

MINUTES
EMERGENCY CARE ADVISORY BOARD
MAY 26, 2010, 4:30 P.M.
AMARILLO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
808 S. BUCHANAN

Members Present

Dr. Brian Eades	Amarillo City Commission
Dr. Roger Smalligan	Public Health Authority
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.
Steve Ross	Fire Chief

Also Present

David Shrader	Polaris Group
Dr. David French	Medical Director
Jarrett Atkinson	Interim City Manager
Dean Frigo	Assistant City Manager of Finance
Marcus Norris	City Attorney
Blair Harris	Management Analyst
Donna DeRight	City Secretary

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

ITEM 2: Mr. Atkinson introduced Mr. Shrader, Dr. French and other guests in the audience.

ITEM 3: Dr. Eades announced that at this time tours would be made to allow everyone the opportunity to see the operations of the Emergency Communications Center and the view different emergency vehicles.

ITEM 4: Minutes for the April 21, 2010 meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes.

ITEM 5: Mr. Shrader presented an overview of the Amarillo pre-hospital system design. A brief overview was made on the history, changes, responsibilities and performance involved in providing emergency medical care according to the permit approved by the City Commission to American Medical Response.

ITEM 6: As part of the presentation by Mr. Shrader, it was stated that one of the main goals for the future of emergency medical care would be to have more firefighters trained in advanced life support methods. Mr. Shrader explained that the Fire Department has a faster average response time than ambulances and for that reason it is important to have advanced life support firefighters on the Fire Department units. Dr. French explained the importance of having trained advanced life support firefighters to treat patients until ambulances with more highly trained

personnel arrive. It was stated that the paramedics with the Fire Department would assist in the training of personnel as well as training provided by Amarillo College. The Fire Department currently has ten experience paramedics with eight more to graduate in December. The goal of the Fire Department is to add four paramedics in 2011 and 2012 and five in 2013. Chief Ross explained that to have paramedics on all the Fire Department units will provide patients with a faster opportunity for life support and give them a better chance for survival.

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to approve the Amarillo Fire Department's Advanced Life Support Plan and recommend its implementation to the City Commission.

ITEM 7: Mr. Saunders presented an update on the operations of AMR/AMS. He stated that when AMR took over there were fourteen employee openings and today there are three openings. He reported that there has been the addition of three new ambulances and a van for transfers. He advised that the transfer truck will operate Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. With the addition of the new ambulances, he announced that there would be two stations and seven locations where the ambulances would be strategically placed depending on the time of day. He also reported that in the next few months they would be moving from the main location on Mockingbird to a larger location. Mr. Saunders stated that these changes should help with response times.

ITEM 8: Dr. Eades commented that if we did not have the data to review at the June meeting then we should wait until the July meeting.

ITEM 9: The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Dr. Brian Eades, Chairman