

MINUTES
EMERGENCY CARE ADVISORY BOARD
NOVEMBER 17, 2010, 4:30 P.M.
AMARILLO CITY HALL
509 S.E. SEVENTH AVENUE
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBER

Members

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|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Dr. Brian Eades | Amarillo City Commission |
| Dr. Darrell Morgan | Northwest Texas Healthcare System |
| Dr. Brian Barkley | Baptist St. Anthony's Health System |
| Craig Bryan | Amarillo Hospital District |
| Robert Saunders | American Medical Response, Inc. |
| Dr. Roger Smalligan | Public Health Authority |

Also Present

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dr. David French | Medical Director |
| Jarrett Atkinson | Interim City Manager |
| Monty Owens | AFD Deputy Chief |
| Bill Risner | Fire Captain |
| Marcus Norris | City Attorney |
| Judith Weshinsky-Price | AECC Manager |
| Blair Harris | Management Analyst |
| Frances Hibbs | Assistant City Secretary |

ITEM 1: Dr. Eades called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

ITEM 2: Approval of the minutes for the meeting held on September 15, 2010. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes.

ITEM 3: PowerPoint presentation by Blair Harris on AMR's September Response Times. September had 2,166 calls. Of those 407 were Priority 1 calls and 1,460 were Priority 2 and 3 calls. Transfers from one medical facility to another totaled 147. The Overall Response Time Standards were compliant for Priority 1 – 90.7% of the time and for Priority 2 and 3 – 91.7% of the time. There were also 101 Priority 4, 45 Priority 5 and 1 Priority 6 transfer calls.

October received 2,098 calls. Of those 386 were Priority 1 calls and 1,282 were Priority 2 and 3 calls. Transfers from one medical facility to another totaled 298. The Overall Response Time Standards were compliant for Priority 1 – 93% of the time and for Priority 2 and 3 – 93.6% of the time. There were also 130 Priority 4, 150 Priority 5, 15 Priority 6 and 3 Priority 7 transfer calls.

All response times exceeded their requirements set by the City.

ITEM 4: A. Review of Amarillo Emergency Communication Center (AECC) Response Determination and Quality Assurance by Judith Weshinsky-Price. Calltakers follow medical authority protocols. Codes are assigned to specified situations. Each code has possible responses. The software is intuitive and generates questions and answers. The dispatch codes automatically produce the call with the event type and priority.

Quality Assurance is based on accuracy and speed. Trained team members are assign medical scores and provide statistics. Calls are reviewed with calltakers to improve their performance. AECC currently reviews 50 calls per week currently scoring 87% accuracy.

AECC's goals is to be accredited by the National Academies and Priority Dispatch (our protocol provider) with a minimum of 150 calls/week. A numerical score of 90% is the objective.

Dr. Eades inquired as to the staff availability. Mrs. Weshinsky-Price replied the AECC was close to being fully staffed.

Dr. Eades inquired as to Amarillo College's availability for training. Mrs. Weshinsky-Price stated that training has been established and advertised but there is not yet been enough interest in the program.

B. PowerPoint presentation by Deputy Chief Monty Owens on AFD Support Calls and EMS Program Update. Delta and Echo Priority Dispatch went live on 08/09/2010. Total number of EMS calls for all AFD Districts 2,864 (this total includes only medical calls and no traffic accidents). Total advanced life support (ALS) Engine 1 (Downtown) 360 calls. Total ALS Engine 10 (Airport) 32 calls. Percent of calls with ALS services 14% (basic life support).

By January 2011 nine (9) C-shift Fire Fighters (FFS) will receive EMT training. An additional sixteen (16) B-shift FFS will test in May 2011. And, sixteen (16) more A-shift FFS will begin training December 9, 2010 and will test in June 2011. There are two (2) ALS companies currently and AFD will add four (4) more ALS companies by Summer 2011. The City will then have 40% coverage.

The City of Amarillo has committed to the program with an increase in incentive pay which began October 1, 2010 (EMT-1 to \$100 per month and EMT-P \$200 per month).

C. Dr. French is in the process of rewriting treatment protocols. He would like to discuss distribution of facilities for pre-hospital care operations. Seeking early and aggressive treatment for sepsis and cardiac care patients. Hypothermia was also addressed. Dr. Smalligan stated he believe that both hospitals were approved destination sites.

Dr. French stated earlier is better for maintaining, monitoring, and re-warming patients. Start cooling down process as soon as symptoms are recognized. Drugs studies have not been shown to help survival rate.

ITEM 5: The next meeting was scheduled for January 19, 2011 at 4:30 pm.

ITEM 6: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Dr. Brian Eades, Chairman