

Improving the Efficiency of Fire Services in Seven Southwestern Cuyahoga County
Communities

A Joint Project of Area Majors and Baldwin-Wallace College

Operations Team Meeting
September 15, 2006

Attending Meeting: John Braskie, Jesse Dirando, Paul Duchoslav, James Dunkle, Pierre David, Brand Eisenhardt, Pam Flasko, Jackie Haumschild, Ted Huffman, Kim Lammers, Mary Pisanar-Sweeney, Carl Schikowski, Oscar Skavdahl, Joe Stefanko, and Joe Toth.

The group made introductions.

At the last Operations Team meeting a sub-committee was formed to discuss medical protocol with representatives of both Southwest General and Parma hospitals. Ted Huffman reported to the team that a few members met at Middleburg Heights Fire Station on August 30th. The suggested created from that meeting were then sent to Joe Toth to go over and report back at the Operations meeting. Joe Toth felt that there were a big gap in the medical protocols and that Region 8 would be a step back. He hoped to add to the current protocols that Parma already had in place.

The team suggested that the two hospitals sit down again but with a regional protocol that was more aggressive so that instead of adding they could keep or cut. Protocols that were suggested were University Hospitals' and Region 2 protocols.

The question was asked if Region 2 protocols are more up to date or just more aggressive?

-Region 2 protocols hold medics more accountable

Both hospitals agree that they want what is best for the patient and want all the changes to make things better and not back track. Issues that were brought up that need to be discussed includes; calling in to get permission to give a patient medications, medical dispatchers, training, pain control, clinicals, etc.

The team acknowledges that Region 8 may not have been the best place to start. A suggestion is given that members research or contact protocols or people to find a better protocol to start from. The team needs to find a protocol that is better than where the two hospitals are now.

A statement was made that the unions may or may not like the original draft that the hospitals create, but that the first draft must be made as a starting off point.

Q: When the protocol is developed will other cities (outside the seven) be held to the same protocols?

A: Yes. Many times other cities will follow along, but may take a little longer.

The team decided that Jackie Haumschild and Joe Toth along with three associates each, Ted Huffman, and possible BW professors will meet during the first week of October at Baldwin-Wallace College to work off of Region 2 protocols. Any issues to the two groups are not able to work out will be turned over to the medical directors to address.

The next Operations Team meeting will be on October 20, 2006 in the Colony Room. The team will be discussing fire protocols and be updated on medical protocols.

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