



Clark County Health Department

Dr. Eric B. Yazel, Health Officer

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Clark County EMS Advisory Board Meeting

11/26/2024

6:00pm – 7:15pm

Present: Doug Bentfield, Dr. Eric Yazel, Gavan Hebner, Mark Furnish, Chris Fox, Jo Polk, Mike Ross, Jeff Dickson, Shannon Watterson

Call to order - Dr Eric Yazel

Adoption of minutes – No concern with the minutes but a concern of the times, discussion of time differences with Henryville and Underwood. Questions of the run time report on the entire month of October. The October meeting was based on the September run time report. Discussion regarding the run times and totals followed. Motion was made to accept the minutes as they are; motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

Old Business – No old business to discuss.

Current Status Updates – Dr Yazel reports that response times are down below nine minutes currently. Dr Yazel goes on to say that major EMS organizations released a joint statement that overall a concrete response time like that is somewhat of a poor way to determine a successful service delivery model. Dr Yazel would like to get a little more fine-tuned reports each month versus just a one-day. Discussion followed and questions came up about when the 8th ambulance would start running. The response is by January 1, 2025.

Mark Furnish discussed protocols if no squads are available, the next nearest should be called. Discussion regarding Tri Township being called followed as well as what Central will dispatch.

Discussion followed regarding available units and protocols for sending available units out when needed.

Discussion regarding Heartland finding a permanent building followed. Currently, Heartland has not procured a permanent building. As of January 1st, 2025, lodging will be the responsibility of Heartland. The question was brought up whether Heartland could use the old Central building and money be allocated for maintenance to be done to the building. Determined that too much work on the building would be needed. Advisory board can keep an eye out for buildings and let Heartland know but it was determined to be a Heartland issue.

Dr Yazel reported that he did write a letter to the county commissioners and council on behalf of himself and the health department that he supports a three-year contract with 120 days out clause. These 120 days would give the county time to adjust if needed. This letter will be placed on the Clark County Health Department web page for transparency.

Safety Plan updates – The safety plan is in Indianapolis being reviewed. Discussion followed regarding the purpose of the safety plan and making this less restrictive, so the county is not limited in responses as was in the past.

Committee member reports – Gavin Hebner addressed an email that was sent out by Heartland. Discussion followed regarding the details of this email. This went into discussion of the charting system that Heartland uses and the upcoming new system they will start using after February 3rd.

Care Concerns – Dr Yazel reported that a couple of care concerns about Heartland were brought to his attention. Dr Yazel did not feel either issue was something that the board needed to intervene in but is glad to see that these reports are making it to him. Dr Yazel will bring it to the board's attention if anything needs their review.

Open items – New Chapel is still running and has re-branded themselves as Phoenix. There is already a Phoenix in Indiana. This is just an FYI and not something the board needs to get involved in.

Gavin reported a call he received from Paul Holcomb detailing the call that they received for assistance and when they arrived, the call was canceled. Paul was upset that the call was cancelled when they had called staff in to assist. Paul was pushing for a signed mutual aid agreement. Everyone agreed that this was not needed. Discussion followed regarding oversight and mutual aid.

Dr Yazel asked Mike Ross to make sure he is logging his oversight runs following EMS.

Other issues- Jeff Dickson reported that Heartland is asking that Norton Clark change their triage methods because they are taking up to 20 minutes in triage and rigs are being held up due to triage. The internal nurses are negating this stating that crews are remaining onsite doing other things and it is not the triage holding them up. Jeff Dickson has asked for specifics so he can review videos. At this point, there is no proof that either is holding the other up. Discussion followed.

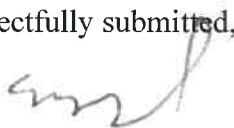
Facility Transfer – Discussion regarding transfers and how these should be handled with an emergent patient. A protocol needs to be developed for these situations.

New Business – Jeff Dickson brought up concerns of private EMS contracts and what is the path forward after the end of this contract? Discussion followed regarding the future of EMS providers and what the plan will be going forward. Discussion regarding the fire departments taking on EMS services. Chris Fox gave discussion points from the County Council standpoint.

Next meeting is December 10th at 6pm

Meeting adjourned @7:15pm

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Eric Yazel,
EMS Subcommittee President