

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Tysell	District I
Pat Barron	District III
Dave Gaynor	District III, Alternate
Guy Scheulke	District IV
Donna Flamm-McClane	District V
Paul Freitas	ACCMA
Shawn Casey	American Heart Assn
Captain Michael Maas	California Highway Patrol
Brent Finster	Communications Center Managers' Assn
Lisa Hoffman	Communications Center Managers' Assn, Alternate
Steve Maiero	CCC Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Susan Ancell	Hospital Council of the East Bay
Steven Falk	Public Managers' Assn.
Ross Fay	Air Medical Transportation Provider
John Rampulla	Emergency Department Physicians
Joseph Barger	CCC Health Services
Susan Garske	EMS Training Institution
Tom McKenzie	Public Provider Field Paramedic
William Mark Thomas	Public Provider Field Paramedic, Alternate
Rebecca Rozen	Member-At-Large

GUESTS

Alice Cassidy	American Red Cross
Debbie Meier	San Ramon Valley Fire
Michael McBride	Reach
David Borghelli	American Medical Response
Donald Waters	Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Assn.
Ruth Burke	John Muir Medical Center
Nancy Daniel	Moraga-Orinda Fire District

STAFF PRESENT

Art Lathrop	EMS Director
Lauren Kovaleff	Program Coordinator
Joe Barger	EMS Medical Director
Bruce Kenagy	Prehospital Care Coordinator
Judy Smith	Prehospital Care Coordinator

MEMBERS ABSENT

District II Representative	American Red Cross
Contra Costa Police Chiefs' Assn.	American Heart Assn
Emergency Nurses Assn	Trauma Center
Contra Costa Office of the Sheriff	CAER
Ambulance Providers (Contract)	Base Hospital
Private Provider Field Paramedic	Second Vice-Chair

Meeting was called to order by Chair John Tysell at 4:00 p.m.

- I. M/S/C (Flamm-McClane/Rozen) to approve September 2002 minutes.
- II. Report from Chair
Requested that member roster phone number and email address update be completed.
Had meeting attendees perform self-introductions.

III. Member Reports

None.

IV. EMS Directors Report

- a. EMS along with all hospitals in the county participated in a drill on 11/14. Drill focused on communications and ability to capture data from hospitals.
- b. Bioterrorism focus is currently on smallpox inoculations: 1)key teams for any needed response, 2)health care workers and first responders, 3)voluntary general population. Post exposure inoculation within 4 days is currently considered effective in prevention of contracting the disease.
- c. Has been participating with communications and other county departments in looking at 700 mghz system to be shared by all county agencies and cities. Initial installation would be available in 2007. Currently MEDARS is in the process of a major upgrade.
- d. Possible status change of State EMS Authority may be occurring. They may become part of DHS vs. the independent department they currently are. The purpose is probably to achieve cost savings.
- e. EMS 2001 annual report is complete. Call the EMS office if you want a copy.
- f. Art has been involved in a task force on safe baby surrender.. They have been looking at fire stations as possible sights.

V. & VI. Medical Director's Report and Medical Advisory Committee Report

- a. Critical care transport status report: the first couple of months have gone very well.
- b. Looking at helicopter utilization in quality improvement process: There are 30-45 helicopter transports per month from within this county to John Muir (a few go to the burn center and a few go out of county).

Statewide:

- c. There may be no Medical Director of State EMSA if reorganization occurs.
- d. State dispatch guidelines will be going out for comment. Three agencies in this county are currently using the Claussen medical dispatch system.
- e. Amutorone use for heart patients: There are varying opinions on this – not using in this county.
- f. Minor protocol changes: Paramedics morphine use – nitroglycerin much wider use.

VI. Facilities and Critical Care Committee

Committee developed policies/protocol regarding Emergency Department Diversion. This is essentially for system overload. Occasionally CAT scan may be down and a form if diversion/notification takes place.

VII. Advisory Body Training Requirements

The Brown Act is part of the State government code. The county has also created the Better Government Ordinance, which is stricter than the Brown Act. All advisory bodies in the county are now required to read and/or see a presentation regarding the a) Brown Act and B) Ethics for County Officials. Information on CCTV broadcast times and EMS making this information available was given.

VIII. EMS System Update

Fitch & Associates from Kansas, MO won the contract award to assess the Contra Costa EMS System and make recommendations. Rick Keller from this agency will be meeting with numerous people and agencies, in January, to collect information/data to

begin this project. Anyone who is interested in providing input, may contact the EMS office to schedule an appointment.

IX. EMT-1 Testing

The National Registry Test is clearly the favorite of many involved in the process of standardization. However, many participants, such as fire departments, have real concerns about making this the only accepted exam. Consensus seems to still be some way off. The decision regarding test recommendation was postponed pending further data.

X. EMS Vision Conference Update

This group was started 4-5 years ago. It is made up of representatives from counties, cities, districts working toward EMS reorganization and standardization.

XI. 3-1-1 Non-Emergency Telephone Number

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

XII. Other Business and Comments

None.

XIII. Adjournment

M/S/C (Barron/Schuelke) to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be March 12, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Hall
EMCC Secretary