

MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

FACILITIES ADVISORY BOARD

November 3, 2004—8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karla Perez, Chairman, Spring Valley Hospital
Donald Kwalick, M.D., Chief Health Officer, CCHD
D. Blain Claypool, UMC
Renato Baciarelli, St. Rose Dominican/Rose de Lima
Jonna Triggs, Southern NV Adult Mental Health Services
Jennifer Schomburg, Summerlin Hospital

Tad Morley, MountainView Hospital
Sam Kaufman, Desert Springs Hospital
Ingrid Whipple, Montevista
John Ruffner, Valley Hospital
Kim Crandell, Boulder City Hospital
Mary Jo Solon, Southern Hills Hospital

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jeff Davidson, M.D., Valley Hospital
Cory Countryman, North Vista Hospital

Rod Davis, St. Rose Dominican/Siena
Suzanne Cram, Sunrise Hospital

CCHD STAFF PRESENT

Rory Chetelat, EMS Manager
Trish Beckwith, Field Representative
Jane Shunney, R.N., Asst. to the Chief Health Officer
Moana Hanawahine-Yamamoto, Recording Secretary

Joseph Heck, D.O., Operational Med. Dir.
Eddie Tajima, Administrative Asst.
Jim Osti, Grant Writer

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Pete Carlo, EMT-P, SWA
Derek Cox, EMT-P, AMR
Pam Turner, R.N., Valley
Ingrid Whipple, Montevista
Brian Rogers, EMT-P, SWA

Roy Carroll, AMR
Margaret Russitano, Sunrise
Mike Myers, EMT-P, LVFR
JoAnn Lujan, Westcare
Allen Marino, M.D., St. Rose

I. CONSENT AGENDA

The Facilities Advisory Board convened in the Clemens Room of the Ravenholt Public Health Center on Wednesday, November 3, 2004. Chairman Karla Perez called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. and the Affidavit of Posting was noted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Ms. Perez noted that a quorum was present.

Minutes Facilities Advisory Board Meeting September 13, 2004

Chairman Perez asked for approval of the minutes of the September 13, 2004 meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes as written.

II. REPORT/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Mental Health/Legal 2000 Patient Transports – Rory Chetelat

Rory Chetelat from the Health District proposed a level-loading system where the EMS providers would attempt to transport mental health patients to the nearest hospital with the lowest number of Legal 2000s posted on the EMS system. The current rotation requires EMS providers to travel out of their jurisdiction to level-load the system across the valley. It does not take into account the EMS providers need to properly care for many other patients within the community. Chairman Perez agreed that the current system does put a burden on the EMS providers with longer transport times as well as costs to the hospitals with transporting these mental health patients back to their homes after being discharged.

Renato Baciarelli suggested there be two triggers added to this operations protocol. The first is to transport within a region and then, when the facilities are at their predetermined critical capacities, the EMS providers would transport outside of the region. Mr. Chetelat explained that relaying this “live” information in the field would be difficult because the Legal 2000s numbers are constantly changing. Dr. Heck stated the nurse managers gave a range of 6-8 as the facilities critical capacity. The number of Legal 2000s on the EMS system is at critical capacity almost daily requiring constant rotation.

Tad Morley also voiced his concern because it does not take into account the proportion of emergency department beds in each hospital. Mr. Chetelat noted that he has tried to get this proportion information from the hospitals and has been unable to get an agreement.

Jonna Triggs advised that she has added a psychiatrist to assist the mobile crisis team. This psychiatrist works with the ED doctors to start medications with the understanding that these mental health patients would be discharged to his care on the next day. Ms. Triggs did explain that her department is seriously overspent in their residential support budget and she is aggressively trying to find alternatives to alleviate the burden on the hospitals; however, the problem is money and she needs to wait until the next legislative session for approval of her budget. The new mental health hospital is slated to open in 2006.

Jennifer Schomburg made a motion to approve the Legal 2000 Patient Transport Guidelines Operations Protocol with the amendment under IIA. EMS Providers will attempt to level-load the system by transporting mental health patients, as defined above, to the closest hospital within a region that has the lowest number of Legal 2000 patients recorded on EMS system. The motion was seconded and passed by the Board. Tad Morley opposed the motion.

B. Hospitals’ Internal Disaster Procedure – Suzanne Cram

Mr. Chetelat explained that this is an unofficial procedure guideline where hospitals and EMS providers with resource issues such as equipment/staff shortages will help each other. Once the EMS office is contacted, an alert will be put on the EMS system as well as the Emergency Notification System to arrange a conference call where all of the key players will jointly come up with solutions to prevent the impending disaster.

A motion to adopt this guideline as a resolution was made. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the Board.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/DISCUSSION ONLY

None.

IV. PUBLIC APPEARANCE/CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No response.

V. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Chairwoman Karla Perez called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:21 a.m.