

Broward Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council
February 9, 2023
2:30 p.m.
MINUTES

Call to Order

Alison Zerbe, Staff, called regular meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Roll Call

Alison Zerbe called roll and quorum established.

Announcements:

Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2022

MOTION TO ACCEPT the minutes of December 1 , 2022.

Motion made by: Dr. John Halpern

Seconded: Chief Vince Cinque

MOTION passed unanimously

Presentation by Adam Katzman – Sunshine Law PowerPoint

Idea of Sunshine is transparency.

Basic Requirements: Meeting has to be open to the public

Reasonable notice of meeting has to be given.

Minutes taken and promptly recorded.

The complete presentation is available upon request.

Statement of Financial Interest – Form 1 – 1. doesn't affect EMS Council much because EMS Council is an advisory board. 2. A gift, 3. Conflicting employment or contractual relationship 4. a voting conflict.

Form 1 is financial employment you have to file if you enforce codes, provision, etc.

Form 4A is a conflict of interest which the Board can waive. Some EMS Council members have to file this form.

Form 8B – Voting Conflict of Interest Form – actual or apparent conflict of interest to abstain.

Ethics code – applies to Broward County officials, and also applies to appointed boards and authorities.

Two Ethics code State if Florida has an ethics code, and Broward County has an ethics code.

Complete Florida code of ethics, and the conflicts of interest documents were given with your welcome package and are available upon request. Broward County ethics code link: <https://www.broward.org/InspectorGeneral/Ethics/Pages/Laws.aspx> or google Broward County Ethics code.

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Recommendation for Appointment/Reappointment:

Dr. Rowe King – Hospitals: Broward Health, Administration – (*Resumes/CV sent out*)

MOTION TO RECOMMEND: Dr. Patrician Rowe King to Broward Regional EMS Council position of Hospitals: Broward Health, Administration

Motion made by Dr. Wayne Lee

Seconded: Chief Julie Downey

MOTION passed unanimously

Recently Approved Appointments/Reappointments by Commission on January 24, 2023:

Hospitals: Nonprofit/Proprietary – Reappointment – Dr. John Cunha

Transport: Municipal Fire – Reappointment- Chief Julie Downey

Advanced Life Support (ALS) – Reappointment – Chief Joel Gordon

Physicians: Public Health – Reappointment – Dr. Paula Thaqi

Transport: Aircraft – Reappointment – Dr. James Roach

Physicians: Emergency Medicine – Appointment – Dr. Frederick Keroff

Physicians: Prehospital Medical Director – Appointment – Dr. Wayne Lee

Physicians: Emergency Medical Director from Memorial Healthcare System – Appointment – Dr. Randy Katz

Vacancies:

Advanced Life Support (ALS): County Provider

Advanced Life Support (ALS): Private Provider

American Heart Association, Broward County Chapter

Appointee of Commissioner Mark D. Bogen

Appointee of Commissioner Tim Ryan

BHAP (Behavioral Health Assistance Program, formerly (CISM)

Fire and Paramedic, Union Representative

Law Enforcement Representative, Union Representative

Transport: Private Ambulance

Contact/email Alison Zerbe with nomination/recommendations for the vacant positions.

APPLICATION FORM FOR BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

<https://www.broward.org/Intergovernmental/Pages/BoardsCommittees.aspx>

Committee Reports:

Legislative Session – Alison Zerbe reported

- Regular session for 2023 – April to June.

Executive Committee – Dr. Frederick Keroff announced

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- No report.

Public Information, Education – Chief Joel Gordon reported

- Sent the Deployment Team to West Coast for Hurricane Ion. Largest in-state deployment of PIOs.
- Built their Advance Skills Class during the symposium on a review of the response they made to Ion.
- Annual PIO symposium at Daytona Beach in connection with Fire Rescue East. They did events in Daytona: Basic L105 class attended by 70, Advanced Skills Class, Symposium on Friday attend by PIOs.
- This week they have the Advanced PIO 388 in Deerfield Beach through Emergency Management Institute (EMI), Maryland.
- Chief Gordon sits on the advisory board for Safe Haven. The abandoned infant issue in Polk County happened a couple of weeks ago. It has raised concerns because an Indiana company pushes baby boxes to fire stations and hospitals. Chief Gordon spoke out against the push to change state statutes to allow baby boxes to be installed, and the motion was rejected. Chief Gordon called some media to let them know what services Safe Haven offers and within two hours of the baby box rejection the Indiana company had spoken with every media outlet in Central Florida.
- In Polk County a baby was abandoned early in the morning and placed behind a dumpster. A woman heard the cries and rescued the baby. First infant abandoned in Florida in three years. There are several concerns with the installation of these boxes: safety, security, and violation of state statute that baby be placed in someone's hands.
- They have put together PIOs to start putting accurate messages throughout the media markets about the issues with baby boxes. For more details, call Chief Gordon.

EMS Conference – Chief Caruso

- Their keynote speaker is Dr. Lori Moore Merrell, the first female U.S. Fire Administrator. Registration is open. The conference is worldwide. First There First Care (FTFC) has included a student registration this year. No cost to attend the pre-conference day. Two classes are no charge to give paramedics and EMTs some exposure.
- With the Grant they have a universal fire rescue discount code, a hospital code, and private provider code.
- The Gathering of Eagles is returning to the Hard Rock.
- The cadaver lab will be at Le Meridien on Monday.
- The conference will include SE Regional Fire Chiefs meeting, State EMS Meetings. EMS Chiefs meeting, new this year is the Honor Guard Competition, nursing trac, and leadership symposium.

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- New website has been designed by their marketing company.

Medical Issues – Dr. Wayne Lee reported

- No report.

BHAP/Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) – Alison Zerbe

- Suicides continue to happen among EMS people. Alison needs a CISM representative. She reached out to Chief Raymond who works with mental health.
- Chief Downey said that CISM is one program under Behavior Health Assistance Program (BHAP) which at the state and fire chiefs level. With BHAP they have programs such as peer support, and chaplain's group.

MOTION TO CHANGE CISM to BHAP, Behavioral Health Assistance Program Motion made by Chief Julie Downey

Seconded: Chief Joel Gordon

Motion passed unanimously

CISM is not in the ordinance and can be changed to BHAP. Chief Downey wants to recommend Chief John Whalen or Chief Chantal Botting, the two representatives from Fire Chiefs Association (FCABC) that head the Safety and Health Subcommittee.

EMS Review – Chief Bruce Caruso reported

- They met at 1:30 p.m. prior to this meeting. Chief Caruso sat in as the Chair. There were some new members. There was a published agenda. Approved November 18, 2021 meeting minutes. Under new business they were supposed to review four applications. They reviewed the 5 Max Transport, LLC application, but the three applications for Cleveland Clinic d/b/a Coastal Care Corporation were tabled by the applicant. Through a thorough review they recommended denial of 5 Max Transport, LLC for the Class 3, BLS transport due to multiple considerations. They can reapply in one year.
- There was discussion about how the system works and EMS Council's advisory role. It goes to County Commission to make the final decision. Chief Downey recommended creating an educational document to give to hospitals for guidance such as if necessary call more than one ambulance provider.

MOTION TO CREATE an educational guidance sheet to go out to hospitals and facilities that use the patient transports from the ER.

Motion made by Chief Julie Downey

Seconded: Dr. Wayne Lee

Motion passed unanimously

- Doctor Roach and Dr. Evan Boyar will get together tomorrow about how they get the data, and if vendor isn't responding what they do to get appropriate response time.
- There is a yearly survey from the ambulance providers on their response times and other factors such as the need for additional ambulance companies. This survey assists and

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includes what kind of service the ambulance company provides and the need for more ambulance companies.

- Adam Katzman, county attorney, said that any health system can get the data on the ambulance response times and then decide which provider they want to go with.
- Alison Zerbe agreed to make a draft of the educational guidance sheet.

Old Business – Alison Zerbe

- The EMS Matching Grant is due tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. to floridahealth.gov. They will match 75% to the agency's 25% to improve and expand EMS and not to replace something old.
- Anyone waiting on 2023 funds. The agency's agreement with Broward County is in legal and they will get with them tomorrow. After it is signed by agency and Broward County they can reimburse the funds.
- The Broward County Trauma Plan was approved by FL Department of Health, and they can find it on the Broward County website or google Broward County Trauma Plan.

New Business – Alison Zerbe

- Nothing to report.

Good of the Order

Nothing to report.

Next Meeting Dates

June 1, 2023 @ 1:30 p.m.

September 7, 2023

December 7, 2023

Adjourned

3:50 p.m.