

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the March 9th, 2022 meeting via Zoom

Present (Via Zoom):

Doug Boileau, EMT-P	Arcata-Mad River Ambulance
Jaison Chand, EMT-P, RN	City Ambulance/REACH
Katie Baza, EMT-B	City Ambulance
Nate McKnight, EMT-P	City Ambulance
Charles Tweed, EMT-P	Del Norte Ambulance
Darrin Short	Del Norte County Supervisor
Peri Penman, DO	Mad River Hospital/City Ambulance
Dennis Louy	North Coast EMS-Del Norte County
Stayce Curry, LPT, RN	North Coast EMS
Kayce Hurd, EMT-P	North Coast EMS
Larry Karsteadt	North Coast EMS
Matt Karp, MD	North Coast EMS
Patrick Lynch	North Coast EMS
Rita Henderson, RN	North Coast EMS
Kari Vandiver, RN	St. Joseph Hospital
Kristen Hansen, RN	St. Joseph Hospital
Michelle Buchanan, RN	Sutter Coast Hospital

1. Introductions/Approval of Minutes from the March 9, 2022 meeting.

2. Paramedic Advisory Committee Meeting

3. OLD BUSINESS

- **Paramedic Program Update**

Per Doug, deferred due to the immediately preceding Paramedic Advisory Committee Meeting.

- **Trauma (Alert), EMS for Children, STEMI/Stroke Program Updates**

Per Larry, all four Trauma Centers are designated, as are all five EDAPs. There are still some opportunities for improvement that Rita can elaborate later on if needed. Kari asked that anything for SJH related to EDAP come to her. Larry reported that the timeline for submission of plan updates was extended by the EMSA during the pandemic but they will be due soon. NCEMS has been working to prepare for these updates. They are also going to conduct a STEMI site survey this year.

- **Behavioral Health Update**

Per Stayce, Senate bill 1229 gives \$25,000 grants for aspiring mental health clinicians who are willing to dedicate two years to high need communities. The idea is to fill 10,000 new counseling positions in high need schools across the State. There is also a new 16-bed facility in Sonoma County that, while specific to Sonoma and Marin Counties, are helping to free up beds elsewhere. She also references CalHHS and Newsom's new framework for the Care Court system to compel people with severe mental disorders and addiction issues to court ordered care.

Kari reported that they are securing beds but are having a hard time transporting those patients out of the area, specifically, three this morning. She mentioned that Charles offered an extra layer of help with 5150 transportation. Charles clarified that the “layer” they were referring to was not ambulance transport, but rather sharing their access to a secure car with Humboldt County.

- **Infectious Disease Update**

Per Doug, Dr. Hoffman’s position has not yet been filled and hopes the new Health Officer once designated will attend these meetings.

- **Ambulance Exclusive Operating Area Update**

Per Larry, as previously reported, City Ambulance and Arcata-Mad River Ambulance are now operating under their new EOAs and we have now moved to the monitoring phase. In Del Norte, they are working in the earlier stages of a possible EOA there. Per Supervisor Short, he has nothing to add and doesn’t think they are leaning one way or another at this point while gathering information.

- **North Coast EMS Policy Update**

Per Kayce, there has been internal discussion regarding the way that they’re routing policy changes and engaging the committee and other agencies for comments on policy updates and changes. They are going to try some of their ideas in hope that this brings more awareness to upcoming changes and engagement from those involved. Doug asked if there was any update on the destination restriction policy. Kayce responded that there was and it should be going out for review and comment soon.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

Per Larry, they are required to prepare and report APOT (Ambulance Patient Offload Times) and our counties report some of the lowest times in the state.

5. **NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry, the Governing Board meets next month and setting the budget for next year is on the Agenda. They are also working with the State EMS Authority to augment regional funding.

6. **EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Per Jaison, there are a lot of little bills currently, none of which affect us directly. There is going to be a major Medi-Cal bill coming soon, he expects to have more to report by next MAC meeting as more is coming out. He also reported that Community Paramedicine bills seem to have lost a lot of steam due to not having funding to back them and nothing changing in destination options.

7. **FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

Sutter Coast

Per Michelle, nothing much to report. Covid seems to be slowing down.

MRCH

Per Dr. Penman, not much to report, just the usual 5150 challenges.

SJH

Per Kristen, they have an offer out to fill the open PCNC position and are hoping to have that person in the spot soon. She also echoed the usual 5150 challenges that are facing all the hospitals.

Phelps

Per Adela, Covid seems to have decreased a lot now. They have lessened their regulations and have opened their doors with temperature regulations.

Del Norte Ambulance

Per Charles, he is looking forward to working with the board and NCEMS on the EOA process. They just took possession of their two new Type 1 Ambulances and are very excited about them. They did hold an EVOC class specifically for these new ambulances as their crews are used to the van style. They have been working on 12-lead transmissions with Sutter Hospital and did have a successful transmission.

City Ambulance

Per Nate, one of their last paramedic upgrades is currently working on her 5-call to orient to our EMS system as she did her internship in Redding. He reported that City Ambulance is now staffing ALS in Lake County and also completed their annual EVOC course.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: April 13, 2022 via ZOOM