MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the December 14th, 2022 meeting via Zoom

**Present (Via Zoom):**

Doug Boileau, EMT-P Arcata-Mad River Ambulance

Brook Hoalton , EMT-P Cal Fire

Jon Busher, EMT-P Cal Fire

Jaison Chand, EMT-P, RN City Ambulance/REACH

Katie Baza, EMT-B City Ambulance

Kristen Moses, EMT-P City Ambulance

Charles Tweed, EMT-P Del Norte Ambulance

Ron Sandler, EMT-P Del Norte Ambulance

Darrin Short Del Norte County Supervisor

Melody Beltz Humboldt County Behavioral Health

Alyse Dorman Humboldt County Public Health

Candy Stockton, MD Humboldt County Public Health

Dino Novello Humboldt County Public Health

Sean Anderson, RN Mad River Community Hospital

Dennis Louy North Coast EMS-Del Norte County

Morgan Fox North Coast EMS-Lake 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

Pam Mather, RN North Coast EMS

Patrick Lynch North Coast EMS

Rita Henderson, RN North Coast EMS

Pam Collver, RN Redwood Memorial and St. Joseph Hospital

Brandon Klith, RN St. Joseph Hospital

Taun Hoang, MD St. Joseph Hospital

Lori Dengler, PhD Cal Poly Humboldt – Special Presentor

Connie Stewart Cal Poly Humboldt

Per Doug, the order of operations was rearranged to accommodate a special presentation by Dr. Lori Dengler professor Emeritus of Cal Poly Humboldt. The meeting was started with new business and a guest presentation.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
* **December 20, 2022 Earthquake and Aftershocks – Response/Impact**

Larry introduced Dr. Lori Dengler, professor emeritus at Cal Poly Humboldt as a collegue and friend of many years as well as an expert in her field of geophysics, earthquake, and tsunami hazards.

Over the next 40 minutes, Dr. Dengler shared an indepth presentation and slideshow which reviewed the recent earthquakes and aftermath.

Following the presentation, there was a discussion on local effects. Multiple attendees shared their experiences and thoughts on the effectiveness of the earthquake alert system and when that came through to them in relation to the quake. Local agencies, including hospital, fire, and EMS shared the effect that was seen directly after the earthquake. This discussion ended with a reminder from Larry that, while it was not necessary this time, any additional resourse needs would have been requested through the MHOC.

Per Dr. Stockton, there was some misinformation circulating after the earthquakes. She thanked everyone who quickly responded to her questions, which allowed her to communicate to the State what was actually occurring in Humboldt County.

Dr. Dengler left her email in the chat for anyone who may have any followup questions. lad1@humboldt.edu

* **APOT/Wall Times**

Per Pam, the first thing she wanted to address was an untrue rumor that seemed to be circulating on social media that St. Joseph hospital was turning away patients. She reported that they did open their incident command center yesterday and are experiencing a very large influx of critical patients. They are rescheduling any elective surgeries that do not require admission in an attempt to alleviate some stress in the ER, and get patients into admitted beds sooner. She reiterated again that any rumors regarding patients being turned away were untrue. Pam asked for any questions from the group regarding wall times.

Doug added that he felt that the email that went out thoroughly addressed any questions he may have previously had.

Jaison had nothing to add except his appreciation for all the effort that was being made to keep the ambulance crews moving.

Per Larry, NCEMS monitors these times quarterly and we are routinely well under the state average APOT times. He thanked the hospitals for their efforts as well.

1. **Introductions/Approval of Minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting.**

The minutes were approved as written.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**
* **Paramedic Program Update**

Per Doug, ten students from the last class are now paramedics and three have not yet passed the National Registry. Of the current class, 27 students finished the first semester and they’ll be starting the second semester with 26 students as one has dropped. Doug reported that the yearly required advisory meeting will be next month in addition to the MAC meeting. He asked that anyone who receives a survey send it back in. The program will be reaccrediting this year and they are looking forward to moving to their new site in the future.

Sean asked if there were any details on that new site or a timeline.

Per Connie, there is not yet a set plan but if there is any interest from the group in helping to design this site, please consider joining the planning committee. They are applying for grants and starting to lay out the groundwork. Doug added that the goal is to have it built in three years. Connie added her email in the chat for anyone to reach out with any follow up or questions they may have. ces54@humboldt.edu

* **Behavioral Health Update**

Per Stayce, the hearings in the Emergency Department have begun as of January 1st and the process seems to be moving along. She asked that the hospitals reach out if they have any questions. They’re working on an algorithm for if a writ is requested. This would happen through the patient’s right advocate and it’s being worked out. Medically unstable patients are no longer under the new regulations, and the 5150 would go back into effect once they are no longer requiring physical medical care.

* **Trauma**

Per Rita, a combined Lake/Humboldt/Del Norte TAC meeting is scheduled for February 8th after the MAC meeting at 1100. She encouraged the trauma centers to have completed year end data at that point so they can review it. Brandon Klith was welcomed back as the Trauma Program Manager at SJH.

* **EMS for Children**

Per Rita, Sutter Coast Hospital has decided to drop their EDAP designation and there are now five EDAP designated hospitals in the region out of the seven. Larry added that the other hospital that is not currently designated is Adventist Health in Clear Lake but they have been working with them on the possibility of getting their designation.

* **STEMI/Stroke Program Updates**

Per Larry, they have a meeting tomorrow to discuss a formal stroke system development process pursuant to the State regulation. He noted that this would be a big process that would not be completed this year, but they’re looking to get started on it.

* **Infectious Disease Update**

Per Dr. Stockton, there has been a steep drop off of RSV and Influenza cases. They feel confident that RSV will not spike again this season, but are still keeping an eye on the Influenza numbers.

* **Ambulance Exclusive Operating Area Update**

Per Larry, in Humboldt City Ambulance and AMRA continue to be in the monitoring phase of their grandfathered EOAs and are meeting compliance in all areas.

In Del Norte, there was a meeting with the County Supervisors to request their recommendation on how to proceed with the EOA. The Board is recommending a competitive bid process. Larry reported that the plan now is that the JPA will meet in April, which will give everyone a chance to review that request and background and prepare next steps to be decided at that meeting.

Supervisor Short added that he felt the discussion surrounding the recommendation was thorough and well done.

* **North Coast EMS Policy Update**

Per Kayce, she is working to finalize the QIP policies and flow chart for case review. She is going to have a few updated treatment policies ready to email out the to the policy review committee within the next few days.

1. **NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry, besides the aforementioned JPA meeting that is scheduled for April, he has nothing further to add.

1. **EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Per Jaison, there are a few bills of interest to EMS. SB67 – which requires providers or LEMSAs, depending on how you interpret the language, to report all drug overdoses and data. They are currently working to push that reporting to be done by the state and that it not fall back on the providers,

He also reported that there are a couple wall time study bills, and took a moment to thank the local hospitals for their efforts in keeping our times so low.

Jaison added that there are also two Medi-Cal bills that are designed to increase Medi-Cal rates tied to employee wages, which seems to be a win win and is supported by CAA and employee unions.

Lastly, the state strategic planning meeting is scheduled for early February.

1. **FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

**Mad River Community Hospital**

Per Sean, nothing to report

**Cal Fire**

Per Brook, they’re in the process of changing all their AEDs over to new Zoll units. They’re putting together an EMT refresher course and Wendy has offered to help out and answer any questions regarding their EMT renewals. Brook reported that their Medical Director, Dr.Brett Rosen is going to be here on the 23rd if anyone is interested in attending his presentation on the medical care at fire camps. Larry asked that she send the information directly to them to distribute to the group.

**Del Norte Ambulance**

Per Charles, they had a meeting with Sutter Coast Hospital and are working closely with them in building their communication, Field Care Audits, and education between agencies. He reported that their Clinical Manager is currently out of state attending a QI program and they’re excited on what she’s going to being back. Charles also added that the road between Humboldt and Del Norte is closed again.

Ron added a thank you to Larry for all the communication and support in their EOA process.

**Aracata Mad River Ambulance**

Per Doug, they’re currently not receiving simulcasts from Cal Fire due to an issue with the microwave link between Cal Fire and Pierce repeater but are hoping to have an update soon.

Larry asked Doug to explain the DMSU that AMRA currently has to the group. Per Doug, the Disaster Medical Support Unit, that is stationed at their base, is a box unit that’s equipped with medical supplies and equipment to back up and become part of an ambulance strike team. It carries a bulk amount of supplies including multiple BLS kits, dozens of backboards, oxygen, lights, MCI equipment, etc. It’s designed to be deployed in a major event.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: **February 8, 2023 via ZOOM**