

PINELLAS COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

February 5, 2009, Regular Meeting Minutes

Prior to the regular business meeting president Lewis provided Craig Hare the opportunity to present information on the benefits of First Responder agencies moving from a paper patient care reporting system to an electronic system already in use by SunStar. The PowerPoint slides that Craig used in his presentation are attached to these minutes.

The meeting was called to order by President Lewis at 1:15 PM, and roll call was taken with 31 members and one guest in attendance.

Chief Fant made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Chief Graham, motion carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report as of February 4, 2009:

PCFCA Checking	\$35,617.34	Motion to accept: Chief Meyer
PCFCA Extrication	\$143.32	Second: Chief Graham
PCFCA Training/Ed.	\$3,843.99	
SCFSK Checking	\$1,995.68	
SCFSK CD	<u>\$5,144.30</u>	
Total	\$46,744.63	

Guests /Presentations

Patrick Vines, Rescue Program Coordinator for St. Petersburg Fire Rescue provided a presentation on behalf of the Pinellas County Safe Kids Water Safety Committee. The committee is working to make the drowning prevention program a year-round effort with a unified logo and message and move away from program emphasis only during spring and summer months. The committee is working with Cox Media to develop corporate sponsors, so far Pinch-a-Penny Pool Supplies has committed to assist and All Children's Hospital is involved. The committee is also working to develop a web site containing drowning prevention information. Patrick distributed a packet of information which is attached to these minutes. Patrick may be contacted at 727-893-7726 or Patrick.vines@stpete.org.

Correspondence

President Lewis sent the Association's response to Commissioner Brickfield's information request regarding the legislative delegations consolidation study.

New Business

President Lewis appointed Chief Fant as the chairperson of the 2009 nominating committee. Any members wishing to serve should contact Chief Fant ASAP. The nominating report will be provided at the March meeting and the election of officers will occur at the April meeting.

President Lewis sought a motion on the issue of the electronic patient care reporting system (E-PCR). Chief Graham made a motion that the Association supports the implementation of the E-PCR program, second by interim Chief Marenkovic. Discussion of the motion focused on several points including how potential new EMS First Responder agreements would impact E-PCR; does the Association support force the implementation of the project?; affirmation of the Association members present today may not indicate a willingness of all First Responder agencies; this is bad timing for the expenditure of EMS funds and obligating future EMS funds for maintenance and oversight; what other potential uses for the funding exist that would have a beneficial outcome for patients? There was also discussion on what other options may be utilized to reach the same goal. After this discussion, Chief Graham withdrew his motion and interim Chief Marenkovic agreed to withdraw his second. Chief Large made a motion to have the E-PCR committee review lower cost ideas and options and report back at a future meeting, second by Chief Malzone. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Unfinished Business

Send any recommended by-law changes to Chief Malzone.

Committee Reports

Operations Chiefs

Chief Wimberly, St. Petersburg FR reported that the committee is making minor grammar and spelling revisions to the 600 Series SOP.

During the committee meeting Chief Malone, St. Pete Beach suggested that the Association consider the idea of a multiple agency assessment center process. There are several vendors available to conduct such an undertaking and Chief Wimberly asked if the Association members would be interested in a presentation from one of the vendors at a future meeting. There was discussion regarding what type of testing could be undertaken. The vendor presentation was agreeable to those in attendance.

Fire Marshals

No report.

PALS

No Report.

Training Officers

The committee is working to schedule an Apparatus Operator Liability seminar in the near future.

EMS Advisory Council

The next meeting is March 18, at 10:00 AM with election of officers on the agenda.

Opticom

Chief Geer reported that the project information package has been provided to state legislators for possible funding from the federal economic stimulus legislation.

Fire District Contract

Chief Stout reported that the contract is still at the county attorney's office for review.

Medical Dispatch Review

No report.

Affiliate Reports

Fire & EMS

Craig Hare will provide a presentation on the Priority Dispatch project prior to the March regular meeting. The project is moving forward at the 911 communications center with no alterations in response from the current model.

Medical Director

No report.

SunStar

No report.

Emergency Management

Sally Bishop reported that;

- County Emergency Management is working on the five-year CEMP re-write required by the state.
- Hurricane evacuation zones will remain the same in 2009 as in 2008. New evacuation study data will be utilized for use in determining changes in 2010.
- Sally is beginning to meet with law enforcement officials to develop communications links and share intelligence and information between agencies.
- Will be working with local hotels and motels regarding evacuation notices to better educate all parties involved as the hurricane center has announced plans to post watches and warnings earlier.
- Emergency Management is working to bring a cross-disciplined approach to the special needs program for program enhancement.
- 2009 hurricane guides are being worked on now.

Communications/911

No report.

St. Petersburg College Fire

Jim Terry reported that the training facility is very busy, thanked all of the fire chiefs for their continued support and extended an invitation to visit the facility.

Phil Bailey advised that the college will be hosting several of the national Fire Academy two-day courses in the near future, extrication courses are occurring and the college will be hosting a demo of a new firefighting product at the drill grounds on February 20, from 10:00 – 12:00. The CPAT initiative is moving forward and implementation could occur in April to June.

St. Petersburg College EMS

Nerina Stepanovsky thanked the Association for its support of the legislation to provide a change in statute to allow EMT and paramedic students to perform their clinical ride along on a “licensed EMS vehicle” as opposed to just an ambulance. The proposed legislation wording has been altered to allow the ride along provisions to be set by administrative rule as opposed to specific statute language. Stake holder groups are in agreement that this is a workable solution. The current St. Petersburg College EMT and paramedic programs are OK and will continue.

Red Cross

No report.

Good of the Organization

President Lewis will send Mike Cooksey a letter seeking the addition of Pinellas County fire hydrant and water main projects to the federal economic stimulus program. *(Mike Cooksey responded via e-mail on 2/6 that a 20 million dollar budget request for hydrants and water mains had been provided as part of the county project list.)*

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Next Meeting is March 5, 2009

Fire Rescue ePCR

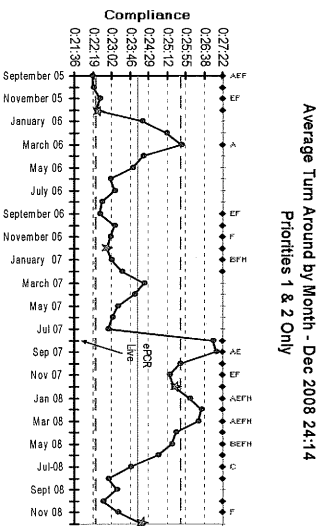


Fire Chiefs Executive Briefing

Benefits of ePCR

- Fire Chief's Request for Grants and Technology (The County isn't Pushing)
- 20 Years in the Making
- Information Technology Project Benefits
- Readable, Complete (An incomplete record is faster); Usable Data
- Internal Quality Assurance for Paramedic Feedback & Training
- Standardization of Reports and Statistics
- Automated Document Filing Rather than Manually Picking Up Reports
- Easier Process to Handle Incomplete Reports
- Comparable Completion Times After First 6 Months – 1 Year
- ePCR is NOT in the Top 10 Employee Survey Issues for Sunstar
- Efficiency is on the "back end"; some "front end" processes on scene are easier (i.e. Intervention Buttons, CAD information, etc.)

Sunstar's Experience With ePCR



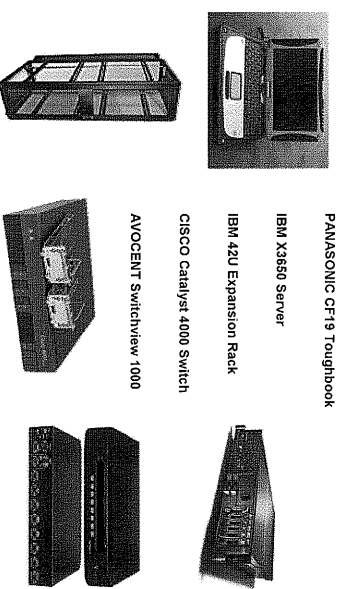
County EMS Grant

- EMS has been saving County EMS Grant Funds for 3 Years.
- DOH-EMS and State Auditors are concerned about our high fund balance.
- Grant project meets the State EMS Plan Goal to Support EMSTARS.
- Shows the County's Commitment to advanced technology and overall support for the ALS First Responder Program.

Project Expenses

Grant Expenses			
Qty	Laptop & Accessories	Est. Cost	Est. Total
94	CF-19 Toughbook and 3 Year Protection Plan	\$3,415.25	\$321,033.50
80	AC & DC Power Adapter	184.00	13,120.00
78	Port Replicator	289.00	23,322.00
10	Sylus Pen (10 pack)	55.00	550.00
	Sub Total:		\$396,025.50
Qty	Software & Maintenance	Est. Cost	Est. Total
1	Server Software, Configuration and TTT	\$254,700.00	\$254,700.00
1	Maintenance \$56,400 annual (Mar-Sep)	32,900.00	32,900.00
	Sub Total:		\$287,600.00
	Est. Total Grant:		\$645,625.50
EMS Capital Expenses			
Qty	Server & Accessories	Est. Cost	Est. Total
1	Storage Area Network (SAN)	\$8,353.25	\$8,353.55
1	Servers	105,777.42	105,777.42
	Est. Total EMS:		\$114,131.07
	Estimated Grand Total of Entire Project:		\$759,756.57

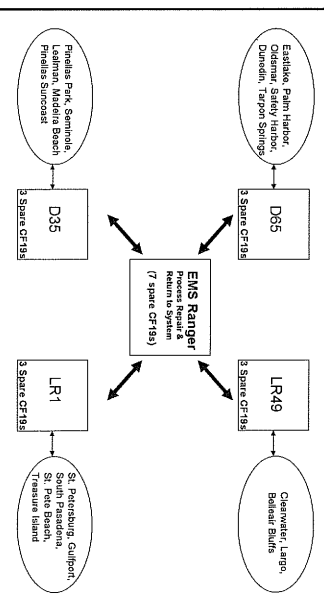
Hardware Overview



Are there any costs for the first Responders?

Hardware Support

Flowchart for Turn-In of Equipment with Problems



Zoll Software Overview

- Ambulance Billing was converted to Zoll in 1999.
- Ambulance Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) was converted to Zoll in 2004.
- Ambulance Electronic Patient Care Report was automated with Zoll in 2007.
- 100% of Ambulance Records are contained in an Integrated Database.
- The ePCR Data Set is compatible with the National and State Data Sets.
- The Pinellas County Data Set is solid, tested, and generating the same level of Ambulance User Fee Revenue.

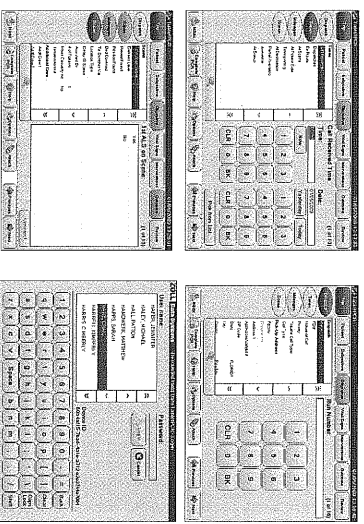
Zoll Software Overview

- Combines the TabletPCR product with a web-based PCR editor (RescueNet WebPCR) for better Quality Improvement.
- Designed to capture and allow access to all pre-hospital patient, clinical and system information on tablet PCs and mobile computers.
- Simplifies data input and improves access to information.
- Easy-to-use touch-screen user interface.
- Web-based solution for reviewing and editing patient care reports.

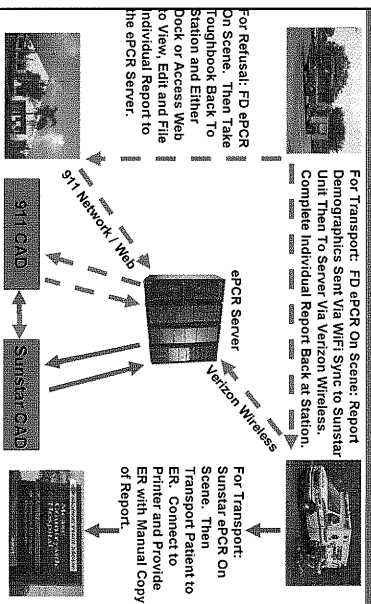
ZOLL Data Systems



Zoll Software Overview



ePCR Data Flow



Training Plan

- Zoll and the ePCR Committee will conduct "Train The Trainer" Classes
- ePCR Committee Must Prepare Local Training Curriculum
 - Syncing with Wi-Fi
 - Pinellas County Patient Care Report Specifics
- Breakdown of 75 TTT Training Slots as Follows:

BB=2	CL=7	DU=4	EL=4	GU=2
LA=7	LE=3	MB=2	OL=2	PA=2
PH=5	PP=6	PS=4	SB=3	SE=5
SH=3	SP=9	TI=2	TS=3	EMS=1

Training Plan

- User Support Provided By Department
 - How to document a rare assessment, intervention or procedure.
 - Forgotten Passwords
 - Handling Calls that won't Sync
 - Data Not Uploading From The LP12
- Implement Agency by Agency to ensure success and high level of support.
- Must have buy-in throughout each Fire Department from Fire Chief on down.
- Must have adequate support and determination to implement

Implementation Plan 2009

- February 5, 2009: Fire Chief's Briefing and Approval
- March 3, 2009: BCC Approval of Hardware / Software
- March – April 2009: Server Upgrade / Asset Equipment
- May 2009: Configure Software / Load Laptops
- Summer – Fall 2009: Training & Implementation Agency by Agency

Details to Consider

- County EMS Grant Funds could be used for other EMS System Improvements (i.e. Cardiac Monitors, etc.)
- On-going Costs to maintain the System
 - \$400K in 3 Years to Replace Laptops
 - \$60K per year for Batteries and Parts
 - \$60K per year for Software Maintenance Contract
 - \$25K per year for ½ Time Computer Support Position
 - Annualized Cost = \$230,000
- 2009 ALS First Responder Agreement will need to be Updated to reflect how we handle equipment. Easiest for EMS to provide All Equipment.

Project Options

1. Remain on Paper based Patient Care Report
2. Implement Web-Based at Fire Stations and Remain on Paper in the Field
(Could use a Short Form)
3. Partial Implementation of ePCR Agency by Agency
(Allow Opt Out or Later Opt In)
4. Full Implementation of ePCR Agency by Agency

Questions and Discussion



Pinellas County Safe Kids Water Safety Committee

Goals

- Reduce the number of drowning and near drowning incidents for children under the age of five
- Remove Pinellas County from Florida's top ten list for submersion incidents

Objectives

- Encourage the use of pool barriers
- Have a unified plan locally and regionally

Plan

- Identify every pool home in Pinellas County
- Year round public service announcements
- Participate in public events
- Pool safety surveys both online and in person
- Offer discounts and prizes through local retailers
- Web site: floridasafepools.com
- Education: schools, clubs, parent groups etc
- Secure State EMS grant, approximately \$190,000 7/5/25

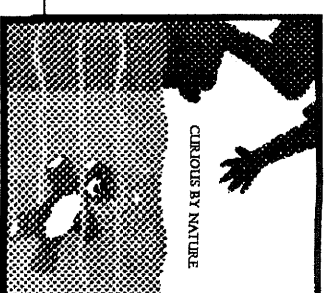
Committee

All Children's Hospital Safe Kids
Cox Media and their affiliates
Parent Guide Magazine
St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue
Pinellas County Health Department
Palm Harbor Fire Department
Largo Fire Department
Dunedin Fire Department
Pinellas Park Fire Department

Sponsors

Pinch-a-Penny
All Children's Hospital

Water Safety Survey



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DAY PHONE: _____ EVENING PHONE: _____

POTENTIAL ☐ Pool (In-ground) ☐ Spa ☐ Pond ☐ Gulf ☐ Buckets

Risk factors: ☐ Pool (Above Ground) ☐ Bathtub ☐ Lake ☐ Canal ☐ Other

For Additional Information Please Visit (floridasafepools.com) YES NO

Have you or a family member experienced a near drowning in a pool? ☐ ☐

ESSENTIAL SAFETY MEASURES IN PLACE:

Mindful adult supervision ☐ ☐

Children or Child Knows How To Swim ☐ ☐

Children or Child has/is taking swimming lessons ☐ ☐

Caregiver knows how to swim ☐ ☐

Caregiver knows CPR ☐ ☐

Drains have anti-entrapment covers ☐ ☐

Above ground pool stairs removed ☐ ☐

Life ring, rescue rope, floatation devices in pool area ☐ ☐

Pool area clear of toys ☐ ☐

Pool area clear of electrical hazards ☐ ☐

Covered electrical outlets ☐ ☐

Pool telephone available ☐ ☐

Child knows how to use 9-1-1 ☐ ☐

Clear view of pool from residence ☐ ☐

Pool chemicals and supplies in a secured area ☐ ☐

ALARMS IN PLACE: Yes ☐ No ☐ Discuss Alarm Options ☐

TYPE: In Pool alarm ☐ Gate Alarm ☐ Perimeter Alarm ☐

Door Alarm ☐ Wrist Alarm ☐

BARRIERS: Yes ☐ NO ☐ Discuss Barrier Options ☐

☐ Exterior doors lock ☐ Pool Cover

☐ Property Fence ☐ Screened Cage

☐ Gate self-latching ☐ Gate locked

☐ Fence between home and pool

Recommendations :

Date: _____ Completed by: _____ Discuss Recommendations ☐



The Health of Florida's Children and Youth



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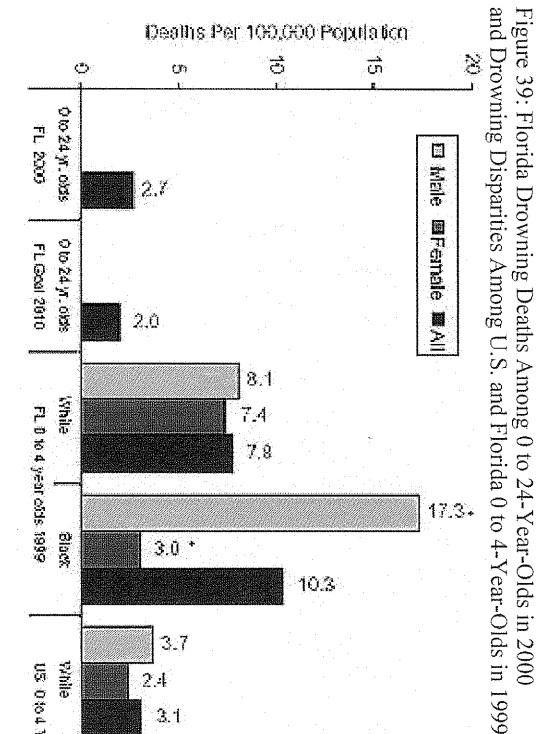
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Leading Health Indicator 7 (continued)

Drowning

Deaths from drowning for children less than age five in Florida are more than double the national average and are higher than any other state in the nation. More than two-thirds of these deaths occurred in swimming pools.

Drowning was the leading cause of death among 1 to 4-year-olds in 2000.



Source: U.S. Florida comparison data: Office of Statistics and Programming, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control CDC/NCHS Vital Statistics System and Bureau of Census
Data Source 0 to 24 years: Florida Department of Health, Vital Statistics and Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
<http://webapp.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncsp/ncspstate10.html>

(*) Less than 20 deaths – rate highly unstable

Drowning and Children with Special Health Care Needs

Near drowning injuries in swimming pools are of particular concern for little children. The lack of oxygen to the brain in some of these cases results in severe mental retardation and developmental delays.

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DROWNING & NEAR DROWNING

**2008 Swimming Pool & Water
Safety Conference
April 10-11, 2008**

**Office of Injury Prevention
Florida Department of Health**

<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/injury/drowningprevention.html>



Key Findings

- Florida residents - 91%
- In-ground residential pool - 67%
- Relatives pool (parent, grandparent, aunt) - 86%
- Last seen in house - 69%
- Access through house door leading to pool – 71%
- 26% drowned between 12 noon and 3:00 pm
- April, May, July - 42%; Sunday - 33%
- Median time missing, 11-12 minutes - 83%
- Alcohol and drugs - 0%

Key Findings

- Most drownings occurred while the caregiver was engaged in some type of routine activity within the home
 - In the bathroom
 - Cooking/Eating
 - Talking
 - Watching TV/Reading
 - Etc

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Water

Why Kids Are at Risk

Most drownings and near-drownings occur in residential swimming pools. More than half of these drownings take place in the child's home pool, and one-third occur at the homes of friends, neighbors or relatives. However, it's important to know that children – especially younger ones – can also drown in as little as 1 inch of water. This puts them at risk of drowning in wading pools, bathtubs, buckets, diaper pails, toilets, spas and hot tubs.

Childhood drownings and near-drownings can happen in a matter of seconds. They typically occur when a child is left unattended or during a brief lapse in supervision.

Other risk factors:

- The majority of children who drown in swimming pools were last seen in the home, had been out of sight for less than five minutes, and were in the care of one or both parents at the time of the drowning.
- In-ground swimming pools without complete four-sided isolation fencing are 60 percent more likely to be involved in drownings than those with four-sided isolation fencing.
- Drownings and near-drownings tend to occur on the weekend (40 percent) and between the months of May and August (62 percent).
- Older children are more likely to drown in open water sites, such as lakes, rivers and oceans.
- Death rates from drowning are higher in the country than in cities and suburbs, in part due to decreased access to emergency medical care.
- [Water Safety](#)
- [Protecting Your Family](#)
- [Protecting Communities](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

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