

## MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the October 13th, 2021 meeting via Zoom

### **Present (Via Zoom):**

Doug Boileau, EMT-P	Arcata-Mad River Ambulance
Graham Felsenthal, EMT-P	City Ambulance
Jaison Chand, EMT-P, RN	City Ambulance/REACH/Calstar
Katie Baza	City Ambulance
Charles Tweed, EMT-P	Del Norte Ambulance
Darrin Short	Del Norte County Supervisor
Kelly Johnson	DHHS Behavioral Health
Tim Citro, EMT-P	Humboldt Bay Fire
Jason Orlandi, MSN RN	Mad River Hospital
Peri Penman, MD	MRCH/City Ambulance
Sean Anderson, RN	Mad River Hospital
Tina Wood, RN	Mad River Hospital
Stayce Curry, LPT RN	North Coast EMS
Rita Henderson, RN	North Coast EMS
Kayce Hurd, EMT-P	North Coast EMS
Larry Karsteadt	North Coast EMS
Matthew Karp, MD	North Coast EMS
Patrick Lynch, RN	North Coast EMS
Ian Hoffman, MD	Public Health
Kristen Hansen, RN	St. Joseph Hospital
Tracie Conner, RN	St. Joseph Hospital

1. Introductions/Approval of Minutes from the September 8, 2021 meeting.

### 2. OLD BUSINESS

- Paramedic Program Update  
Per Doug, the last class has now had two students drop their field internships (or decided to pursue it later). Eleven students have finished the internships, of those nine have tested, six are now nationally registered paramedics. Three are working for City Ambulance, one is in Mendocino, one in Lake County, and one in Del Norte. The current class has 18 students who will be starting their hospital clinical rotations soon.
- Trauma  
Per Larry, Dr. Karp and he attended and presented at the recent Trauma Summit. He reported that the conference was very informative. The state EMS Authority has given local EMS a break due to the pandemic and have postponed the required plan updates. Regardless, NCEMS has decided to go ahead with the regional EMS plan, trauma plan, STEMI plan, EMS for children, and quality improvement updates, hoping to have them done by the end of January at the latest.
- EMS for Children  
Per Larry, 6/7 of our hospitals have submitted to the National Pediatric Readiness scoring program and those who have received results have scored above national average.

- Behavioral Health  
Per Stayce, the Nurse Manager meeting is scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> of October and an invite has been sent out for the Xferall meeting that will be held via Zoom on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 1100. Stayce reported that she attended the California mental health crisis capital weekly seminar on the 6<sup>th</sup> and found it extremely informative. She has sent out an invite for Nov 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Mental Health in America free 2-day summit. If you can't attend, she will be reporting at a later meeting. Per Kelly, they continue to experience staffing challenges and are coming up with creative ideas to keep their mobile units staffed.
- STEMI Program Updates (including 12-lead EKG Transmission)  
Larry asked for an update on the 12-lead transmissions between City Ambulance and SJH. Per Graham, there have been successful test transmissions from all their monitors and everything is set. Per Larry, the STEMI site survey has been postponed due to the rise of the Delta variant and are hoping to complete it by the end of the fiscal year.
- Infectious Disease Update  
Per Dr. Hoffman, Covid is still the main infections disease of concern, with hospitals still feeling the effects of the Delta variant. We seem to be coming out of the latest surge, but it can take some time for that to trickle down to the hospital.. Masking and vaccinating are still our biggest tools and, as a county, we are still trying to raise our vaccine rate. Dr Hoffman reported that we are seeing an increase this year of Flu and RSV, which we didn't see last year. He encouraged everyone to get their flu vaccine. He also brought up the fact that the demographic for syphilis has seemed to shift to women of childbearing age and there has been an increase in cases across the state, including locally.
- North Coast EMS Policy Update  
Per Kayce, the patient handoff policy is a work in progress and should have a policy review committee scheduled for that one in the next couple weeks.
- Base Hospital Discussion during an MCI  
Per Larry, this is on hold for the moment.
- CAE BLS Deployment Plan  
Per Jaison, the BLS response to the facilities is going well. The three code 3 calls that have had a BLS response all resulted in ALS transport. One of the calls did transport with a Hunboldt Bay Fire paramedic. There have been no code 3 responses yet in October. Jaison reported that he had a meeting with Sean Robertson and Tim Citro to go over the September calls and will be sitting down to go over October calls. Per Tim, they agreed to stay in communication with these BLS responses and gather some data.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- Del Norte Ambulance Exclusive Operating Area Request  
Per Larry, they reviewed the EOA packet from Del Norte and have thoroughly reviewed it. He reported that the 1984 sale was considered a complete sale and Del

Norte Ambulance is able to move forward in the grandfathering process. They are working with Charles on the wording and looking towards the next step.

- **Request to Streamline Accreditation Process**

Per Larry, this was brought to their attention by Jaison and Doug. Larry, Kayce, Wendy, and Dr. Karp had a meeting yesterday and they reviewed some ideas from other EMS agencies to help streamline the process. Larry reported that they will continue to work on this internally, but one thought is to drop the traditional signature process of having to track down the PCMD. This was originally in place to ensure that the PCMD and PCNC were familiar with the new paramedics and visa versa. They no longer feel this is necessary and are discussing dropping the requirement. They are also working to streamline the FTO application process. Per Jaison, they would like to see the two step application process be simplified to an application that doesn't require the applicants to turn in one part and then wait for the rest in the mail before they can proceed. He doesn't see this as a matter of policy, but having the application available up front would make the process faster. Kayce reported that it is standard throughout the state due to the need to verify the applicant's identification and license before allowing them to move forward in the process. Tim voiced his support for dropping the signature requirement and reported that it is part of their process to reach out and meet the PCNC and PCMD already.

#### **4. NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry, he is working on the JPA meeting packet for the upcoming meeting which should be coming out in the next week.

#### **5. EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Per Jaison, everything is dormant at the moment. As he mentioned at the last meeting, they would be meeting with the EMS Authority to discuss easing rules at the state level for EMTs and Paramedics to make crossing state lines a little easier. From his perspective, the meeting went well and they will be looking at that.

#### **6. FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

##### **MRCH**

Per Tina, nothing to report

##### **SJH**

Per Tracie, Dr. Goldberg is their Medical Director. Phillip is the interim DNO. They have started to see an uptick in the covid cases coming into the hospital

##### **Del Norte Ambulance**

Per Charles, they are continuing to support the vaccine efforts. They were recently approved for the FTO program and continuing to hire.

**City Ambulance of Eureka**

Per Jaison, they had their first paramedic upgrade with two more recently passing their cognitive exams. He reported that they have a new CCT contract with SJH that mirrors the NICU contract. They will be meeting with Sarah Park soon to discuss the implementation of that. They recently met with Kayce to discuss adding TXA and will be taking it back to their next leadership meeting.

**Humboldt Bay Fire**

Per Tim, nothing to report.

**Arcata Mad River Ambulance**

Per Doug, they are in the process of adopting TXA and are working on the training.

**DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: November 10, 2021 via ZOOM**