

MINUTES

AREA METROPOLITAN AMBULANCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

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

October 26, 2011

10:00 am

The Area Metropolitan Ambulance Authority Board of Directors met on October 26, 2011 at the Ambulance Authority offices.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Zim Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. Board members present were Dr. Robert Adams, Byron Black and Dr. Jeff Beeson. Absent were Paul Harral and Dr. Rajesh Gandhi.

II. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Others present were Jack Eades, Matt Zavadsky, Joyce Brown, Paul Trusty, John Elder, Bob Strickland, Shaun Curtis and Suzy Miller all with MedStar; Richard Neuhaus of the Fort Worth Fire Department; and AMAA Board Attorney, Matt Goetz.

III. CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS

No citizen presentations were requested or made.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

BC-1078 Approval of minutes for board meeting of September 28, 2011.

BC-1079 Approval of check registers for the month of September 28, 2011.

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

V. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS

A. Operations Report

Matt Zavadsky reported that MedStar did not make response time compliance for the month of September but noted that it was not missed by much and that things are pacing well for October.

Call volume was down slightly in September but October has already had some peak days. A detailed worksheet was distributed for the board's review.

Dr. Beeson pointed out that the current response time compliance numbers reflect the new higher standard of accounting for all calls without exemptions available in the past, and that under the previous standards, MedStar would be in the 93-94% compliance range.

HR and the Clinical teams have upcoming interviews and ongoing training for 13 paramedics in the coming weeks and 4 medics are likely to be released from training within a few days. Current interviews will impact summer 2012 summer staffing. He also noted there are 8 paramedics currently in field training.

In reviewing current staff and schedule trends, MedStar is seeing that many staff are opting to go part time in order to have the ability to work full time hours but not be tied to a set schedule. This practice is impacting scheduling on traditionally hard-to-fill shifts. Discussions are scheduled for next week to review the number of PT medics and options for keeping those who need more scheduling flexibility.

Dr. Beeson suggested looking into incentivizing less-popular shifts, similarly to practices at some hospitals; Mr. Zavadsky plans to review to see if a similar plan would be viable.

Mr. Zavadsky also provided some program updates:

- CHF program – Drs. Beeson and Davis have contributed significantly to developing and finalizing the protocols needed for augmenting the services available through this program. The protocols will be reviewed at the next EPAB board meeting.
- Hospice Patient Program – discussions are on-going with area hospice agencies about partnering to help reduce the number of unnecessary ambulance transports for hospice patients.
- CHP Program – MedStar has been contacted by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Health Care Innovations Exchange about featuring program information on their resource website to be accessible for other agencies seeking ideas.
- Opticom – Field Supervisor Shaun Curtis is leading pilot study on this program and reported that the numbers have improved since the programming issues with the city lights are beginning to be addressed.
- Nurse Advice / Triage Program – MedStar submitted a grant application to the Amon G. Carter Foundation to support this program and the Community Foundation of North Texas has agreed to serve as the fiscal agent for the grant, should it be awarded.

Chairman Zimmerman noted that plans are being looked at for funding the proposed Far North Fort Worth modified posting plan on a pilot basis in 3o-to-4 month increments. He also commented that MedStar was well-represented at the Alliance Air Show.

B. Public Information Report

Suzy Miller presented a media report on clips received since the last board meeting.

C. Financial Report

Ms. Brown gave the financial report for the month of August 2011, stating total collected for the month was \$2,730,979.00, or 43.39% collections for the month and 41.39% collected year-to-date. A detailed statement of revenue and expenditures by department was included in the board packet.

D. EPAB Monthly Report

Dr. Beeson reported that the EPAB board meeting would be conducted the following day and among the topics discussed would be transport protocols for the new Alliance Stand Alone ER

VII. OTHER DISCUSSION

Chairman Zimmerman requested that the board and staff hold November and December board meeting dates on their calendars, but that the sessions may be pushed to January should there not be a pressing need to meet.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held.

IX. RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION

BC-1080 Act on items from Closed Session

No closed session was held.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at 10:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Rajesh Gandhi
Secretary