

MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

FACILITIES ADVISORY BOARD

January 12, 2005—8:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karla Perez, Chairman, Spring Valley Hospital
Jeff Davidson, M.D., Valley Hospital
D. Blain Claypool, UMC
Renato Baciarelli, St. Rose Dominican/Rose de Lima
Kim Crandell, Boulder City Hospital

Tad Morley, MountainView Hospital
Sam Kaufman, Desert Springs Hospital
Ingrid Whipple, Montevista
John Ruffner, Valley Hospital
Suzanne Cram, Sunrise Hospital

ALTERNATES

Davette Shea, Southern Hills Hospital

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rod Davis, St. Rose Dominican/Siena
Donald Kwalick, M.D., Chief Health Officer, CCHD
Jonna Triggs, Southern NV Adult Mental Health Services

Cory Countryman, North Vista Hospital
Mary Jo Solon, Southern Hills Hospital
Jennifer Schomburg, Summerlin Hospital

CCHD STAFF PRESENT

Rory Chetelat, EMS Manager
Trish Beckwith, Field Representative
Jim Osti, Grant Writer
Mary Ellen Britt, RN., QI Coordinator

Lawrence Sands, D.O., Director CHS
Eddie Tajima, Administrative Asst.
Judy Tabat, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Don Hales, EMT-P, SWA
Margaret Russitano, Sunrise
Pam Turner, R.N., Valley
JoAnn Lujan, WestCare
Kathy Kopka, Sunrise Hospital
Brian Rogers, EMT-P, SWA

Karen Faulis, Valley Hospital
Lauri Carlson, Montevista
Dan Musgrove, Clark County
Judith Hendriksen, Spring Valley
John Wilson, EMT-P, SWA

I. CONSENT AGENDA

The Facilities Advisory Board convened in the Clemens Room of the Ravenholt Public Health Center on Wednesday, January 12, 2005. Chairman Karla Perez called the meeting to order at 8:35 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 November 3, 2004

Chairman Perez asked for approval of the minutes of the November 3, 2004 meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes as written.

II. REPORT/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Continuation of Mental Health Crisis

Ms. Perez brought to the board a request from the County Managers Office that they end the declaration of the crisis that was started in July. Ms. Perez was opposed to this request and Dan Musgrove from Clark County agreed since the numbers still continue to stay at levels that each of the facilities shouldn't have to deal with. He felt it was appropriate to leave it as is and readdress it if the numbers change. Ms. Perez has scheduled a meeting with some of the legislatures on the 21st of January to make sure they understand this ongoing crisis.

Ms. Perez addressed Rory Chetelat with a concern that the feedback she is receiving indicates that the policy where patients would be transported to the closest hospital with the lowest number of transports is not happening. Blain Claypool concurred that the numbers show level loading is not happening. Brian Rogers from Southwest Ambulance felt they were level loading and the biggest problem was the terminology and that four different agencies are transporting. Tad Morley commented that level loading in terms of pure numbers would bring back the need to reinstitute internal disaster and divert policies because the facilities do not have the beds.

Davette Shea stated the reason it worked in July was due to the gate keeping done by the charge nurses and also WestCare opening up additional beds. Ms. Shea felt a gatekeeper is critical by having one point of origin for a communication system to make those calls, evaluate patient census and work with EMS, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health and WestCare. Ms. Perez also felt that if a patient is medically cleared regardless of where you're holding them geographically in the hospital they should also be counted. Dr. Jeff Davidson also felt that patients not yet legalled but actively being worked up should be noted in the EMS system since services still have to be provided. He felt when we had a central dispatch, a divert system, rotation and a capacity cap it wasn't perfect, but it worked.

Mr. Chetelat presented a statistical report for June and December numbers that were screen shots of the EMS system. Also included was an analysis done by the Health District's statisticians on a two procedure scenario; one that dictated policy in June and one that dictated policy in December, and the significance of how those policies impacted the numbers. This analysis showed no real significant difference in the statistical analysis of the June numbers versus the December numbers.

Dr. Davidson added that the bottom line is, when any facility hits a certain number and they have reached their limit and cannot do anymore, they shouldn't get anymore transports until they go below the set number or until every facility is at that number.

Mr. Chetelat commented that we are unable to broaden the definition because our legal council has advised us we cannot do that. So if there are better suggestions he'd be glad to take them to committee and work on some other ideas. Ms. Perez advised that until we can have some sort of outlet for these patients the number almost becomes irrelevant in terms of the discussion.

Blain Claypool made a motion to reinstate a capacity cap and it was seconded.

Ms. Perez asked if the board wanted to include a maximum capacity number in the motion. Dr. Davidson suggested that the cap be set high and be prepared for the worst, because if set too

low EMS will be driving all over the city with long wait times. Dr. Davidson mentioned that the forty five minute agenda item was voted on and passed by the MAB. He recommended that the facilities do their best to meet this offload time for the mental health patients.

Don Hales from Southwest Ambulance wanted to reiterate that legal patients are the only ones that will be rotated, mental health patients fall outside of that rotation. Mr. Chetelat concurred with Mr. Hale's statement. Mr. Claypool rescinded his motion based on this information and yielded the floor to Mr. Kaufman who made a motion to change the current language from legal to mental health. Mr. Chetelat explained that this has already been taken to our legal staff and they won't support that because you can't refuse their right to choose a hospital if they're not under a legal hold. Dr. Davidson voiced his concern stating that legal 2000 is not a chief complaint and there has to be a chief complaint to the 911 system.

Sam Kaufman made a motion to: 1) reinstitute a diversion policy with the 911 system that institutes a mental health rotation based on the chief complaint or diagnosis of depression, suicidal ideation or legal 2000; and 2) reinstate a nine-patient maximum capacity per facility across the whole city. Mr. Claypool seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms Perez stated that we need to get legal opinion on the motion prior to implementation.

B. Funding for WestCare

Ms. Perez stated she received a request from a hospital to look at the funding distribution because they thought that they were being unfairly assessed based on their volumes. Mr. Musgrove explained the figures and formula based on December numbers which is a full 6 months. Mr. Musgrove also stated there was enough language in the contract that gave them the flexibility to go ahead and reevaluate each hospital's share to provide to the community triage center. Mr. Musgrove also reported that we would need to reevaluate going forward in the new fiscal year beginning July as to what we as a community do in terms of community triage. Ms. Perez stated the facilities will need new rate sheets and have the initial approvers of the MOU approve their new numbers. Mr. Musgrove will email the new rate sheets to the appropriate personnel.

Mr. Morley suggested that they meet to come up with creative short term and long term solutions before meeting with the legislature. Ms. Perez stated that there are several short term solutions in the plan but the funding just isn't here today. The FAB will reconvene meeting within the next two weeks and have Dr. Triggs do her presentation. Mr. Musgrove stated that WestCare has put in a proposal to use the Martin Luther King 40 bed unit essentially recreating the occupancy that we had in July until the new hospital opens but suggests that the hospitals strategize an initial case to be made. Ms. Perez stated that a contract was proposed to the state at least 5 months ago.

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 10:21 a.m.