



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2014

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT REPRESENTING</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT REPRESENTING</u>
<p>Chair: Darrell Lee <i>Contra Costa Fire Chiefs Assoc.</i> 1st Vice Chair: John Speakman <i>District II</i> 2nd Vice Chair: Gary Napper <i>Public Managers Assoc.</i> Executive Committee: Andy Swartzell <i>Contra Costa Fire Chiefs Assoc.</i></p> <p>Joseph Barger <i>Contra Costa County Health Services</i> Charles Gibson <i>Contra Costa Police Chiefs Assoc.</i> Jeff Belle <i>District III (Piepho)</i> Amelia Blackshear <i>Public Provider Field Paramedic</i> Gale Bowen <i>Contra Costa Sheriff-Coroner</i> Roberta Currier <i>District IV (Mitchoff)</i> Marcy Dixon <i>Base Hospital (CC Contract)</i> Pat Frost <i>EMCC Officer</i> Jerry Lee <i>Ambulance Providers (CC Contract)*</i> Ellen Leng <i>Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association</i> Noel Luiz <i>Public Provider Field Paramedic*</i> Bill Sugiyama <i>District V* (Glover)</i> Alvin Tang <i>Emergency Department Physicians</i> Kacey Hansen <i>Trauma Center (Contra Costa Contract)</i> Jason Sampson <i>Ambulance Providers (CC Contract)</i> Gino Verza <i>Private Provider Field Paramedic*</i></p>	<p>Donna Hoffman <i>American Red Cross</i> Amish Waland <i>Hospital Council East Bay</i> Ross Fay <i>Air Medical Transportation Provider*</i> Allan Tobias <i>District IV*</i> Laura King Hahn <i>American Heart Association</i> Steve West <i>California Highway Patrol</i> Byron Baptiste <i>Communications Ctr Managers' A.</i> Cindy Roberts <i>Emer. Nurses Assoc. East Bay Ch.</i> Alvin Tang <i>Emergency Dept. Physicians</i> Barbara Leal <i>EMS Training Institution</i> Texana Bluit <i>District I (Gioia)</i> Deborah Campbell <i>District V (Glover)</i></p> <p><u>OTHERS PRESENT</u> Ben Smith <i>Contra Costa Fire Protection District</i> Douglas Butler <i>American Medical Response</i> Brian Hubbell <i>Falck Northern California</i> Pete Howes <i>Falck Northern California</i> Dan McNamara <i>San Ramon Fire</i> Steve Limri <i>Contra Costa Fire Protection District</i> Laura Case <i>District IV (Mitchoff)</i></p> <p><u>STAFF PRESENT</u> Brian Henriksen <i>EMS</i> Mia Fairbanks <i>EMS</i> Laura O'Neal <i>EMS</i> Leticia Andreas <i>EMS</i></p>

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

1.	<i>Introduction of Members and Guests</i> Chair Lee welcomed everyone. Self-introductions.
2.	<i>Approval of December 18, 2013 Minutes</i> M/S/C (Speakman/Swartzell) approved December minutes.
3.	<i>Cardiac Arrest Recognitions - Pam Dodson, Contra Costa EMS</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dispatcher Steve Limrite, Contra Costa Fire, was honored for 1) providing CPR instructions resulting in a 7-year old drowning victim's survival, and 2) providing CPR instructions on a gentleman having collapsed in sudden cardiac arrest at Juvenile Hall. ● Nurses Mary Vesey and Liz Maaske from Juvenile Hall provided CPR and used the AED to save their co-worker Edward Taraskewich. The involved fire crew consisted of Michael Ortolan, EMT, Russell Perkins, EMT-P, and Troy Skillman, EMT. The involved AMR crew consisted of Katie Norlin, EMT-P, and Michael Yoshino, EMT. ● San Ramon Valley HeartSafe Community Committee was also recognized for 10 years of service.
4.	<i>Comments from the Public</i> None.
5.	<i>Chair's Report</i> None.
6.	<i>Members' Reports</i> None.
7.	<i>EMS Medical Director's Report - Joseph Barger, MD, Contra Costa EMS Medical Director</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paramedics are now approved to use new pain medication Fentanyl. It is considered to have

*Alternate

	<p>advantages over Morphine, as a safer and shorter acting drug.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a major revamp on spinal immobilization to improve comfort and safety from flat back boards to newer back boards in curved format, with added vacuum mattresses that form around the patient. • This year, major modifications to protocols, training and quality reviews to improve effectiveness of cardiac arrest have been implemented countywide. Data on CPR performance is now being captured from Physio cardiac monitors. New software allows recording of CPR events for tracking, particularly compressions and ventilations. Giving CPR is highly challenged at 100-120 per minute, metronomes which tick at 100/minute have been acquired to cue providers to deliver the proper rate for CPR for improving patient survival. • Dr. Barger's Retirement is effective on March 29th, but he will continue as a retired annuitant until a new director is recruited. Chair Lee expresses the committee's deep appreciation to Dr. Barger for years of service.
8.	<p><i>Fire Chiefs' Reports - Ben Smith, Fire Chief, Contra Costa Fire Protection District</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCFPD is forming strategic work groups as an advisory committee regarding the Fitch study. • They continue to evaluate their system every day to include and enhance their EMS. • Moved squad out of Walnut Creek to downtown Concord. • Working with City of San Pablo to create an additional squad in station 70. • A squad is comprised of Paramedics, EMTs, Firefighter Paramedics. When calls are received by the dispatch center, it uses medical priority dispatch so the calls can be prioritized. A squad can respond to calls Charlie level and below; if calls are above Charlie, an engine will be sent out with them. • The Safer Grant received from the district is implemented through work groups evaluating work station closures, data, and work load. Negotiations with labor groups are taking place to get more squads up. <p><i>Pat Frost, for Chief Henderson:</i> East Contra Costa Fire Protection District has decided not to move forward with the ballot measure to sustain the five stations, and will be going back to three stations when the SAFER grant ends. EMS has been in discussions for contingency planning. Dr. Barger recognized East County as having specific vulnerabilities as there is no hospital except in Antioch. Who are our utilizers of 911 resources in East County, and are they modifiable.</p>
9.	<p><i>Annual QI Report - Craig Stroup, Contra Costa EMS</i></p> <p>Staff Stroup presented the Quality Improvement Report for 2013 via PowerPoint, outlining how the system is performing and evaluated. EMS is working with all our providers in two key areas: patient events and system wide data. The focus is on three main domains: system performance, patient safety, and cost efficiencies. The EMS data benchmarks itself with CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry for Enhanced Survival, a national registry for cardiac arrest). Further addressed were: the decline of activity of base calls into hospitals over the past ten years; hospital diversions; STEMI; special kind of mild heart attack; and stroke benchmarks.</p>
10.	<p><i>Update on Doctors Medical Center - Pat Frost, Contra Costa EMS Director (for Dawn Gideon, CEO)</i></p> <p>Ballot with property tax measure will be mailed out to residents, results will be known on May 6th. If it does not pass, the hospital will close. The consequences to the EMS system are dire, as 40000+ patients will have to find other care. A closure would require ambulances to transport many patients out of county reducing availability for our own system. EMS first responders in West County may need to manage some patients for up to fifteen minutes in the field under high volume conditions. We are working with Contra Costa Health Services, regional hospitals and ambulatory care center. This is a healthcare system problem, not just an EMS problem. The county received DMC closure notice in April for closure in July. Regional contingency plans are being finalized; other EMS directors have been informed. A draft contingency plan has been distributed to the fire chiefs. Health officer will be declaring countywide public health emergency if closure occurs.</p>
11.	<p><i>Ambulance Ordinance Revision Update - Pat Frost, Contra Costa EMS Director</i></p> <p>The ordinance revision is still in final review by county counsel, after which it will be posted for written public comment. If the EMCC were to look at the draft prior to public comment, it would require a special meeting. Motion approved for a special meeting. Second motion approved for a face-2-face meeting before public comment and after counsel release. Pat Frost to work with the executive committee.</p>

12.	<p><i>Hospital Offload Times - Pat Frost, Contra Costa EMS Director</i></p> <p>Handout was distributed reflecting AMR data, not including San Ramon Valley Fire or Moraga-Orinda. 9 out of 10 times patients will only wait 15 minutes at CCRMC for offloading, in general all hospitals are at 19 minutes or less. Over 70% of California's population is affected by ambulance delays.</p> <p>Member Swartzell explained that SRVF has to make adjustments to get their data to EMS, as their patient care record has to be changed. SRVF's offload time is 15-16 minutes.</p> <p>The goal of monitoring is to keep offload times as low as possible. The problem is that when multiple ambulances are sitting in place for any extended period of time, they are not available for response. Delays cost the community, ambulance providers, and EMS System.</p>
13.	<p><i>EMS Director's Report - Pat Frost, Contra Costa EMS Director</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● AMR has a new general manager, Erik Rohde.● EMS is unable to recruit at this time due to county HR difficulties. We are down four positions.● Fitch Study: Draft posted for public comment on March 24. Consultants are meeting with stakeholders the week of April 7-10. The EMCC Townhall is scheduled for April 9 in the Board Chambers on Pine Street. Public comment period for the draft report ends at close of business on April 18. Final report posted prior to board meeting on May 6.● RFP process can move forward once the board knows which direction to go with the EMS System Study.● Ambulance procurement process: The goal is to have new provider selected by June of 2015. The EMS System Study serves as first phase of the ambulance procurement process.
14.	<p><i>Next meetings:</i></p> <p><i>Special EMCC Townhall "Contra Costa EMS System Modernization Study", April 9, 2014</i></p> <p><i>Next regularly scheduled meeting: June 10, 2014</i></p>