to reimburse for fires for certain remote evaluations and patient monitoring services. It was favorable by Health Policy, unanimously. Now in subcommittee Health and Human Services.
- SB200 – First Responder employment related accidents and injuries. This would expand eligibility for certain workers compensation benefits to include correction officers and 911 dispatchers. Filed in September and referred to Banking and Insurance Health Policy and Appropriations.
- Can go to FloridaSenate.gov. Reach out to A. Zerbe if you have any issues.

<https://legiscan.com/FL/pending/senate-health-policy-committee/id/2689?page=1>

Executive Committee – Dr. Frederick Keroff reported

No report.

Public Information, Education – Chief Joel Gordon reported

- Annual PIO symposium. It is tied into fire rescue east. It's a huge symposium on Friday, January 21, 2022, in Daytona Beach at the Hilton. Three days before they have training where they are introducing the new L105 course (combined 290 and 291 and added half day class) from FEMA on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Wednesday and Thursday they are doing their advanced PIO skills program, developed as part of PIO master program. Registration is open through the FSCA website.

EMS Conference – Chief Bruce Caruso reported

- 25th Anniversary theme is *Honoring the Past, Connecting the Present, Developing the Future*. Dates are June 13-17, 2022 and partnering with the Gathering of Eagles. It will be a full week of training, presentations, sponsors and expanding vendor space. Two representative from Miami-Dade fire rescue joined the committee Chief Willy Williams and Chief Javier Presbow. There will be presentation on the Surfside collapse. Registration planned for February

Medical Issues – Dr. Frederick Keroff reported

No report

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)– Andrew Masters reported

- There is new training class, that is full, provided through the Fire Chiefs' Association.
- Did a quick deployment in the Keys/Monroe County for a pediatric drowning. They were able to do resources for hospital and for the crews that responded to the call.
- They have a clinician awareness program that is being put on by the Florida Health and Safety Collaborative at Coral Springs in two weeks.

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EMS Review – Alison Zerbe reported

- They had two EMS Review Committee meetings. The first was to review a new COPCN application from Coastal Care Corporation d/b/a as Cleveland Clinic Advance Medical Transportation. Cleveland Care Corp. would provide BLS and ALS transportation services. The EMS Review Committee has allowed them a COPCN for three years. They need three recommendations going forward to the County Commissions for a public hearing on December 7. Can sign up to speak at commission meeting.
- Second meeting was about existing ambulance providers. Up for renewal this year, their COPCNs are good for five years as long as they meet the application ordinance requirements; they are reviewed by consumer protection and renewed. If a formal complaint within the last five years they must go before the EMS Review Committee. Two of the four companies have formal complaints which have been resolved. They had to go before EMS Review Committee and committee has recommended to renew their COPCN. This should go before the Commission in January.

Grant Committee – Alison Zerbe reported

- Last meeting, they presented to EMS Council the 2022 grant fund. EMS Council agreed to move grant fund recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. That recommendation is set to go before the Board on December 7. If approved we would apply for the funds from Florida Department of Health and when approved we will move forward on projects.
- Florida Department of Health has also announced an application for matching grant funds. There is a 25% state agency to a 75% state match to improve or expand EMS in Broward County. Any organization can apply for these funds. BSO received funding last year. Deadline is February 11, 2022 by 3:00 p.m. Information on floridahealth.gov. A. Zerbe will assist if you need some pointers.

Nominating Committee – A. Zerbe reported

- Need to form a Nomination Committee to vote on an executive board. Need Chairs for the EMS Review Committee and Grants Committee. If you are interested in these committee or Chair reach out to A. Zerbe.

Old Business

- Had some talk last meeting about integrating EMS Subcommittee of the Fire Chiefs' Association with the EMS Council. EMS Council is a direct ear to the county commission and gives recommendations based on EMS related in the county. These meeting are sunshined. What is discussed in EMS Council stays in meeting. Two council members cannot discuss EMS Council business outside this meeting. EMS Subcommittee is different than the EMS Council.

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New Business – Alison Zerbe

Nothing to report.

Good of the Order

Nothing to report.

Next Meeting Dates

March 3, 2022

June 2, 2022

September 1, 2022

December 1, 2022

Adjourned

2:17 p.m.