

Annual Report for 2013

Advisory Body Name: Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC)

Advisory Body Meeting Time/Location: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of March, June, September, and December, unless otherwise noted. Meetings are held at the Contra Costa County Schools Insurance Group in Pleasant Hill.

Chair: Kacey Hansen, RN (2011-2013)

Staff person: Juleine Latteri (Jan-Sep); Leticia Andreas (Sep–present), Health Services, Emergency Medical Services

Reporting Period: January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013

I. Activities:

The EMCC, over the four (4) meetings in the past year, was involved in or kept its membership informed about the following:

- AMR participated in a national initiative, with the goal of training the highest number of citizens in Hands Only CPR on May 22nd during EMS Week.
- 2012 quality improvements for the EMS system: implementation of local EMS core measures, as well as the release of the EMS Authority's California EMS System Core Measures.
- Medical Reserve Corps (MRC): Approximately 150 MRC members, split into 60% logistics and 40% medical professionals. Purchase of medical equipment, including a pharmaceutical cache to treat 1,000 patients. The MRC has been reorganized into five eight-person teams to accommodate covering multiple locations during events.
- Ongoing updates on efforts to preserve services and keep Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo open. Despite savings, and the \$4-5 million of new revenue from Measure J, DMC is in danger of closing within the next year.
- Ongoing updates on the EMS System impact and evaluation of contingency planning associated with Contra Costa Fire District station closures brought on by fiscal constraints.
- Overview of the Jefferson Awards which recognize community and public service. Introduction of Ms. Beverly Bradley, recipient of a Jefferson Award in 2012, for her work with the Darius Jones Foundation and her accomplishments in the areas of sudden cardiac arrest awareness, CPR training and AED accessibility throughout Contra Costa County.
- Overview of EBRCSA, which was created in 2007 to develop and operate a state-of-the-art P25 communications system allowing for fully interoperable public safety radio coverage within Alameda and Contra Costa counties.
- EMS, AMR and Contra Costa Fire have participated in community town halls regarding recent fire station closures in Clayton, Walnut Creek, Martinez and Lafayette. As part of fire station closure mitigation, EMS is working with the hospitals on patient off-load times.
- The Board of Supervisors extended the AMR contract through December 2015.
- EMS distributed over \$3.1 million in Measure H funds to the fire agencies.
- The Statewide Medical Health Exercise in November 2013, theme: Food-Borne Illness.
- A new set of paramedic regulations will be enacted by the State. Fentanyl will be added and EMS is interested in it as a replacement for morphine.
- The newest American Heart Association guidelines for STEMI will now measure time from the time EMS makes patient contact to intervention.
- On May 22nd AMR held its first World CPR Challenge Day. AMR set a goal to train as many people as possible within a 24-hour period, in hands-only CPR, and was able to train a total of 570 people.
- Overview of Contra Costa HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program) and its services relating to health insurance.
- Fitch & Associates, at the direction of the Board of Supervisors, is currently engaged in two separate, concurrent studies in Contra Costa County: The EMS System Modernization Study, and a separate evaluation of Contra Costa Fire Protection District fire service- related to EMS. The goals of the studies are to improve efficiencies within the current EMS system and explore evidence-based alternative service models.
- On May 14th, the Board of Supervisors approved a new population-based model for distribution of Measure H funds to the fire districts to support enhancement of the EMS system.
- EMS was awarded a \$10,000 DHS (Department of Homeland Security) grant to support community resiliency focusing on CPR. The funding will go for CPR Anytime kits to benefit schools, CERT programs and other public CPR programs.
- New application guidelines have been developed for Special Project Measure H (handout available). The guidelines have increased reporting requirements and project timelines required for the use of public funds.
- The Contra Costa Medical Reserve Corps, working with Public Health, had a highly successful deployment as part of a massive school TB screening in Antioch this past April.

- Contra Costa EMS has partnered Concord and Pittsburg Police Departments to create first responder trauma kits for use in their patrol vehicles.
- Contra Costa EMS will be involved in making two presentations at the California Hospital Association Disaster Conference in September 2013: Statewide Neonatal and Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Coalition, and Medical Surge Response.
- Contra Costa EMS made a presentation at the Institute of Medicine on June 10th-11th in Washington DC on our bi-county ALCO-COCO California Neonatal and Pediatric Coalition efforts in supporting local, regional and statewide disaster preparedness for children.
- Spinal Immobilization Task Force has been established. As the risks involved in this procedure are being recognized, modifications to decrease the amount of unneeded use of spinal immobilizations are addressed.
- AMR Clinical Metrics presentation: Breakdown of (9-1-1) Call Type; Cardiac Arrest Survival; AMR STEMI Data.
- The Contra Costa Fire Protection District (CCFPD) Pittsburg Fire Station #87 was closed in July. Ambulance service continues to be monitored by CCEMS and CCFPD for patient care impacts.
- EMS UASI (Urban Areas Security Initiative) Grant for \$98,000 for EBRCS (East Bay Regional Communications System) was approved giving us the ability to support emergency hospital radio communications.
- AMR vendor discounts, along with Measure H support of \$90,000, will be helping fire agencies acquire new spinal immobilization equipment known to promote patient safety.
- EMS was awarded a \$50,000 DHS (Department of Homeland Security) grant to support CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) in schools program. The funding purchases CPR anytime kits and volunteers support the program.
- EMS applied for the EMSA (Emergency Medical Services Authority) HIE (Healthcare Information Exchange) \$30,000 award to improve data management efficiencies.
- EMS received a \$20,000 grant from DHS for first responder trauma kits to support police units to deploy throughout the operational area.
- MRC received a \$1,800 grant to support equipment.
- SB191 (Padilla, D) amended to extend only to 2017. Extending the sunset for Maddy Funds provides direct support for uncompensated emergency care provided by hospitals, physicians, pediatric trauma centers and local EMS agencies. The Maddy Fund contributes more than \$2.2 million per year for Contra Costa EMS stakeholders.
- A Contra Costa Ambulance Report is in progress with the goal to present a draft Ordinance to the Board of Supervisors by the end of the year and to implement it sometime in 2014.
- Fitch & Associates reported in September that the study for the EMS System Review is currently in Phase 7-System Design and that many of the identified system stakeholders have been interviewed.

II. Accomplishments

- Approval of EMCC 2012 Annual Report
- New Slate of Officers nominations, elections, and appointments for the 2013-2015 term
- Recognition of County Fire Service Providers for their response to the 2013 Mount Diablo Fire
- Active Participation in Fitch EMS System Modernization Study

III. Attendance/Representation

The EMCC is a multidisciplinary committee with membership consisting of representation of specific EMS stakeholder groups and organizations plus one consumer member and one alternate nominated by each Board of Supervisor member. There are 40 filled member seats on the EMCC. 12 seats are unfilled.

A quorum was achieved at each of the four EMCC meetings in the past year.

IV. Training/Certification

Each EMCC representative and alternate representative was given a copy of the Advisory Body Handbook and copies of the "The Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance - What you Need to Know as a Commission, Board or Committee Member" and "Ethics Orientation for County Officials" videotapes during their two-year term. Responsibilities of County Boards were discussed including the responsibility to view the videotapes and submit signed certifications. Certification forms have been received from 19 of 24 of the representatives and 9 of the 16 alternates. The 9 certificates received this year are attached.

V. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year

Report to the local EMS Agency its observations and recommendations relative to its review of:

- Fitch EMS System Modernization and CCFPD Fire Service Reports

- Medical Health Disaster Preparedness Coalition Building
- Medical Reserve Corp Capability
- Application of technology and opportunities for Health Information Exchange between EMS providers and EMS System stakeholders
- Seek input and prepare for RFP for ambulance services
- Seek recommendations and comments for the update county ambulance ordinance
- Update 2013 EMS System Plan, Trauma, Stroke, STEMI and EMS for Children Programs
- Monitor EMS System impacts due to changing economics and health care reform
- Report on EMS System impacts of potential closure of Doctor's San Pablo
- Evaluate EMS System performance
- Support innovative models of EMS service delivery
- Support continued efforts to promote innovation in EMS System delivery
- Monitor EMS System performance during reduction of fire first responder capability
- Enhance non-emergency ambulance disaster response
- Monitor EMS System patient safety and quality initiatives
- Seek opportunities for EMS to participate in Health Care reform
- Improve transparency of EMS System productivity and performance
- Expand partnerships with cities, law enforcement and citizens supporting capabilities in disasters and emergencies
- Monitor Contra Costa's high performance STEMI, Trauma, Cardiac Arrest and Stroke Systems
- Complete the EMS System Performance Report
- Improve continuity for community education and outreach, e.g., *HeartSafe*, Child Injury Prevention, appropriate use of 9-1-1, CPR Anytime, and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) programs through partnerships with Law Enforcement, CERT, Fire First Responders and Community Coalitions.