

MINUTES  
EMERGENCY CARE ADVISORY BOARD  
MAY 18, 2011, 4:30 P.M.  
AMARILLO CITY HALL  
509 S.E. SEVENTH AVENUE  
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBER

Members

Dr. Brian Eades	Amarillo City Commission
Chuck Speed	Amarillo Hospital District
Robert Saunders	American Medical Response, Inc.
Dr. Roger Smalligan	Public Health Authority
Dr. Darrell Morgan	Northwest Texas Hospital
Steve Ross	Fire Chief

Also Present

Dr. David French	Medical Director
Monty Owens	APD Deputy Chief
Bill Risner	Fire Captain
Blair Harris	Management Analyst
Marcus Norris	City Attorney
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 February 16, 2011. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

ITEM 3: PowerPoint presentation by Blair Harris on AMR's February, March and April 2011 Response Times.

February 2011 had 1,943 calls. Of those 381 were Priority 1 calls and 1,182 were Priority 2 and 3 calls. Transfers from one medical facility to another totaled 275. The Overall Response Time Standards were compliant for Priority 1 – 92.7% of the time and for Priority 2 and 3 – 94.2% of the time. There were also 131 Priority 4, 141 Priority 5, 2 Priority 6, and 1 Priority 7 transfer calls.

March 2011 received 2,151 calls. Of those 483 were Priority 1 calls and 1,194 were Priority 2 and 3 calls. Transfers from one medical facility to another totaled 340. The Overall Response Time Standards were compliant for Priority 1 – 92.9% of the time and for Priority 2 and 3 – 95.0% of the time. There were also 169 Priority 4, 162 Priority 5, 6 and Priority 6 and 3 Priority 7 transfer calls.

April 2011 received 2,125 calls. Of those 426 were Priority 1 calls and 1,262 were Priority 2 and 3 calls. Transfers from one medical facility to another totaled 314. The Overall Response Time Standards were compliant for Priority 1 – 92.7% of the time and for Priority 2 and 3 – 93.7% of

the time. There were also 314 total transfer calls with 140 Priority 4, 168 Priority 5, 6 Priority 6 transfer calls.

Mrs. Harris also mentioned that at the next meeting there would be four zones.

Dr. Eades stated AMR has met all response times. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried, to approve the response times.

ITEM 4:

- A. Briefing by Bill Risner, District Chief on the EMS Operations on the Emergency Medical Service Program. The AFD responded to 6,830 calls from January 1, 2011 to April 30, 2011. Of those calls 4,114 were EMS or 60.5%. The average response time was 4.06 minutes. There were 287 assists to EMS, medical calls were 2,930, there were 200 MVC, and 416 MVC without injuries. The breakdown for the districts were as follows:

District 1	539 (including downtown)
District 2	310
District 3	269
District 4	211
District 5	329
District 6	350
District 7	391
District 8	329
District 9	333
District 10	41
District 11	66

District 10 is at the Airport and District 11 is the new Fire Station.

Update on the AED Program. Out of 4000 plus accidents, AEDs were placed 23 times. AFD continues with its EMS training.

- B. Briefing of upgrades and progress to Amarillo Fire Department ALS first response and service delivery by Bill Risner, District Chief – EMS Operations. ALS First Responder Program paramedics graduated in January and February.

Dr. Eades inquired to how large the classes were. Risner responded 10-15 people.

Chief Ross stated that they were working with Amarillo College to change the minimum requirements from EMT Basic to EMT Intermediate beginning in 2013.

- C. Discussion of pre-hospital care operations and identify current areas of concern by Dr. David French, Medical Director. Dr. French distributed a draft pamphlet to the Board. The draft pamphlet is a list of resources for people needing various services

of care. Information on where a person can get help. Continuing working on home visits. Home visits to prevent emergency care for blood pressure, diabetes, etc. Continuing discussions with Amarillo College for training of paramedics on various issues such as how to train staff on knowing what to look for in a situation. The prevention pamphlet and home visits will be for cardiac patients, chest pains, etc. Continuing to look over options and capabilities for calling in a cath lab over the telephone to save time. Technology recognition station for cath lab. Shaves about 20 minutes off the time. Improving cardiac arrest survival rates. Early compression and early defibrillators. Cooling down patients through hypothermia. Dr. French referenced an Arizona paper about only using chest compressions. Chest compressions changed the survival rates from 5% to 14%. Possibility of using Community Service announcements and training in neighborhoods saving lives through education. Dr. French also spoke about induced hypothermia. It improves neurological results. EMS is going to start using cooling saline which would be a field induced hypothermia. The sooner cooling is started the better the patient does and with a meaningful survival rate. Improving care in the community is the goal.

Dr. Smalligan inquired as to whom they would target on home visits.

Dr. French stated they would like to communicate with patients who have chronic diseases or frequent re-admissions to the hospitals. Those patients who would receive the home visits would be selected through a combination of things and through the hospital's recommendations. There would be no changing of medications but would possibly have the capability to be able to discuss the case via teleconference.

Dr. Morgan stated that as of June 24 Northwest Texas Hospital would be a Chest Pain Center and would use EKGs in transit and the use of those results possibly being sent to smartphones are being discussed.

Mr. Saunders stated that the American Heart Association has a commercial currently running on television about a person using sign language signing about hands only CPR. Dr. French stated there have been issues about people using mouth to mouth.

Mr. Saunders asked for input or changes on any numbers or agencies that were not listed on the pamphlet. Dr. Smalligan suggested a larger print font.

Mr. Saunders stated that during EMS week they would have an ambulance in the mall and on Sunday would be teaching hands only CPR for anyone who wanted to learn.

ITEM 5: The next meeting was scheduled for August 17, 2011 at 4:30 pm.

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

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Dr. Brian Eades, Chairman