



MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM

TRANSFER OF CARE COMMITTEE

November 5, 2008 – 9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Randy Howell, Chairman
John Higley, Mesquite Fire & Rescue
Chad Henry, EMT-P, MWA
Amy Bochenek, Centennial Hills Hospital
James Holtz, RN, Valley Hospital
J.D. Melchiode, Mountain View Hospital
Jackie Levy, University Medical Center

Mike Teague, AMR-Las Vegas (Alt)
Chief Mike Myers, LVF&R
Troy Tuke, EMT-P, CCFD
Fred Neujahr, RN, Sunrise Hospital
Patricia Hatcher, RN, Spring Valley Hospital
Mary Ann Dube, St. Rose Siena

MEMBERS ABSENT

Roy Carroll, AMR-Las Vegas
Chief Kevin Nicholson, BCFD
Andre Pastian, Boulder City Hospital
Jennifer Poyer, RN, Desert Springs Hospital
Karla Perez, UHS
Virginia DeLeon, St. Rose de Lima
Michelle Dimoff, Summerlin Hospital

Julie Siemers, Mercy Air Services
Sheila Mussotter, Mesa View Hospital
David Embly, North Vista Hospital
Gigi Pusateri, Southern Hills Hospital
Bruce Evans, EMT-P, NLVFD
Catherine Ryan, St. Rose San Martin

SNHD STAFF PRESENT

Rory Chetelat, EMSTS Manager
Trish Beckwith, EMS Field Rep.
Lan Lam, Administrative Assistant

Mary Ellen Britt, Regional Trauma Coordinator
Judy Tabat, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Brian Rogers, EMT-P, HFD
Sandy Young, LVF&R
Vickie Wright, NHA (via phone)
Eric Fiala, Commerx (via phone)

Ron Tucker, EMT-P, MWA
Davette Shea, Desert Springs Hospital
Chelsea Webster, Commerx (via phone)

I. CONSENT AGENDA

The Transfer of Care (TOC) Committee convened in the Clemens Room of the Ravenholt Public Health Center on Wednesday, November 5, 2008. Chairman Howell called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and the Affidavit of Posting was noted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Mr. Howell noted that a quorum was present.

Minutes TOC Committee Meeting September 16, 2008.

Chief Howell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2008 TOC Committee meeting. John Higley asked that it be noted that Boulder City Fire and Mesquite Fire & Rescue do not utilize the CAD system. A motion to accept the minutes with this revision was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

II. REPORT/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Discussion of Continuation of the TOC Software

Chief Howell started off the discussion by stating that he, Rory Chetelat and Karla Perez had a teleconference with Commerx, the company that bought Roam IT, to discuss payment options. Commerx agreed to start the billing from September 1, 2008 instead of going back to June 1, 2008. Rory Chetelat related that the quote included a one-time \$3,250 fee for the set up of the server, and an additional \$3,250 per month for hosting and maintaining the TOC application along with an additional quote for improvements which include \$375 to make corrections to the drop down boxes and \$2850 to access data for reporting capabilities.

Mr. Chetelat stated that Bill Welch from the Nevada Hospital Association (NHA) is willing to pay Commerx but his preference would be to bill each of the 23 agencies for the full amount due through June 30, 2009 that he will hold in an account to pay Commerx on monthly basis. He advised the committee that the amount without the added improvements would be approximately \$1554 per agency. This way if another vendor is selected prior to June 2009 there will already be money set aside to make that transition.

Chief Howell added that the immediate issue is maintaining the current TOC software which will give this group the time needed to explore other options that would improve the system. Mr. Rogers spoke with First Watch who is willing to provide an internet based system that would integrate with the CAD data which would automatically pop the call into the hospital's TOC queue when a unit goes en-route to the facility so that when the medic is ready to check-in; they would click that call in the window. The same thing would happen when it was time to fill-in the Transfer screen capturing the transfer time. If a patient was missed, the system could use the time the unit arrived and cleared for the TOC times. He added that each hospital and communications center would only be able to see their own transfer of care information and there would be an administrative level that could see and report on everything. Mr. Neujahr questioned whether Mesquite Fire & Rescue and Boulder City Fire would still have the ability to sign in similar to the way it is done now. Mr. Rogers stated that they would, but it would be a manual entry. Chief Myers felt that the opportunity exists for Mesquite Fire & Rescue and Boulder City Fire to get First Watch to connect to their system. Mr. Higley stated that Mesquite Fire is exploring other options that will allow them to comply with the law to report the data electronically, without having such a fiscal impact.

Mr. Chetelat stated that two issues needed to be addressed: 1) The Committee needs to make a determination to allow NHA to bill everybody the full amount through June 30, 2009 to hold in an account to pay Commerx monthly; and 2) The Committee needs to discuss additional options for TOC software. Chief Howell stated that the fiscal decision needs to be made today. Mr. Holtz stated that he would like to see the added improvements included in the fiscal decision.

Mr. Chetelat made a motion to allow NHA to bill the 23 agencies approximately \$1700, including upgrades, for the time period September 1, 2008 through June 20, 2009. The money will be held in an account to pay Commerx on a monthly basis. The motion was seconded and passed. John Higley from Mesquite Fire & Rescue opposed the motion.

Mr. Higley informed the committee that Mesquite Fire & Rescue would not be able to assume their part of the financial responsibility due to budget restraints. He noted that the law states you "may" require each hospital and EMS provider to pay.

Chief Howell read NRS 450B.795, subsection 10, "The State Board of Health may require each hospital and provider of EMS located in a county that participates in the collection of data pursuant to this section to share in the expense of purchasing hardware, software, equipment and other resources necessary to

carry out the collection of data pursuant to this section.” He stated that the State Board of Health has delegated that authority to the Health District. He added that his biggest concern is that if Mesquite Fire & Rescue is excluded from participation of payment, it will open the door for other agencies to follow suit.

Mr. Chetelat suggested taking the issue to the Board of Health since it would potentially exclude four agencies: Boulder City Fire; Boulder City Hospital; Mesquite Fire & Rescue; and Mesa View Hospital. This would raise the expense for the remaining agencies to approximately \$2051 to allow them to share in the same system or alternatively pursue developing their own system that meets the letter of the law. Chief Howell recommended contacting SNHD legal opinion for future direction.

Chief Howell stated that at the last meeting Chief Myers agreed to research alternatives on the gathering of data. Chief Myers stated that he would like to see a philosophy change within the EMS system where the manager of every agency and hospital has the ability to monitor (in real time) their performance as it relates to hospital wait time. He reported that First Watch sent him a dashboard that he would like the hospitals to review to see if there is any interest in this type of managerial tool. He agreed to form a group and report back at the next meeting.

B. Review of Transfer of Care Data

Mr. Chetelat stated overall, we have been running very consistent with the percentage of time patients have been transferred within 30 minutes. Mr. Melchiode inquired if there is any success with the number of ambulance runs. Ms. Beckwith stated that call volume statistics do not come in regularly enough for her to track. Mr. Chetelat stated that historically we show 150,000 transports annually compared to 120,000 to 130,000 transports in the TOC data which is about a 15% difference. Chief Myers agreed that he has been seeing about a 10% difference between TOC and his record management system. Mr. Chetelat stated that would be one of the advantages of First Watch because it grabs data directly from the CAD which will capture all transports within the Valley. Mr. Melchiode agreed that was a significant data point. Chief Myers stated he would take that to the committee as a bullet point on how we would correct that. Chief Howell stated he would add that to his list of goals.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/ DISCUSSION ONLY

None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

V. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Mr. Howell called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn at 9:40 a.m.