MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the February10, 2021 meeting via Zoom

**Present (Via Zoom):**

Doug Boileau, EMT-P Arcata-Mad River Ambulance

Andrew Gonzales Cal Fire

Jon Busher EMT-P Cal Fire

Joe Gregorio EMT Cal-Ore

Jaison Chand, EMT-P City Ambulance

Katie Baza City Ambulance

Ron Sandler, EMT-P Del Norte Ambulance

Charles Tweed, EMT-P Del Norte Ambulance

Kelly Johnson, LCSW DHHS—Behavioral Health

Peri Penman, MD Mad River Hospital

Stayce Curry, RN North Coast EMS

Rita Henderson, RN North Coast EMS

Kayce Hurd, EMT-P North Coast EMS

Larry Karsteadt North Coast EMS

Patrick Lynch, RN North Coast EMS

Dennis Louy North Coast EMS-Del Norte

Ian Hoffman, MD Public Health

Pamela Collver, RN Redwood Memorial Hospital

Tracie Conner, RN St. Joseph Hospital

Phillip Maddux, RN St. Joseph Hospital

Lisa Neuger, MD St. Joseph Hospital

Kari Vandiver, RN St. Joseph Hospital

Mary Moulton, RN Sutter Coast Hospital

Pati Tucker-Hoover, RN Sutter Coast Hospital

1. **INTRODUCTION/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Per Rita: The following correction to the previous meetings’ minutes was made. Larry provided the Stemi/Stroke update, not Rita.

The committee approved the corrected 1/13/20 minutes.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

**Paramedic Program Update**

Per Doug: Thirteen out of seventeen of the last class are now nationally registered, three have yet to take the National Registry test. The current class is in the second semester with twenty-eight students. About a quarter of those students are nearing or have completed their clinical rotations. Accreditation Annual Report is due May 1, surveys will be going out to employers of graduates of 2019. Please fill them out and get those back to him.

**Trauma, EMS for Children, STEMI/Stroke Program, and Behavioral Health Updates**

**Trauma**

Per Rita: Trauma Survey Reports went out to SJH, RMH, and Sutter Lakeside Hospital. TAC Meeting to follow this MAC meeting, there is a separate zoom link for those who are attending both.

**EMS for Children**

Per Larry: North Coast EMS did 5 EDAP surveys in November and are expecting follow up reports from hospitals in the next several weeks, he was unsure of the exact timeline.

**STEMI/Stroke**

Per Larry: Nothing to report

**Behavioral Health Updates**

Per Stayce: There are now 3 additional psychiatric hospitals in California that are taking Covid positive patients. (San Diego Acute Psychiatric Hospital, Ventura County Medical Center, and St. Josephs Behavioral Health Center Stockton). State did say that “regional sites are still in development.” There is a push for specific recruitment of nurses in the state for primary medical treatment, those nurses could be available for Behavioral Health if needed.

Per Kelly: Nothing to add

**Policy and Protocols**

Per Kayce: Finishing up Ketamine for pain control, will be rolling out this afternoon. NCEMS decided to approve Leave Behind Narcan Program, which allows ALS agencies to obtain nasal Narcan from the state and leave it with anyone who has potential to experience overdose on opioids. Can be patients that are transported or refuse transport including elderly people who are prescribed opioids. This is a federally funded program. Kayce is finishing up the applications for the two requested optional local scope of practices (Norepinephrine and continuation of antibiotics for interfacility transports). Those will be going to the State for approval first week of March. Discussed with State where interfacility automatic ventilators and IV pumps fall in scope of practice, determination is that they are basic scope and approved for ground ambulance. Will be sending out flow chart of policy changes over the last fourteen months so everyone can view. Lisa asked (via chat) about Ketamine doses and protocol. If anyone is looking for more information regarding Ketamine, Kayce can email, she will also be sending the agreement to providers and posting online with training outline, etc. There is currently a strict dosing protocol. Dr. Karp added that the reason for the strict dosing and rate of infusion was to have a sub dissociative dose.

**12-Lead EKG Transmission Update**

Per Jaison: CAE has been working with Phillip and Corrine at SJH to get City’s Zoll monitors into the system. They’ve purchased one modem to test with the Zoll units. Will be ordering more if it works and should be going live soon.

Per Phillip: System is currently live at SJH and Arcata and Hoopa ambulances are able to transmit to the hospital. Once Jaison has his modems, they will get City Ambulance up and running as well.

Per Doug: Arcata is up and running but does not believe they have transmitted any to date.

**Exclusive Operating Area Update**

Per Larry: He, Jaison, Doug, Pam, and Kayce will be meeting later today to finish up the contract. Requires final concurrence on language. Jaison added that this contract will complete the terms of exclusivity that was set out in the Transportation Plan. Larry is looking forward to finalizing the contract and shifting to monitoring.

**HPP Medical Disaster Project Update**

Per Larry: He met yesterday with their core team liaisons and sent the reports to the State, the final is due on June 30th. It has gone out for public comment with no response. Will be planning a redundant communication drill in Humboldt County. Dennis added that they completed their second Radio Call Down test last month in Del Norte.

**Infectious Disease, COVID-19 and HP COVID Grant Updates**

**COVID-19 and Vaccinations**

Per Dr Hoffman: We remain in the purple tier with case rates staying relatively high over the last 6-7 weeks since we started this current surge. There is some evidence to suggest that we may be coming out of the surge including case rates and investigations over the past few days slowing down. We have seen an increase in hospitalizations in the last two weeks, closely watching the outcomes of those cases. May see us dropping a tier soon. They are closely monitoring any possible variants that may lend to another surge. The vaccination efforts continue to roll out, currently vaccinating Phase 1a and b and will continue to move through phases as we’re able. States are reevaluating how the vaccine program is run and we may be seeing bigger changes as we transition to other platforms for the vaccine effort. Johnson and Johnson vaccine is nearing approval and we could see those arriving in Humboldt, allowing us to vaccinate more people. Really not seeing a flu season or other viruses this year due to heightened concern for hygiene, distancing, and masking.

**HP COVID Grant Update**

Per Larry: We are participating in the three county and state level talks. HPP COVID Grant quarterly reports for the first two quarters are close to completion. Medics and EMTs are participating in the County’s vaccination efforts, which is greatly appreciated.

**Med-Net System Update/Medical Control During an MCI**

**Med-Net System Update**

Per Jaison: Wayne is going to pull the power supply off Horse Mtn and use it for Pratt. He didn’t know if it has happened but was assuming not. Larry added that it had not yet happened due to weather. Doug added that as of last Friday, when he spoke with Wayne, it had not yet happened and Wayne was waiting on more clear direction.

Per Larry: He was hoping to free up funding through the Med-Net Trust Fund at the next Governing Board meeting on March 11th for this project.

**Medical Control During an MCI**

Per Larry: Nothing to report.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

Per Doug: Nothing on agenda

1. **NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry: JPA meeting is March 11th. With Stayce’s coordination they are now holding biweekly calls to continue to clarify dispatch procedures for transports out of Sempervirens for medical clearance/COVID testing. An EMD meeting was held and updates were provided with another meeting scheduled to ensure that all agencies are on the same page regarding EMD process with Eureka Public Safety and Cal Fire.

1. **EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Per Jaison: Chapter 13 taskforce is still in hibernation because of COVID spike but should hopefully resume in March. They are down to last section (201) which covers Fire Districts. Once that is complete it will go out for public comment. Huge overhaul from 4 lines to about 28 pages. Because of the way that the taskforce has been going, there are targeted spot bills coming out to address issues that may or may not be of concern. He predicts it will be an interesting 30-45 days as stakeholders attempt to use legislation to influence Chapter 13 changes. Added that it is likely that we will soon see another 5150 Bill that provides liability protections for EMT and Paramedics to detain patients under a 5150.

1. **FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

Del Norte Ambulance—Per Ron: They’re working to get EMD set up in their area hoping to begin the rollout process soon. Continuing to work with the County COVID Planning Meetings for any possible surge that may happen. Also working to assist the vaccination effort in Del Norte

Per Charles: Continuing to work with the County and also assist with Tribal vaccinations including Klamath and Smith River.

Mad River Hospital—Per Sean: Tina is out on vacation and will be back for next month’s meeting but he has nothing further to report.

St. Joseph Hospital—Per Tracie: Nothing new to report

Redwood Memorial Hospital—Per Pam: Nothing new to report

Cal Fire—Per Jon: They going to be reaching out to Kayce in the next couple days for their crews to start carrying Narcan, nothing further to report

Cal-Ore—Per Joe: They are taking delivery of a new type 3 ambulance and now have Sapphire pumps and Z-Ventilators on some of their ground rigs.

City Ambulance—Per Jaison: Nothing new to report

Arcata Mad River Ambulance—Per Doug: Nothing new to report

1. **Next meeting will be March 10th via ZOOM**.