



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

**“EMS Ambulance Request for Proposal (RFP)
 EMS Agency Proposed Key Components and Features”
 Comments Requested from EMCC**

July 17, 2014

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT REPRESENTING</u>	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</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> Ross Fay <i>Air Medical Transportation Provider*</i></p> <p>Joseph Barger <i>Contra Costa County Health Services</i> Gale Bowen <i>Contra Costa Sheriff-Coroner</i> Marcy Dixon <i>Base Hospital (CC Contract)</i> Pat Frost <i>EMCC Officer</i> Kacey Hansen <i>Trauma Center (Contra Costa Contract)</i> Barbara Leal <i>EMS Training Institution</i> Ellen Leng <i>Alameda Contra Costa Medical Assoc.</i> Noel Luiz <i>Public Provider Field Paramedic*</i> Cindy Roberts <i>Emergency Nurses Association East Bay Chapter</i> Jason Sampson <i>Ambulance Providers (Contra Costa Contract)</i> William Sugiyama <i>District V*</i> Alvin Tang <i>Emergency Dept. Physicians</i></p>	<p>Ben Smith <i>Contra Costa Fire Protection District</i> Brian Hubbell <i>Falck Northern California</i> Pete Howes <i>Falck Northern California</i> Mick Smith <i>American Heart Association</i> Erik Rohde <i>American Medical Response</i> Jill Ray <i>District II</i> John Rinaudo <i>Resident</i> Dr. + Mrs. Robert Leasure <i>Residents</i> Peter Benson <i>Contra Costa Fire Protection District</i> Dan Colbatu <i>Local 1230</i> Alvin Tang <i>Emergency Dept. Physicians</i> Janice L. Howe <i>Cara CAN Health Work Group</i> Nuru Neemuchwalla <i>ACO</i> Susan Frederick Robert Frederick Alan Hartford <i>Contra Costa Fire Protection District</i> Scott Danielson <i>AAA</i> Doug Butler <i>American Medical Response</i> Tim Ewell <i>Contra Costa County CAO</i> Diana McDonald <i>John Muir Health</i> Melinda Trost <i>REACH</i> Nesar Abdiani <i>Bay Medic</i> Joe Greaves <i>ACCMA</i> Michelle Voos <i>Alco EMS</i></p>
<p><u>MEMBERS ABSENT REPRESENTING</u> Jeff Belle <i>District III (Piepho)</i> Amelia Blackshear <i>Public Provider Field Paramedic</i> Deborah Campbell <i>District V (Glover)</i> Roberta Currier <i>District IV (Mitchoff)</i> Charles Gibson <i>Contra Costa Police Chiefs Assoc.</i> Donna Hoffman <i>American Red Cross</i> Laura King Hahn <i>American Heart Association</i> Jerry Lee <i>Ambulance Providers (CC Contract)*</i> Allan Tobias <i>District IV*</i> Amish Waland <i>Hospital Council East Bay</i> Steve West <i>California Highway Patrol</i> Ross Wilson <i>Private Provider Field Paramedic</i></p>	<p><u>STAFF PRESENT</u> Laura O’Neal <i>EMS</i> Leticia Andreas <i>EMS</i></p>

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

4:35 pm	1.	<i>Pledge of Allegiance</i> <i>Moment of silence for the victims of Malaysia flight MH17</i> <i>Roll Call and Introductions</i>
4:40 pm	2.	<i>Chair Lee invited all attendees to comment publicly on items not on the agenda</i> No comments

*Alternate

4:41 pm	3.	<p><i>EMS System Optimization - Dr. Joe Barger, EMS Medical Director</i></p> <p>EMS Medical Director Barger gave a presentation on EMS System Optimization, highlighting the county experience with paramedic scope of practice ALS (Advanced Life Support), current EMS science on scope of practice, accountabilities and competency requirements associated with ALS service levels. Opportunities for complementary vs. duplication of service and system efficiencies were discussed. These included future considerations for: tiered deployment approach (ALS and BLS) using high quality emergency medical dispatch with the goal of sustainable, safe, efficient and effective delivery of EMS based on available resources. The PowerPoint presentation can be found posted on the EMS Agency RFP website at http://cchealth.org/ems/system-review.php#simpleContained8</p>
5:08 pm	4.	<p><i>EMS Agency Ambulance RFP Recommendations Presentation - Pat Frost, EMS Director</i></p> <p>EMS Director Frost reviewed the purpose of the System Modernization Study in providing information to help EMS system stakeholders prepare for the next emergency ambulance RFP. Emphasis of the study was to explore how EMS services can be provided with a high degree of value to the patient. The study findings were reviewed, along with EMS Agency recommendations. The PowerPoint presentation can be found posted on the EMS RFP website at http://cchealth.org/ems/system-review.php#simpleContained8</p> <p>Guest Hartford, from Contra Costa Fire: Fire agencies have significant issues with the Fitch report and the optimization study. As Contra Costa Fire is part of the public provider network, he cannot speak to the RFP, but would like the public to know that Contra Costa Fire is very interested in competing in the ambulance procurement process.</p>
5:37 pm	5.	<p><i>Ambulance RFP Discussion and Comments for the Board of Supervisors - Darrell Lee, Chair</i></p> <p>Chair Lee noted that this is the first step in an ongoing process. The Board of Supervisors had asked for EMCC input. An EMS system cannot be efficient just on ALS, there has to be a backup system to call on BLS.</p> <p>Guest Neemuchwalla: The ambulance billing process is not very clear. The EMS system has to get the users involved.</p> <p>Member Napper: Is it reasonable for the EMCC to suggest that, in addition to the recommendations, the process not preclude an existing emergency first responder in the county from entering into that process? Member Swartzell proposed a motion, seconded by Member Napper, that existing local first responders not be precluded from entering into the ambulance RFP. Motion passed. Member Swartzell proposed another motion, to make a request to the Board of Supervisors that a representative from the EMCC be involved in the RFP review process. Motion seconded by Member Hansen. Motion passed.</p> <p>Guest Rinaudo commented that he represents the local public, and needs to mention that there is a lack of information here. Ambulance transports are very expensive, and there is no place for citizens to appeal billing, miscoding, or other errors. Many residents are sent to collections as they cannot pay ambulance transportation rates. There is not one agency in the county that can answer these appeals. The total number of emergency transports should be reported to Medicare and Medical, as well as all billing, and the amount of users unable to pay. This should all be part of the contract.</p>
6:35 pm	6.	Adjournment