

Annual Report for 2014

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: Darrell Lee (11/2013-9/2014); John Speakman (9/2014-present)

Staff person: Leticia Andreas (9/2013–present), Health Services, Emergency Medical Services

Reporting Period: January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

I. Activities:

The EMCC, over the four (4) regular meetings in the past year, plus two (2) special meetings, was involved in or kept its membership informed about the following:

- Approval of Paramedics to use new pain medication Fentanyl as a safer and shorter acting drug.
- Major revision on spinal immobilization to improve comfort and safety.
- Notable modifications to protocols, training and quality reviews to improve effectiveness of cardiac arrest implemented countywide.
- Annual Quality Improvement (QI) Report presented by EMS staff, outlining how the system is performing and evaluated. EMS is working with all its providers in two key areas: patient events and system wide data. The focus is on system performance and patient safety.
- Involvement in drafting and finalizing contingency plans in case of a closure of Doctors Medical Center. Participation leader at Doctors Medical Center community public hearing in June.
- Hospital Offload Times: 9 out of 10 times patients will only wait 15 minutes at Contra Costa Regional Medical Center for offloading; in general all hospitals are at 19 minutes or less. Over 70% of California's population is affected by ambulance delays.
- Laura's Law Presentation by the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Workgroup: The purpose of Laura's Law is a permanent care program for the severe mentally ill, and with it reductions to the amounts of hospitalization and EMS involvement. Laura's Law passed California legislature in 2002, but also needs to be passed by each county supervisor in order to be funded.
- Educational efforts are geared towards high quality Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) on an ongoing basis, focusing on the rate and speed of compressions. EMS staff provides education to fire and ambulance providers via a developed curriculum.
- EMS provided seven (7) ambulances as mutual aid to the Napa earthquake.
- Approval of EMS' hospital preparedness grant for \$366,000 by the state.
- Submission of a grant by EMS to expand placement of AEDs in police vehicles and the community.
- Coordination of medical health operational response to Ebola with County Public Health.
- Presentation of EBOLA EMS System Preparedness, and informing members of CDC, State Department, and TSA programs and guidelines.

II. Accomplishments

- Approval of EMCC 2013 Annual Report
- Active participation in finalization of Fitch EMS System Modernization Study
- Active participation in EMS Ambulance Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Cardiac Arrest Recognitions of Contra Costa Fire dispatcher and two (2) nurses from Juvenile Hall for providing CPR instructions and implementations resulting in saving two lives
- Recognition of San Ramon Valley HeartSafe Community Committee for ten (10) years of service
- Lifeline EMS Bronze Level Recognition Award presented by the American Heart and American Stroke Association to Contra Costa EMS
- Active participation and involvement in drafting a contingency plan for the closure of Doctors Medical Center
- Submittal and acceptance of the finalized EMS Modernization Study to the Board of Supervisors
- Letter of Support from the EMCC Executive Committee to the Board of Supervisors, to endorse the work of the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Workgroup to adopt Laura's Law in Contra Costa County.
- Successful completion of the Request for Proposal (RFP) Workshop
- Successful statewide operational area tabletop and functional disaster exercise

- Successful training of all Contra Costa County EMS providers in the 9-1-1 system on high quality Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Quality Initiative.
- Election of a new 2nd Vice Chair in December 2014.

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 six 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 20 of 24 of the representatives and 9 of the 16 alternates. The one (1) certificate received in 2014 is attached.

V. Proposed Work Plan/Objectives for Next Year

Report to the local EMS Agency and to the Board of Supervisors as appropriate its observations and recommendations relative to its review of:

- Emergency Ambulance Request for Proposal EOA I, II, and V
- 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
- Update of the county ambulance ordinance
- The 2014 EMS System Plan, Trauma, Stroke, STEMI and EMS for Children Programs
- EMS System impacts due to changing economics and health care reform
- EMS System impacts of potential closure of Doctors Medical Center
- EMS System performance
- Innovative models of EMS service delivery
- Non-emergency ambulance disaster response
- EMS System patient safety and quality initiatives
- Improvement in transparency of EMS System productivity and performance
- Partnerships with cities, law enforcement and citizens supporting capabilities in disasters
- Contra Costa’s high performance STEMI, Trauma, Cardiac Arrest and Stroke Systems
- EMS System Performance Report
- 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.
- Review and update of EMCC Bylaws - last reviewed in 11/15/2006