MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the May 11th, 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

John Pritchett Del Norte Ambulance

Ron Sandler, EMT-P Del Norte Ambulance

Darrin Short Del Norte County Supervisor

Jason Orlandi, RN Mad River Community Hospital

Sean Anderson, RN Mad River Community Hospital

Tina Wood, RN Mad River Community Hospital

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

Pam Collver, RN Redwood Memorial and St. Joseph Hospital

Kari Vandiver, RN St. Joseph Hospital

Michelle Buchanan, RN Sutter Coast Hospital

1. **Introductions/Approval of Minutes from the April 13, 2022 meeting.**

Minutes were approved as presented.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

* **Paramedic Program Update**

Per Doug, the class is taking their final exam this upcoming Thursday. With 18 students in the class, one has decided not to go on to field internship. One will be rejoining the class who had to drop last year. The annual report was submitted yesterday and there are already 12 applicants for the program that begins in August. Applications are open until the class fills and Doug encourages those who are interested to sign up now as this upcoming class already has a lot of interest early on.

* **Trauma and EMS for Children**

Per Rita, TAC meeting has been cancelled for today and Lake County TAC has been cancelled for next week as well. Both meetings will resume as scheduled in August.

* **STEMI/Stroke Program**

Per Larry, the previously conducted STEMI Receiving Center Survey has had the follow up reports sent out as of yesterday and St. Joseph continues to be a designated STEMI receiving center and did very well. Doug added that Arcata Mad River Ambulance had a 12-Lead transmission that did not go through recently, which led to a series of tests that revealed that two of their monitors are not correctly transmitting. Now that they are aware of the issue, Doug reported that they are working to resolve it and will be regularly testing the systems.

* **Behavioral Health Update**

Per Stayce, Semper Virens went up to sixteen beds, shifted the CSU staff, have two new RNs, and have MRT back in the Emergency Department full time. They are also starting a new program that works to follow through with people who have been placed in housing to help them to keep it, comparative to a case manager. The Children’s residential site has been secured and that’s moving forward, the site for adult residential is still a search in progress. Kari reported that St. Joseph is currently holding twelve psych patients in the ER. Tina reported that Mad River Hospital is currently holding four such patients, two of which have been in their care for over 24 hours without evaluation. Stayce suggested calling Kelly Johnson, to which Tina reported that they have been following procedure and calling hourly.

* **Infectious Disease Update**

No representatives present to report out.

* **Ambulance Exclusive Operating Area Update**

Per Larry, they are currently working on a draft of the options of competitive and non-competitive EOA processes for Del Norte County and have shifted to the monitoring phase of the grandfathered EOAs for City Ambulance and Arcata Mad River Ambulance.

* **North Coast EMS Policy Update**

Per Kayce, the three policies that went out after the last MAC meeting only received one set of comments, with Del Norte Ambulance being the only commenting agency. A few typos have been fixed in the destination policy. Kayce reported that she is still working on a better system for review and comment to help move this process forward more efficiently.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

* **Introduction from Life Assist**

No representative present to introduce this topic. Per Kayce, there may have been some confusion with the two separate meeting invitations as this speaker was also invited to the Lake County MAC meeting.

1. **NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry, since the last MAC meeting, there was a Joint Powers Governing Board meeting and they have submitted their general fund application which is currently with the EMS Authority. They’re currently working on the CDPH HPP Disaster Medical grant application within the three counties which is due the 20th of May. Larry reported that, due to the EMSAAC conference in San Diego at the beginning of June, there has been discussion of cancelling the June MAC meeting.

1. **EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Jaison reported no new drafts or changes have been introduced since the last meeting. The only thing that’s currently being tracked is the Medi-Cal reimbursement tied to wage increases. He reported that this is the only thing moving and that it is progressing slowly.

1. **FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

**Sutter Coast Hospital**

Per Michelle, Theresa Bertalini is the new ED Manager and will be joining the MAC/TAC meetings moving forward.

**Del Norte Ambulance**

Per Ron, nothing new to report.

**Mad River Hospital**

Per Tina, status quo with behavioral health patients, which she reported is causing their wait times to go up. Per Jason, he has started to work with the Xferall program that was introduced by Behavioral Health when they’re struggling to place a patient locally. He also reported that, in an effort to alleviate the strain on local transporting agencies, he’s been working with Del Norte Ambulance and Sky West in Roseburg to help facilitate the long-distance transport of behavioral health patients.

**St. Joseph Hospital**

Per Kari, Pam has started working in her new role as Trauma PI, Area PCNC, and some support for the STEMI program. They held a TNTC class on Monday and Tuesday and were able to move several nurses through that. She reported seeing and closely monitoring a high turnover in the ER. Kari reminded the group of the get together they are holding on May 25th for EMS week at the Moose Lodge from 7pm-11pm. Pam will be sending out further information regarding this event.

**Redwood Memorial Hospital**

Per Pam, nothing further to report.

**City Ambulance**

Per Jaison, the installation of the new CAD system has been completed. All dispatch for both City and AMRA are being done digitally with some huge enhancements in reporting, tracking, and dispatching in the County. This was a huge undertaking that has been in progress for the last 18 months and the next project is working to set up a CAD link with the Fortuna Police Department to further support the current 911 caller transfer information. They will also be continuing to work towards becoming an EMD center. He reported that all experienced dispatch employees are currently EMD trained, and the newer employees are currently in training with plans to spend time at RedComm for some additional experience before turning that on in their own communications center. Per Jaison, everyone is invited to the EMS Week BBQ that’s being held on Thursday the 19th at the Humboldt Bay Social Club in Samoa. Further information will be sent out to the group.

NEXT MEETING

Doug reported that the June meeting is officially cancelled and the next MAC meeting will be the regularly scheduled July 13th meeting via Zoom.