

MINUTES

AREA METROPOLITAN AMBULANCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**551 EAST BERRY STREET
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76110**

**February 24, 2010
10:00 am**

The Area Metropolitan Ambulance Authority Board of Directors met on February 24, 2010 at the Ambulance Authority offices.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Dr. John Griswell. Board members present were Byron Black, Dr. John Griswell, Robert Hampton, Paul Harral and Sakura Moten-Dedrick. Zim Zimmerman was absent.

II. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Others present were Matt Goetz, Jack Eades, Joyce Brown, Matt Zavadsky, Stacy Raborn, David Lamb, Tammy Oberst and Lara Kohl with MedStar, Kaye Sheets and Daniel Ebbett with Emergency Physicians Advisory Board and Brian Kriss with the Fort Worth Fire Fighter's Association.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

BC-1002 Approval of minutes for board meeting of January 27, 2010

BC-1003 Approval of check registers for the month of January 2010.

A motion was made by Robert Hampton to approve the consent agenda and was seconded by Byron Black. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. MONTHLY REPORTS

A. Operations Report

Matt Zavadsky reviewed the staffing report included in the board packet. He explained the number of paramedics had dropped by four because of paramedics serving in the Advanced Paramedic role.

Mr. Zavadsky told the board the overall response time compliance in January was 91.6 percent and all of the individual response time levels had improved compared to December.

Mr. Zavadsky updated the board on progress being made in the Community Health Program. MedStar has seen a 57.2 percent reduction of 9-1-1 use by enrolled clients. Harris and JPS hospitals have begun referring patients into the program. Mr. Zavadsky explained that a new pilot protocol has been developed for one patient who has not complied with the program (a system abuser).

Mr. Zavadsky highlighted EMS Grand Rounds, new monthly program starting March 4, that will review selected recent calls and include all care providers, including MedStar, first responders and hospital staff.

Mr. Zavadsky explained a new pilot policy for cardiac arrest patients that calls for not transporting these patients with light and sirens to ensure more effective CPR can be conducted en route and to lessen the potential for accidents. Mr. Zavadsky explained that nearly 44 percent of all ambulance collisions happen while crews are traveling with lights and sirens. The new pilot policy is anticipated to go into effect mid-March.

Mr. Zavadsky also updated the board on a meeting addressing a more effective process for responding to calls from the Tarrant County jail, including waiting until a transport officer arrives before sending an ambulance, and/or sending an Advanced Practice Paramedic instead of a MICU.

B. Financial Report

Joyce Brown gave the financial report for the month of January 2010, stating totaled collected for the month was \$2,027,620, 31.56 percent of billed and 41.79 percent collected year-to-date. A detailed statement of revenue and expenditures by department was included in the board packets, starting on page 28.

C. EPAB Monthly Report

Dr. John Griswell mentioned MedStar's Critical Care Transport service began last week and their protocols will formally be approved by the Emergency Physicians Advisory Board at their February meeting.

He also updated the board on the Community Health Program, stating there has been a 57 percent decrease in call volume by enrolled patients. MedStar has begun receiving participant referrals from hospitals.

Dr. Griswell explained a potential new treatment using hypothermia to treat cardiac arrest patients. Before MedStar can adopt this procedure it must also be maintained by area hospitals and not many are consistently using it right now. Dr. Griswell said he hoped more hospitals would start utilizing the procedure in coming months and that MedStar would then start taking cardiac arrest patient to those hospitals.

Dr. Griswell also shared with the board photos and anecdotes from his recent medical relief mission to Haiti.

V. OTHER DISCUSSION

Jack Eades briefed the board on recent work on creating an avenue for MedStar to accept charitable donations. Mr. Eades mentioned an informational meeting staff had with the Amon Carter Foundation and the recommendation for MedStar to start pursuing charitable donations through already-established relationships while continuing to build awareness in the community.

Mr. Eades also mentioned that Matt Zavadsky would be receiving the EMS 10: Innovators in EMS award at the EMS Today Conference in Baltimore.

Mr. Eades invited the board to tour the Communications Center after the meeting adjourned to see the new Deployment Monitor system recently installed.

VI. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Paul Harral made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Byron Black. Dr. Griswell adjourned the meeting at 11:07.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Hampton
Secretary