

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

September 9, 2015

# **Members Present Representing**

Chair: John Speakman District II

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Gary Napper Public Managers' Association2nd Vice Chair: Kacey Hansen Trauma Center (CC Contract)

**Executive Committee:** 

Andy Swartzell Contra Costa Fire Chiefs Association\*
Ross Fay Air Medical Transportation Provider\*

Jacob Airola Public Provider Field Paramedic\*
Joseph Barger Contra Costa County EMS
Gale Bowen Contra Costa Sheriff-Coroner
Pat Frost EMCC Officer

Charles Gibson Contra Costa Police Chiefs Assoc.

Derek Krause Contra Costa Fire Chiefs' Association

Whitney Laughlin District III\*

Ellen Leng Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association

Robert Lutzow District III

Mike Marsh Ambulance Providers (CoCo Contract)

Flo Raskin Hospital Council East Bay

David Schweppe District II\*

Chris Shrader Air Medical Transportation Provider

German Sierra EMS Training Institution\*
Mick Smith American Heart Association

William Sugiyama District V\* Allan Tobias District IV

### Members Absent Representing

Byron Baptiste Communications Ctr Managers' Assoc.

Deborah Campbell District V

Marcy Dixon Base Hospital (CC Contract)
Mark Firkins California Highway Patrol
Barbara Leal EMS Training Institution

Jon Michaelson *Public Provider Field Paramedic*David Samuelson *Emergency Nurses Assoc. East Bay* 

Albert Sebilia American Red Cross

Joe Toscano Emergency Dept. Physicians\* Ross Wilson Private Provider Field Paramedic

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Leticia Andreas *Contra Costa EMS*Jesse Allured *Contra Costa EMS*Marshall Bennett *Contra Costa EMS* 

#### Others Present

Jill Ray District II

Joe Greaves Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association

Joanny All American Medical Response Joshua English Alameda County EMS

Lon Goetsch Contra Costa Fire Protection District Jeff Carman Contra Costa Fire Protection District

## **Chair Speakman** called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

- 1. Introduction of Members and Guests
- Approval of June 10 Meeting Minutes
   Staff Andreas mentioned changes to the June minutes she was made aware of by Member Tobias, and will execute. Member Tobias motioned to approve minutes, seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Napper; all in favor; none opposed; motion passed.
- 3. Comments from the Public
  - None.
- 4. Chair's Report

Chair Speakman reminded the EMCC that thirteen (13) EMCC members have not taken the required Brown Act training yet. Member Frost reported that the in June newly elected officers will assume their positions at the December meeting as follows: new Chair Kacey Hansen; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Gary Napper; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Andy Swartzell, Executive Committee members Ross Fay and Ellen Leng.

- 5. Fire Chiefs' Reports
  - 1) Chief Carman from Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (CCCFPD) reported:
  - CCCFPD had been awarded the ambulance contract, in a joint relationship with American Medical Response (AMR). This combination of a public/private partnership is a new model for ambulance service delivery Contra Costa County. Contract negotiations with LEMSA will begin on September 21, and the contract will be presented at the Board of Supervisors for approval when complete.
  - The transition of the Zoll electronic patient care record (EPCR) servers from county IT to private provider has been approved by their district board and will be supported by Measure H reimbursement from EMS.
  - The position of a fire service EMS medical director for all fire agencies (with exception of CCCFPD) has been established, supported by Measure H funds, and considered a shared asset throughout the county. Member Barger added that the service medical director oversees provider agency Quality Improvement (QI) and training programs.
  - 2) Member Krause from San Ramon Fire District gave a report on behalf of the Fire Chiefs' Association:
  - Requested EMCC to resolve an issue regarding Kaiser Walnut Creek's traffic safety isle access. San Ramon Fire approached

the City of Walnut Creek proposed for emergency vehicles to be able to make a legal left U-turn over a year ago. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Napper recommended the fire agency re-approach the City of Walnut Creek. Member Frost requested a complete report of the problem from the providers; Member Krause will include Member Frost in his communication with the City of Walnut Creek.

#### 6. *Members' Reports*

Presented by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Napper were the changes in the proposed new EMCC By-Laws, as approved by county counsel:

- 1. Elimination of alternate seats, consistent with other advisory committees
- 2. Officer numbers are decreased from three (3) down to two (2): one vice chair instead of two.
- 3. Membership recommended changes as follows:
  - Ex-officio members will be non-voting members
  - Addition of the seat of a Contra Costa County emergency physician
  - The Emergency Nurses' Association and Hospital Council representatives have to be from a Contra Costa County receiving hospital.
  - The representative from Contra Costa Health Services has to be from the Behavioral Health division.
  - Seats proposed for elimination: Sheriff Coroner; Community Awareness Response; Base Hospital due to overlap with Emergency Hospital.
  - Instead of one representative and alternate, the Health Services Director will be given the choice of three (3) representatives to pull from any of the five (5) groups under Membership, section C.
  - Membership will terminate automatically if member no longer meets the criteria, i.e. leaves his organization or changes positions.
  - Individuals wishing to resign must notify the EMCC Chair and EMS Director.
  - Should the chair position become vacant, vice chair automatically assumes the chair's seat. Should the vice chair position become vacant, the EMCC will elect a new one. If a vacancy in the executive committee should occur, the EMCC shall elect a member for that position.
  - Chair may call special meetings under proper public notice.
  - A quorum shall consist of the majority of filled seats, with vacant positions not counted.
  - A member who cannot attend a meeting must notify the chair. One excused absence in twelve (12) months is granted; if a member has not attended two (2) consecutive meetings, EMCC staff will notify member's nominating party that perhaps another member shall represent their organization.
  - All members must complete the Brown Act and Ethics training to serve.

After all proposed changes had been presented to the EMCC, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Napper opened them up for discussion. Member Leng voiced strong concerns about the proposed elimination of the Emergency Department Physician's representative, the Base Hospital representative, and the decrease in Ambulance Providers' seats, and would especially like to see the Emergency Department Physician's seat reinstated, as well as a full slate of ambulance field providers. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Hansen interpreted the Emergency Department Physician and Alameda-Contra Costa County Medical Association (ACCMA) roles as consolidated, as Base Hospital and Trauma were consolidated. Member Airola also expressed concerns about not having representation from all ambulance providers at full slate. Member Fay suggested that having all ambulance providers represented at the EMCC would give them more exposure, and they should be reporting back regularly to the EMCC. Member Bowen notified the EMCC that the sheriff disagrees with the proposed elimination of the Sheriff-Coroner's seat; Member Swartzell proposed to keep this seat as a general representation of the Sheriff's office including OES, which was met with approval by Member Bowen and, by extension, the sheriff. After discussion Member Frost summarized the changes to be incorporated in the new draft:

- The name of the Contra Costa Office of Emergency Services (OES) seat shall be changed to Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff.
- The Emergency Department Physician representative will be added back in to the group of five (5) under Membership, section C. Further, instead of limiting member seats to three (3) of that group, have a representative from each of those five (5) groups be nominated.
- Total EMCC membership with proposed changes would now be at 24 members.

Chair Speakman asked for a vote on the recommending changes; motioned by  $2^{nd}$  Vice Chair Hansen, seconded by Member Leng. Approved by EMCC members with none opposed. A suggestion was made to redefine the membership and officer elections from its current odd and even years' structure. Member Frost finished by advising the committee that the document will be refined and sent to the EMCC's executive committee, then to county counsel, and brought back to the EMCC in December for approval. The new bylaws will then be submitted to the BOS for approval before going into effect.

7. Overview of EMS' Medical Health Disaster Program - Steve Huck, Contra Costa EMS Emergency Manager
EMS Staff Huck reported on the revamped emergency preparedness program: in the past it was more grant driven.. Training and exercises are organized based on the needs of the participating organizations. The preparedness program has grown by

Adjournment at 5:54pm

13.

400 percent, with more complex exercises and trainings. Medical Health Operational Area Coordination (MHOAC) Program - Jesse Allured, Contra Costa EMS Program Coordinator 8. Rescheduled for the December 9<sup>th</sup> EMCC Meeting 9-1-1 Communications Update - Gale Bowen, Communications Center Director, Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff 9. Member Bowen reported that the new 911 phone system replaces the ten year old Positron system, which is compatible to the system used by Contra Costa Fire. As cell phone calls have been increasing, two agencies Richmond and Martinez are now also in the process of accepting 911 calls per text. All of the 911 communications centers in Contra Costa County currently take direct wireless 911 calls except Pinole. Any of the calls will still route to California Highway Patrol (CHP), especially in areas next to freeways, very rural and heavily congested areas. EMS Director's Report - Pat Frost, EMS Director 10. - The ambulance ordinance is still at county counsel; it will probably be introduced at the EMCC in 2016. - The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is beginning their municipal service areas reviews for Fire and EMS; EMS is participating in that process. - EMS is working closely with East Contra Costa Fire and American Medical Response (AMR) regarding limited fire EMS resources in East County. Only three (3) fire stations remain in East County. - EMS Medical Director has approved adjustments in the dispatch protocol for low acuity calls in East County to conserve first responder resources. - There is a significant outlier on offload times with Sutter Delta in East County, holding up ambulances at unprecedented rates affecting ambulance return to service. Sutter has internal workflow issues which need to be improved. Member Frost will bring this issue back to the EMCC in December for further recommendations. - The EMS Agency has closely followed the ambulance service delivery since closure of Doctor's Medical Center and mitigation strategies have been successful in reducing community impacts. West County response times have not suffered with the additional ambulance hours provided by AMR. - We have seen a significant increase in EMS System issues associated with mass gatherings, and are working with stakeholders to reduce the impacts on the EMS system. - An upcoming event serving homeless veterans in Antioch this weekend may have consequences to the EMS system; preplanning is in progress to reduce any impacts to the EMS System. - EMS will be working with stakeholders over the next year on refining our Multi-Casualty Incident (MCI) Plan. EMS Medical Director's Report - Dr. Joe Barger, EMS Medical Director 11. - Revamping trauma triage effective beginning of the year. - Looking at news to evaluate stroke; better handling of large vessel obstructions. - New CPR guidelines will be coming out this fall. - The State EMS Authority is working to develop a new uniform data system statewide. 12. Proposed agenda items for December 9 meeting: Never Events, By-Laws, MHOAC presentation, Sutter Delta offload times