MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the November 8th, 2023 meeting via Zoom

**Present (Via Zoom):**

Doug Boileau, EMT-P Arcata-Mad River Ambulance

Brook Hoalton , EMT-P Cal Fire

Jaison Chand, EMT-P City Ambulance/REACH

Katie Baza, EMT-B City Ambulance

Charles Tweed, EMT-P Del Norte Ambulance

Tim Citro, EMT-P Humboldt Bay Fire

Paul Bugnacki Humboldt County Behavioral Health

Brian Carter Humboldt County Public Health

Marissa Johanson, RN Mad River Community Hospital

Tina Wood, RN Mad River Community Hospital

Tom Taylor, MD 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

Matthew Karp, MD North Coast EMS

Pam Mather, RN North Coast EMS

Patrick Lynch, RN North Coast EMS

Rita Henderson, RN North Coast EMS

Pamela Collver, RN Redwood Memorial and St. Joseph Hospitals

Brandon Kilth, RN St. Joseph Hospital

Lauri Martinich, RN Sutter Coast Hospital

Najia Sadiq, RN Sutter Lakeside Hospital

1. Introductions/Approval of Minutes from the October 11, 2023 meeting.

The minutes were approved as written

1. **OLD BUSINESS**
* **Trauma**

Per Rita, no new updates. Rita reported that there is a Trauma Advisory Committee meeting after MAC at 1100 and a separate zoom link was sent out. Per Rita, attendees will be receiving an email shortly with Field Triage Guidelines updates to Policy 7000.

* **EMS for Children Program Updates**

Per Rita, no new updates.

* **Paramedic Program Update**

Per Doug, 11 students from the previous class have taken and passed their National Registry. The current class has dropped down to 20 students and he added that they’ll be starting their clinical rotations soon.

* **Behavioral Health Update**

Per Paul, they have submitted a mobile crisis benefit implementation plan with the Department of Healthcare Services with the hope to start in January. Paul reported that they are continuing to work with Mad River Hospital on a crisis triage center, which is starting to become a reality.

Larry asked about a timeline for the triage center and Paul responded that they are hoping to be up and running by 2026.

Per Stayce, Del Norte has submitted a portion of their mobile crisis plan and are on track to have the full plan submitted by April. She reported that Lake County has also submitted their plan.

* Infectious Disease Update

Per Brian, Public Health is internally tracking Covid hospitalization and death rates and sharing with the local hospitals for awareness. He noted that, if any other agencies were interested in that data, to email Dr. Stockton at cstockton@co.humboldt.ca.us Brian also reminded the group that healthcare facilities were now required to be vaccinated for flu and covid or mask in patient care areas. Lastly, Brain reported that they are looking to hold a ChemPack training. They’ll be reviewing the process and providing an indepth overview and discussion on the requests and circumstances under which it would happen.

* **Ambulance Exclusive Operating Area Update**

Per Pam, Del Norte County’s Administrative Officer submitted a list of questions to NCEMS regarding the RFP process. She reported that they have coordinated for them to talk to the right people and that this competitive bid process will take about two to four years.

In Humboldt County, they continue with the monitoring process but the 3rd quarter data report will be slightly delayed as there has been an interruption in data flow with the update to NEMSIS 3.5

In Lake County, they are still anticipating that the fire department will submit their application packet.

* **North Coast EMS Policy Update**

Per Kayce, the first round of policy updates has gone out for review and she thanked those who had already got their comments back in. She added that about eight more policies need to be consolidated and sent out, including a few of the larger ones.

1. **NEW BUSINES****S**

**Electronic Prehospital Care Record Transition to 3.5**

Per Kayce, ICEMA will begin the process to be able to receive the 3.5 data at the beginning of December. Once the change is made, agencies who have already switched over and are reporting directly to the state will be routed back through them.

1. **NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry, the governing board met last week and accepted their comments on the Lake County Ordinance revision. He reported that this is not a process they do often. CDPH did audit NCEMS for their hospital preparedness funding and they are moving forward with creating some new policies based on their findings.

Patrick added that he was impressed with the disaster drill that Pam and Brandon put on and also at the agency participation.

1. **EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Per Jaison, the legislature is dormant for the next few months. The listening sessions for chapter 13 system regulations have almost concluded. They should be putting out information on the outcome of those meetings at the end of November

1. **FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

**Sutter Coast**

Per Lauri, they are working on some of the opportunities that came up in their recent survey. This includes a change to some of their policies and working with their nurses with further education.

**Mad River Hospital**

Per Marissa, she is still interested in the possibility of quarterly Field Care Audits but has not received any feedback or direction on that. Lauri noted that struggles to get her PCMD on board and would like to partner with her for quarterly FCAs.

Per Larry, the policy has remained unchanged for a long time and they would need to go through the policy update process and thanked Marissa for the reminder. Pam added that this seems to be a common theme and the current policy does allow a variance from the current structure with a written plan and the idea is supported by NCEMS. On Larry’s request, Marissa will be drafting an email request for the change to follow policy.

**St. Joseph and Redwood Memorial Hospitals**

Per Pam, they have been prepping for their trauma survey over the last two months and she reported that they have an upcoming STEMI Field Care Audit coming up with Dr. Phillips. She noted that their trauma census and covid hospitalizations have more than doubled and, with their volume, they’re predicting wall times through the winter. Lauri reported an increase in covid patients but not overall volume. Tina added that their trauma volume was also up but attributed it to the college starting back up.

**Sutter Lakeside**

Per Najia, she fully supports the idea of combined field care audits and has done the same thing locally and it was very successful. She added that Dr. Karp has attended all of their fca’s and it’s been extremely beneficial. They do have a Stroke Field Care Audit coming up as well. Per Najia, Sutter Lakeside recently held an MCI drill, which was mainly focused within the hospital.

**Del Norte Ambulance**

Per Charles, they have noticed a drop in volume over the last coupe months. They have their Explorer representative at the local high school holding Stop the Bleed and CPR training. They recently held a PALS course internally. He thanked NCEMS, specifically Kayce and Dennis for their hard work and involvement as well as Lauri for her efforts in local education.

**City Ambulance**

Per Jaison, the restraint policy was not fully implemented on November first and has been pushed back to December 1st. He noted that he would be sending out an official notice with the start date.

**Cal Fire**

Per Brooke, this is the last week that the helicopter will be staffed with firefighters. They will still be available for hoist rescue but not fully staffed. She noted that they have started their first round of layoffs.

**Humboldt Bay Fire**

Per Tim, they participated in the disaster drill at St. Joseph hospital last month and he thanked Pam for putting that on. Tim reported that they have four employees going through the academy right now and one in their paramedic internship.

**Arcata Mad River Ambulance**

Per Doug, nothing to report.

With nothing further to report, Doug reminded everyone of the TAC meeting at 1100 and the meeting was adjourned.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: **December 13, 2023 via ZOOM**