

**AUSTIN – TRAVIS COUNTY EMS ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, February 6, 2013



**The Austin – Travis County EMS Advisory Board convened on February 6, 2013,
15 Waller Street, in Austin, Texas at 9:30 a.m.**

Board Members in Attendance: Bob Taylor, Mark Clayton, Paula Barr, Susan Pascoe, Chris Ziebell, Vard Curtis

Board Members Absent: Hector Gonzales, Paul Carrozza

Other Attendees: Ernesto Rodriguez, James Shamard, Vivian Holmes, Keith Simpson, Paul Hinchey, Jose Cabanas, Danny Hobby, Terry Browder, Troy Mayer, Bradley Leach, Casey Ping, Gigi Mao, Harry Evans, Teresa Gardner, Casey Ping, Ron Moellenberg, Jeff Hayes, Rick Branning, Tony Marquardt

1. CALL TO ORDER –February 6, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. QUORUM DETERMINATION

A quorum was met and the meeting proceeded.

3. RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENTS

Board Member Pascoe gave feedback on a family incident requiring EMS response. She was pleased by the good service EMS medics provided.

**4. RECEIVE STAFF BRIEFING ON BOARD MEMBERS' EDUCATION AND
DEDICATED E-MAIL USAGE REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH
THE CITY OF AUSTIN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETINGS ORDINANCE**

Chair Taylor asked board members if they had any questions about the training and reminded them that they had 90-days to complete it and the deadline was March 29th.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: The minutes for the regular meeting of November 14, 2012 were approved on Board Member Curtis' motion, Board Member Pascoe's second on a 6-0 vote.

**6. DISCUSS PLANS AND ACTIONS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS TO
REVIEW THE BOARD'S PRIOR YEAR PERFORMANCE AND PLANS FOR 2013.**

A draft report was reviewed by board members for additional input. The annual report is due to the City Clerk's Office by March 31, 2013 and will be submitted by that deadline. Board members also discussed goals for 2013.

7. RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM ATCEMS SYSTEM PARTICIPANT/RESPONDING ORGANIZATIONS, IF ANY

- a. **Emergency Services Districts** - Chief Moellenberg, CAFCA President. He has been meeting with a group of System stakeholders and provided an overview of what has been discussed during the meetings.
- b. **STAR Flight** - Casey Ping, SF Program Manager. He provided updates. CAMTS review and site visit in February and occurs every three years.
- c. **Austin Fire Department** - Chief Evans said AFD is working together with EMS on data to ensure accuracy. F1 collaboration made a difference. Six ESD's have automatic aid agreement with AFD and each other; this creates a road map for all other ESDs who wish to have automatic aid. It will go to Council in the near future for approval and Chief Evans said this is a big step for the System.
- d. **Austin EMS Department** - Chief Rodriguez discussed the System stakeholders meetings and the benefit of the work sessions for the future. County discussions are ongoing for the upcoming interlocal. EMS has submitted the CAAS application. ATCEMS is making progress on staffing configuration. The Community Health Paramedic program is moving forward and looking at integration with healthcare partners. ATCEMS is looking at MAP patients and how we can navigate them to appropriate care.
- e. **Office of Medical Director** - no general updates at this time.

8. RECEIVE STAFF REPORTS ON OF FISCAL YEAR 2013 Q1 OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

- a. **ATCEMS** - Chief Shamard reviewed reports. Board members agreed that they will no longer look at Urban and Suburban data.
- b. **OMD** – Dr. Hinchey said their website ATCOMD.org will have all data posted in a couple of weeks.
- c. **STAR Flight** – Casey Ping provided review of report.
- d. **Consider and approve changes to reports and future reporting as appropriate**— Chair Taylor and Chief Rodriguez discussed a report for system transport unit response analysis. Executive Manager Hobby and Chief Rodriguez to look at analysis as part of the new City/County interlocal. Dr. Hinchey provided input on response compliance.

9. RECEIVE STAFF REPORT ON BILLINGS, COLLECTIONS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- a. **Receive report from staff on COA-TC Interlocal financial issues and plans to resolve**
Chief Rodriguez talked about the recent audit report. ATCEMS has brought everything up to standard. Mr. Branning provided an update and gave collection data.
- b. **Consider and make recommendations to Court and Council as appropriate**
Chair Taylor and Chief Rodriguez gave a briefing to new members on how EMS funds are disbursed by the City. He proposed some of the dollars get returned to the department instead of going into the City's general fund. Mr. Hobby will ask the same of the County.

10. RECEIVE STAFF REPORT ON THE ATCEMS STAFFING ISSUE ITS SHORT AND LONG TERM CORRECTION PLANS

Current vacancies-52. EMS Academy starting on Monday with 19 new employees. It takes ten weeks to have the cadets trained and ready to work in the field. Civil service creates an elaborate process. Another Academy in June should bring the vacancy number down.

11. RECEIVE STAFF REPORT ON ALS RESPONDERS AND MEDIC CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND PLANS

a. Consider and make recommendations to Court and Council as appropriate

Dr. Hinchey gave a presentation on the Credentialing process and reviewed: Houston FD, Seattle Medic One, Fort Worth MedStar, Charlotte Medic, Williamson County EMS, Wake County EMS; and OMD Credentialing Process, New OMD Process, Development. Seattle has a lower number of credentialed paramedics and use Seattle Fire's EMT's to answer low priority calls. Dr. Hinchey provided information and answered questions about Seattle. The target is about a year to roll this out. Board Member Pascoe suggested that this information is shared with the PSC. Dr. Curtis asked about Seattle and how we can learn from them. Mr. Hayes said they have a tiered system. Their dispatch system is different, but we have that same capability. He noted that their system has been in place for over 30 years.

12. RECEIVE STAFF REPORT ON TRANSPORT UNIT EXPANSION PLANS

a. Consider and make recommendations to Court and Council as appropriate

Chief Shamard distributed to board members the EMS Medic I packet and reported on the transition thus far on the Medic 1 program. There have been no increase in scene times in critical patients and crew feedback is positive and there is the ability to send a second unit if needed. This item will be on the Public Safety Commission's March meeting agenda (the Commissioners on the PSC have already been provided with the materials).

13. OTHER BUSINESS

None

14. ADJOURN

Chair Taylor adjourned the meeting at 11:49 a.m., without objection.