

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

Call to Order

Ralph Marrinson, Chair, called meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

Announcements

No announcements.

Roll Call

Alison Zerbe called roll and quorum established.

Approval of Minutes from January 10, 2019

MOTION TO ACCEPT the minutes made by Dr. Frederick Keroff and SECONDED by Dr. Craig Mallak/Zeff Ross.

MOTION passed unanimously.

Presentation

Dr. Brijesh P. Mehta, spoke on the South Florida EMS Stroke Coalition-Promoting Data Transparency with EMS. Dr. Peter Antevy, Dr. Randy Katz, and Dr. Brijesh P. Mehta are involved in furthering the goal, with the University of Miami, of this pilot project.

- Coalition goal is to give EMS Medical Directors and medics at the ground level a better understanding of the quality of stroke care, to assist with EMS triaging decisions.
- Last few years significant advances in stroke.
- Timing is everything; the faster patient is treated better the outcome.
- Florida has many AHCA Attested primary and comprehensive stroke centers.
- Coalition has developed a regional quality standardized dashboard for stroke.
- Issue is to take patients to the right center the first time.
- Issue is how fast is the treatment when you take stroke patient to the hospital.
- Closest facility may not be best if stroke treatment is inefficient.
- Every 30 minutes that passes with blockage in brain, a good outcome goes down 18-20%.
- Now, treatments available to make a difference.
- Coalition, with the University of Miami, is encouraging every stroke center in Florida to submit data to the Florida/Puerto Rico Registry on a quarterly basis.
- Some stroke centers have resisted to submit data to these registries.
- Hospital possibly not share information if they are not proud of their work and outcomes.
- We have embarked on a model for the rest of the country (one-of-a-kind).
- Probably about 80% of the facilities are now onboard.

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

- Want the EMS Medical Directors to go to these hospitals and request the regional dashboard; standardized data dashboard that the coalition has created that conveys pertinent information including outcomes, to the EMS.
- Data should be freely shared with the EMS.
- The dashboard can benchmark each facility.
- They want the EMS Medical Director and EMS Council leaders to put pressure on facilities that don't share their data with the registry; go as far as bypassing them.
- It's about minimizing the discrepancies in care across the stroke centers and the dashboard holds these hospitals accountable.
- They are going to publish this at a national level.
- Dr Mehta has presented it at the International Stroke Conference to be adopted as a model, nationally.
- Going to Tallahassee next month to present these initiatives as part of the Get Ahead of Stroke Campaign.
- Needs EMS leadership buy-in to be successful; EMS leaders need to ask hospital stroke coordinators for their standardized dashboards.
- No extra work; they are extracting stroke data from other registries.
- Because the stroke initiative needs funding, it must be done the most sustainable way; front runner is the University of Miami.
- Coalition is giving podcasts/tutorials on how to interpret the data.
- This initiative is the first phase, then measure the trends to minimize discrepancies on the dashboard, as much as possible.
- Gold standard to certify stroke centers is the Joint Commission.

[New Appointments as of 2-21-2019](#)

Dr. John Cunha, Hospital: Nonprofit/Proprietary
Chief Julie Downey, Transport: Municipal Fire
Danielle Fuller, Transport: Aircraft
Chief Joel Gordon, ALS: Municipal Provider
Chief Bruce Caruso, ALS: County Provider
Stephen Parr, ALS: Private Provider

[Recommendation for Appointment/Reappointment](#)

Dr. Peter Antevy, Physicians: Prehospital Medical Director expiring 3/17/2019
Jenna DiPlacido, EMS Dispatch, County or Municipal expiring 6/4/2019

MOTION TO RECOMMEND made by Charles Wohlitka and SECONDED by Dr. Niqui Kiffin.

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

MOTION passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Legislative Update – Alison Zerbe

SB302: Nonemergency Medical Transportation Services:

1. Authorizing Medicaid nonemergency transportation services to be provided to all Medicaid recipient by certain transportation network companies or brokers.
2. AHCA would regulate.
3. Authorizing BLS or ALS ambulances to provide nonemergency Medicaid transport in permitted ambulances in any county, at the request of a certain eligible plan.

Pending. Senate Banking and Insurance Committee – 3/11/2019

SB722: Carrying of firearms by Tactical Medical Professionals:

1. Exempting certain licensed medical professionals from specific provisions concerning the carrying of firearms.
2. Requiring certain policies of law enforcement regarding this.
3. Providing immunity and privileges for such professionals.

Pending. Senate Judiciary Committee – 3/11/2019

SB98: Emergency Medical Air Transportation Services:

1. Creates an “Emergency Medical Air Transportation Act”.
2. Directs DOH to set up an account within the EMS trust fund providing increase in Medicaid reimbursement to emergency medical air providers. Add \$1.00 to moving violations to fund.

Pending. Senate Health Policy Committee – no date

SB1182: Emergency Medical Services:

1. Authorizes PMD and EMT to provide other treatment and transport options.
2. Provides immunity from liability for certain medical and law enforcement personnel providing emergency exam and treatment of incapacitated persons in certain circumstances.
3. Authorizes paramedics to administer a controlled substance only under the supervision of certain healthcare practitioners.

Pending. Senate Health Policy Committee – no date

SB206: Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment:

1. Establishes physician orders for life-sustaining treatment program within the DOH for specific purposes.
2. Specifying which documents take precedence when forms with advance directives conflict.
3. Establishing a database accessible to those healthcare providers involved.

Pending . Senate Health Policy – no date

SB1790 Medical Services and Insurance (Senate just filed 3/1/2019):

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

1. Requires DOH to adopt statewide fee schedules for services, supplies, and care provided in hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers.
2. Providing requirements for specific licensed medical professionals for diagnostic testing and treatment plans.
3. Revising medical benefits requirements under personal injury protection coverage.

SB1526: Telehealth:

1. Prohibits Medicaid managed care plans from using providers who exclusively provide services through telehealth to achieve network adequacy.
2. Defines telehealth and telehealth providers.
3. Prohibits telehealth providers from using telehealth to prescribe controlled substances.
4. Prohibits health maintenance organizations from requiring a subscriber to receive services via telehealth.

All Senate Bill have a companion Bill in the House.

[Executive Committee – Ralph Marrinson](#)

Nothing to report

[EMS Grant – Zeff Ross](#)

Nothing to report.

[Public Information, Education – Chief Joel Gordon](#)

- Chief Joel Gordon reported that there is a G290 basic class at the Governor's Hurricane Conference.
- Chief Gordon has been approached by Broward County to do a G290, locally (when date/place is confirmed he will announce).

[EMS Conference – Chief Bruce Caruso](#)

- Chief B. Caruso reported the 23rd Annual First There First Care (FTFC) Conference Committee met on February 21.
- To-date received about \$34,000 from sponsors and vendors. Takes about \$160,000-\$175,000 for the conference.
- They have 12 vendors that have registered and use Eventbrite.
- Actual conference is on Thursday, June 6, but start Monday, June 3 at the Bonaventure Spa and Resort in Weston.
- Incorporating as many disciplines as possible into the conference.
- Next meeting, Thursday, March 14, at Medical Examiner's office.

[Medical Issues/Infectious Exposure – Dr. Frederick Keroff](#)

Nothing to report.

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

EMS Review – Chief Bruce Caruso

They will be meeting follow this meeting and reviewing six class 5 nonemergency medical transport applications.

Nominating Committee – Dr. David Kimpel

Nothing to report.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

New Business

First, Ralph Marrinson was asked a few weeks ago about the number of paramedics in Broward County, how many units they have, and was there a labor shortage in these classifications.

- Because she has not found such a list, A. Zerbe will be reaching out to her contacts in the municipalities.
- She has reached out to the state and she didn't get the information she needed.
- A. Zerbe has also reached out to Rick Sluman from the Environmental Protection Agency and he is compiling a list from ambulance companies who apply to Broward County, and he is reaching out to different agencies.
- EOC, the emergency management department, and the RDSTF do not have this type of list.
- EMS Council does not have a research committee, currently. R. Marrinson suggested that they reactivate a research committee to work with staff to get this information and know our resources.
- Dr. Wayne Lee wanted to know how you would use this information and what if they found there was more or less than needed. R. Marrinson said he doesn't know that there is any national standards.

Second, A. Zerbe announced a flyer for Public Safety Leadership Academy at Broward College. It a four-week academy class (first week April 1-5, 2019) for public safety professionals who aspire to become supervisors or new supervisors. The cost is \$1,500.00 per student.

Third, A. Zerbe was recently appointed to the State Matching Grant Review Team. Ranking forms are do on March 29. A. Zerbe can be a liaison for Broward County applicants, but she cannot vote on Broward County grants.

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

Fourth, since the FTFC Conference falls on the same day as the next EMS Council, June 6, R. Marrinson will be announcing, within the next few weeks, a new date for the EMS Council.

Fifth, the next State EMS Advisory Council Meeting is April 16-18, at Embassy Suite in Boca Raton. The Broward's Resuscitation Academy is a model for the state for raising ROSC rates. They want to recreate the Resuscitation Academy every time they have a state meeting (quarterly). Go around the state and put on a mini-resuscitation center training; train colleagues around the state.

- At the FTFC Conference has a mini-session will be the Resuscitation Academy, lead by Chief Gonzalez, Davie Fire Rescue.

Sixth, Dr. C. Mallak just returned from lecturing at an EMS Convention in London. They thought it was unacceptable that our paramedics go out with guns. There are only two helicopters in London, and they take two doctors and a paramedic. They carry blood, surgical kit, and everything with them. The two doctors and paramedic get off the helicopter and return in the ambulance with the patient. The helicopter comes back empty. (Very different helicopters that use exhaust.) They will start to give blood and definitive treatment in the ambulance. They will stop traffic to do emergency surgery. They don't put the patient in the helicopter to bring them back; very different from how we do it here. They run between 5-10 calls a day from the London Royal Hospital. Helicopters are donated and not part of the healthcare system; they were donated by Branson (Virgin Air). All done with donations.

R. Marrinson said now they have a second charge for the research committee.

Dr. Mallak asked if there was anywhere in the United States that they dump the doctors off and come back in ambulance; not in the helicopter.

It is common in Europe. One thing we are looking at doing is carrying blood products. Broward County is expanding, and the Everglades is a location that things could be done on the side of the road. Also, looking at reviewing Broward County's auto-launching; Broward County will be able to launch on a standby basis for locations that are farther away.

Broward Regional EMS Council
March 7, 2019
1:30 p.m.
MINUTES

Good of the Order

Chief B. Caruso introduced, Danielle Fuller, the BSO's new Chief Pilot. She is from California and has 12 years of experience. BSO is now going to have a dedicated fire air rescue helicopter and will have four additional pilots.

Next Meeting Dates

June 6, 2019, September 5, 2019, and December 5, 2019 (Ralph Marrinson said they will probably have to move the June and December meeting dates).

Adjourned

2:21 pm