

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

WEDNESDAY, November 4, 2015



The Austin – Travis County EMS Advisory Board convened on November 4, 2015, 15 Waller Street, in Austin, Texas at 9:30 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Mark Clayton, Paula Barr, Chris Ziebell, Lisa Harris, Justin Otwell, John Villanacci

Board Members Absent: Hector Gonzales, Tracy Dalbosco, Vard Curtis

Other Attendees: Jeff Hayes, Terry Browder, Ron Moellenberg, James Shamard, Keith Simpson, Jose Cabanas, Doug Fowler, Larry Jantzen, Jamila Siller, Vivian Holmes, Teresa Gardner, Kerri Lang

1. CALL TO ORDER – November 4, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. QUORUM DETERMINATION

A quorum was met and the meeting proceeded.

3. WELCOME RECENTLY APPOINTED NEW BOARD MEMBERS: JUSTIN OTWELL AND JOHN VILLANACCI

Board Members and Staff welcomed the two new board members.

4. UPDATE ON MEDICAL DIRECTOR HIRING PROCESS – REY ARELLANO, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

- Assistant City Manager Arellano provided an update on the hiring process.
 - Effective November 9, 2015, Dr. Mark Ackrell will be Acting Medical Director and Dr. Kate Remick will be the Associate Medical Director.
 - The position will be open through January. Interviews will likely be held in February.
 - The current Interlocal says medical direction for the System will be hired for the Medical Director regardless of what happens with the County ESDs.
 - Stakeholder process will include medical community, employees/providers, etc.
- Board Members discussed retention and making sure to look at salary for the new hire to make sure it is marketable and appropriate for the position. Board Member Ziebell talked about moving forward after the departure of Drs. Hinchey and Cabanas and above all else the bottom line is the patient.
- Board Member Harris suggested looking at attrition in general.

The minutes were approved on this February 3, 2016 on a unanimous vote.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: The minutes for the regular meeting of August 3, 2015 were approved on Board Member Ziebell's motion and Vice Chair Barr's second on a 6-0 vote.

6. RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS/COMMENT - None

7. REVIEW SYSTEM REPORTS

System reports are posted on the website. Chief of Staff Shamard reviewed the ATCEMS reports. He reminded Board Members that the reports are available on the ATCEMS website to and they are updated regularly. Chief Shamard clarified he was specifically referring to EMS response and not AFD or ESD data.

8. RECEIVE UPDATES FROM SYSTEM AGENCIES REPRESENTATIVES:

- a) Medical Director's Report: Jose Cabanas, Acting Medical Director
 - Dr. Cabanas appreciates all the Board has done during his four years in the Office of the Medical Director. He announced that Dr. Mark Ackrell will be the interim Medical Director and is very capable of the position. Dr. Cabanas will be returning to Wake County EMS in North Carolina as Director and the Medical Director; it is a combined structure. Under state law the county is responsible for emergency medical services.
 - Board Members thanked Dr. Cabanas for his leadership.
- b) Austin EMS Department: Ernesto Rodriguez, Chief
 - No additional update.
- c) Travis County Emergency Services: Danny Hobby, Executive Manager
 - Mr. Hobby thanked Dr. Cabanas and Chief of Staff Shamard for their services.
 - Regarding the hiring process, according to ILA it is a joint process. The City will take the lead, but he will work together with ACM Arellano and the City Manager.
 - The new ILA is almost complete.
 - Discussed hiring for the new Medical Director.
 - He agrees with Dr. Ziebell in all that we do it comes down to the patient.
 - The county and city are working well together, however there is room for improvement. Need to look globally at EMS, ESDS, city, county, addition to 42-hour work week, taxpayer (costing more in taxes for the 42-hour work week).
 - CTECC has grown and this is an item that needs to be reviewed. The building is thirteen years old and they are out of space. Mr. Hobby has been meeting with Assistant City Manager Arellano about this matter. The current back-up facility is CAPCOG. It is a leased facility and they recently renewed the lease, but there needs to be a CTECC expansion. He said this is also an opportunity to have a regional center.
 - Suggestion that Board Members see status reports for ESDs and AFD. He is hopeful that we stay unified.
- d) Austin Fire Department: Tom Dodds, Chief of Staff
 - Chief Dodd's commented on the role that AFD has as first responders. They currently have an auto aide agreement with county partners. They collect data and work as a

partnership with ESDs on service delivery to make sure the patient has the best service possible.

- AFD's Planning and Research section handles their reporting. Jamila Siller provided a high level review of reports to Board Members. The reports capture how well AFD response is doing before EMS arrives. AFD calls that take longer than ten minutes are reviewed internally; they did not bring the report to the meeting, but it is looked at.

e) Emergency Services Districts: Ron Moellenberg, CAFCA President
Chief Moellenberg didn't have any updates; however he was available to answer any questions.

9. RECOGNITION TO FORMER BOARD MEMBER: SUSAN PASCOE

Board Members and Staff thanked Ms. Pascoe for her service of over nine years serving on the Austin – Travis County EMS Advisory Board. She has been a valuable member and will be greatly missed.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- Chief of Staff Shamard talked about why medics are leaving the department. They are leaving for medical school, nursing, unsuccessful in job performance, etc. Board Member Barr asked about impacts on retention.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.