

Annual Report for 2017

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 various locations in Contra Costa County.

Chair: Kacey Hansen (December 2015 – present)

Staff Person: Rachel Morris (January 2017 – Present), Health Services, Emergency Medical Services

Reporting Period: January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

I. Activities:

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

- Held 5150 psychological emergency summit in February of 2017 involving multiple stakeholders: County Health, Contra Costa Regional Medical Center, other hospitals, public and private transport providers, transport staff. 69 guests attended the event from multiple branches of the EMS system.
- New ambulance provider “Alliance” successfully transitioned to assume responsibilities for 92% of county emergency ambulance services effective January 1, 2016.
- Alliance leadership reporting to EMCC on implementation and system improvements established.
- EMS Agency consolidation of Systems of Care and MAC meetings to improve hospital and stakeholder engagement into periodic half day meetings. New meeting format convened in March 2016.
- EMS treatment protocols transitioned to visual algorithm format with full implementation effective January 2017.
- EMS establishes optional scope for use of epinephrine and narcan in first responder BLS protocols. Once established, the new protocols will create an opportunity for all BLS fire first responder agencies to use.
- EMCC informed on process to update the ambulance ordinance. Once County Counsel approves the draft, the ordinance will be made available to stakeholders and go to the BOS for approval. Updates in ordinance are focused on non-emergency ambulances services and to improve EMS Agency ability to assure public safety and improvements in coordination of medical transportation services throughout the EMS system between emergency and non-emergency transport providers.
- EMS Agency participation with CCHS Public Health Department on a county marijuana ordinance and anticipated impacts of legalization on EMS System.
- Online payment feature within ImageTrend online certification and licensing renewal platform implemented in October 2017.
- EMS System stakeholders advised of new EMSA ePCR (electronic patient care record) and HIE (health information exchange) requirements to support bi-directional exchange between EMS and hospitals. CCEMS EMS System advisory letter to hospitals and EMS providers to prepare for bi-directional exchange by January 2018.
- County Ambulance Patient Transfer of Care reports for Sutter Delta demonstrate significant improvement for East County EMS Services.
- The Board of Supervisors recognized May 21-27th 2017 as National EMS Week, and May 24th as EMS for Children Day.
- EMCC advised of marked reductions in Hospital Preparedness Program Grant funding and continued unfunded state regulations and mandates.
- EMCC informed of status of closure of Alta Bates Hospital, Alameda County and City of Berkeley workgroup, and concerns of impact to West County.
- EMS service in West County remains stable with Lifelong Urgent Care filling the gap for non-emergency care with support of CCHS nurse call lines, and high walk-in volume at Kaiser Richmond ED.
- EMS Agency HIE and EPIC workgroups and strategies to connect prehospital care records with emergency department patient records in the hospital using EPIC Care Everywhere. EMS implementing upgrades of FirstWatch data platform - to include enhanced analytics to improve medical oversight and utilization reporting.
- EMSA released a publication for strategy and data collection evaluation and quality: recent legislation requires EMS will be a conduit for registries, POLST, Stroke registry and others in terms of providing information to the state.
- West County transports consistent distribution of patients post DMC closure. Kaiser Richmond is seeing on a routine basis over 200 patients. ED bed capacity at Kaiser Richmond was increased in January from 15 to 25.
- POLST Program: Contra Costa EMS to pilot EMSA POLST registry with implementation in 2017 in collaboration with ACCMA.

- Contra Costa EMS System was selected to pilot improvements in California Stroke Registry and Stroke system as part of CMS grant with Stanford Health Services.
- On November 8th, EMS hosted the 2nd annual Contra Costa County Survivors Reunion Luncheon to show tangible continuum of care, and where survivors meet their rescuers. Report on reunion was presented in December 2017.
- Treatment guidelines and policies updated towards the end of a year are mostly finished for sending out for public comment. Implementation is January 1st, 2018.
- EMS Agency Measure H funds are supporting Fire Service EMS Medical Director and ePCR server to assure compliance with EMSA data requirements.
- Report on the Medication Take-Back Ordinance submitted by Public Health to the Board of Supervisors.
- Recognized Fire Chief Stephen Healy of the Moraga-Orinda Fire District for his many years of service to the Contra Costa County EMS system. Chief Healy retired in September of 2017.
- The EMS Agency along with other Contra Costa County divisions, stakeholders and outside agencies, all worked together during the October 2017 North Bay Fires event.

II. Accomplishments

- Approval of EMCC 2016 Annual Report.
- Supported 5150 psychological emergency summit in February of 2017 involving multiple stakeholders.
- On July 24, 2017, the EMCC Executive Committee sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors referencing a letter previously sent on July 6, 2016, and once again reinforcing the potential value of the Committee providing further input to the Board to assist them in evaluating the proposed updates to the ambulance ordinance.
- 2016 EMS System Plan has met all standards and criteria required by state EMS Authority.
- Contra Costa EMS has received the Mission Lifeline:Silver Award for their STEMI system, along with AMR Concord, CCCFPD, ECCFPD, El Cerrito Fire Department, MOFD, Pinole Fire Department, Richmond Fire Department, Rodeo-Hercules Fire District, SRVFPD.

III. Attendance/Representation

The EMCC is a multidisciplinary committee with membership consisting of representation of specific EMS stakeholder groups and organizations plus one (1) consumer member nominated by each Board of Supervisor member. There are twenty-one (21) filled member seats on the EMCC. Three (3) seats are unfilled. A quorum was achieved at four (4) of the four (4) EMCC meetings in 2017.

IV. Training/Certification

Each EMCC 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 (2) 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 twenty (20) of the twenty-one (21) representatives. The four (4) certificates received in 2017 are 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:

- Alliance/EMS partnerships to implement efficiencies and workflows supporting EMS System improvement.
- Efforts to procure grant funding for EMS System data infrastructure enhancements to support bi-directional data exchange.
- Promote and sustain Medical Health Disaster Coalition preparedness and engagement throughout EMS System.
- Enhancements to Medical Reserve Corps’ capability for children and special needs populations.
- Update of County EMS for Children (EMSC) program and system of care enhancements.
- Continue to work with county counsel and stakeholders to update the county ambulance ordinance.
- Manage, update and submit to the State EMS Authority the 2016 EMS System Plan, Quality, Trauma, Stroke, STEMI and EMS for Children programs.
- Monitor and report on EMS System impacts due to changing economics and health care reform.
- Receive 2017 Annual EMS System performance report.
- Innovative models of EMS service delivery with hospital community.
- Update the County Multi-Casualty Incident (MCI) Plan in partnership with EMS System stakeholders.

- Support emergency ambulance provider and community hospitals efforts to reduce patient transfer of care extended delays that impact the availability of ambulances for the next 9-1-1 call.
- Support EMS System program (STEMI, Stroke, Cardiac Arrest, EMSC, Quality/Patient Safety and Trauma) initiatives.
- Continue to support and sustain community education and outreach, e.g. *HeartSafe*, Child Injury Prevention.
- Support 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.
- Update of county ambulance ordinance.
- Hold 3rd Annual Contra Costa Survivors Reunion.
- Explore future 5150 Summit events.
- Continue to monitor West County EMS System associated with closure of Doctors Medical Center and pending closure of Alta Bates Summit.