

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting via Zoom

Present (Via Zoom):

Doug Boileau, EMT-P	Arcata-Mad River Ambulance
Andrew Gonzales	Cal Fire
Jon Busher EMT-P	Cal Fire
Joe Gregorio EMT	Cal-Ore
Graham Felsenthal EMT-P	City Ambulance
Jaison Chand, EMT-P	City Ambulance
Katie Baza	City Ambulance
Darrin Short	County of Del Norte
Rex Bohn	County of Humboldt
Tina Wood, RN	Mad River Hospital
Stayce Curry, 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
Dennis Louy	North Coast EMS-Del Norte
Pam Collver, RN, BSN	Redwood Memorial Hospital
Lisa Neuger, MD	St. Joseph Hospital
Kari Vandiver, RN	St. Joseph Hospital
Kristen Hansen, RN	St. Joseph Hospital
Mary Moulton, RN	Sutter Coast Hospital

1. OLD BUSINESS

• Paramedic Program Update

Per Doug, final exams for the program are this Friday. There are 27 students in the program and field internships will be starting for them as early as next week. 3/5 of the students are in Humboldt, the rest are in Lake, Mendocino, and Shasta Counties. The annual report to the accrediting board is due this week and he thanked those who returned the surveys that were sent out. He added that if you haven't sent your survey response in, please do so soon so that it can be added in the annual report. The next program begins in August and there are currently 20 applicants. There is also a new program starting up at Mendocino College which may affect the numbers here.

• Trauma

Per Rita there will be a TAC meeting following this meeting at 11am. There are two trauma focused surveys happening in June at Sutter Lakeside and Mad River Hospital to go back and look at the deficiencies found on the trauma survey that was done in November. Everyone has submitted their 2020 data to the state and otherwise it is business as usual.

- **EMS for Children**

Per Rita, the reports from the surveys that they conducted have gone out. Everyone was given a designation for the year. There will be a quick follow up survey done in January to gather documentation that is still needed.

- **Behavioral Health**

Per Stayce, the June Nurse Manager meeting was scheduled for Memorial Day and will be rescheduled so keep an eye out for the new date. Created a process by which certain professionals can apply to be designated to rescind a 5150 hold. This is in response to the ED's request to have this ability to manage patients during the pandemic. There are currently 11 ED doctors who are eligible to apply, which encompasses each hospital. This starts with a 1-hour training video and test before applying. The information was sent to each hospital on Monday but Stayce is also working to contact each of the eligible doctors as well. Phelps and Mad River have completed the process for the hospital bridge program for credentialing and privileging pathway for Covid positive behavioral health patients and SJH is still in progress of completing. She has sent out the algorithm for how to request a consult for those that are complete and open. The Children's Residential Grant was recently awarded locally.

Kari asked if there is any movement on Mental Health being able to sit with patients in the hospitals while they await transport to SV as this is currently being done by hospital staff. Per Stayce, mental health should have those available if requested. She has also been working with Partnership for this and as well. Kristen added that her understanding was that Mental Health had lost their contract and was no longer able to send a staff member to do that. Stayce responded that it was possible that Kristen was correct, and she would look into it. Pam brought up that HCSO is bypassing Phelps with 5150 patients and bringing them to RMH. She also added that they are having issues with violent patients who were needing to be restrained but could not be transported due to City Ambulance and Fortuna PD not being able to transport. Jaison clarified that City could transport in restraints, but needed someone else in the ambulance to be able to enforce the 5150 as they could not. Further discussion ensued, clarifying the legislation that does not allow Paramedics to enforce a 5150 and clarifying the ability to transport minor 5150 patients in restraints. Pam explained that she had contacted Mental Health to send someone to ride with City Ambulance to transport and was told that it would never happen. She said FPD also refused the transport of the medically cleared patient.

- **STEMI Program Updates**

(including 12-lead EKG Transmission and C.A.R.E.S.)

Per Larry, they just finished a STEMI reviewing center survey at SJH, it was done virtually and went very well. They are currently in the process of following up on the results which will probably take several weeks. In March of 2016, SJH was designated at a STEMI receiving center. Last Larry heard, after that date, the cardiac mortality rate in Humboldt had decreased by 30%. He looks forward to sending out the findings of the survey. The CARES data from all three counties has been given to the state. Joanne Chapman, who is running the project will be at the next meeting to report more.

Per Jaison and Katie, City Ambulance is still working with SJH to get the modems needed for 12-lead EKG transmissions and have been in touch with SJH within the last few days.

Per Larry, his understanding is that Hoopa and AMRA are successfully sending the 12-lead information ahead to SJH currently. Doug clarified that there has been one transmission from AMRA to SJH in the time since it has been possible.

- **Policy and Protocol Updates including TXA Discussion**

Per Kayce, they had their first policy review meeting of the year and made good headway. She addressed Jaison and said that after talking to others, the best way to add expanded EMT scope of practice to ALS providers is going to be through an MOU. TXA is no longer a trial study, it is now approved as a local optional scope, if applied for. Per Dr. Karp, we should definitely apply for this as the data is well established and the protocol seems simple. He doesn't anticipate any issues with that being approved.

- **HPP Medical Disaster Project Update**

Per Larry, this is a disaster grant that is an annually continuing grant. There are some specific tasks that they are working with the three counties to complete. Larry deferred to Kayce for further who had nothing to add except that a draft of the Infectious Disease Surge Annex was submitted. Per Dennis, they are continuously staying in touch with and keeping health care coalition members up to date with what they need for the Grant. He learned at a recent evacuation point training that when there is a set up evacuation point for people to go to, the personal hygiene items given out are not a lot so it is very important to have a go bag packed with hygiene items.

- **Infectious Disease and COVID-19 Updates**

Per Larry, they are starting to see a wind down of calls from the State for assistance. Their staff are trained to test for Covid and many have assisted with the vaccination efforts in the State, which has been very successful. He and Dr. Brown with San Francisco EMS have drafted a Covid-19 lessons that is currently is State-wide review to highlight the successes during the pandemic.

- **Med-Net System, Medical Control During an MCI & MCI Plan Update**

Per Larry, he hasn't had a chance to move forward on the MCI plan. He spoke with Wayne recently regarding the MCI repeaters and Wayne has removed the equipment from Horse Mountain repeater and will be adding it to the Pratt repeater in the next few years. After that happens, we can revisit the idea of a centralized medical control facility for large area events. Doug clarified that Horse being down effects the Eastern part of the County.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- **Community Call Plan (CCP) So. Humboldt Community Healthcare District**

Per Rita, Judy from Phelps had requested that this be on the agenda to connect with SJH regarding MOU contract but since she's not here we should table it to next meeting. Per Doug there is currently an open auction going on to support funds for the hospital if anyone is wanting to support.

- **APOT and Core Measures Reports**

Per Larry, Nicole sent out the minutes yesterday. APOT data is required by the EMS authority and most LEMSAs are participating. The data is regarding Ambulance patient offload time and is calculated to see per hospital, per transporting provider. The data shows that, compared to other areas in California, we have extremely low APOT times.

There are 8 or 9 core measures that are evaluated and the only one that is an area that requires looking at is glucose testing for suspected stroke patients. They are emphasizing the importance of glucose testing with these patients as it is an area for improvement.

- **North Coast EMS Quality Improvement and Case Review Process Update**

Per Larry, with Kayce and Pam Mather they are trying to ensure that everyone in the region understands what quality improvement is and how it works. The QIP program involves all of our activities which includes prospective development, concurrent improvement, and retrospective improvement.

Per Kayce, there has been a draft sent out of a consolidation of QIP policies put together by Pam Mather.

3. **NORTH COAST EMS REPORT**

Per Larry, the next governing board meeting is June 24th and both Supervisor Short and Bohn are on the call today. Nothing more to report.

4. **EMS LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Per Jaison the Chapter 13 task force was supposed to reconvene to work on the definitions, however they decided to not come back and to republish the entire set of regulations based on the task force meeting that were had over the last several months. They had run out of time in the administrative timeline to finish the process. We should expect the new draft of regulations to come out for review in the next 30 to 60 days.

Assembly bill 662 is the 5150 bill that is also posted in the chat. This just moves this to a study bill which was done to get it through both committees, which it did. There was opposition from CA professional firefighters who do not want to have the ability to detain on scene and not have police respond.

Assembly Bill 450 would create a committee, or 7 person panel to review licensure actions on paramedics. Currently, the LEMSA and State investigate and make decisions on paramedic licensure actions and this makes an independent board to investigate.

5. **FACILITY AND PROVIDER REPORTS**

Sutter Coast

Per Mary, they have started a trauma team committee with the idea of having more collaboration between departments to ensure everything is being met to keep their trauma certification. She's currently waiting on approval from administration to help Del Norte Ambulance to get Hep Nitro certification so they can use with STEMI transports. She has also been working with Charles to have more FTOs. Per Darrin, nothing to report.

MRCH

Per Tina, nothing to report.

SJH

Per Kari, Tracie is having a field care audit in June for field OB deliveries. May is Trauma awareness month and has partnered with the blood bank for a month long blood drive.

City Ambulance

Per Jaison, they have been working on a new transfer form to include needed items such as CCT that was just approved yesterday. Between him, Katie, and Graham, the forms will be going out to the hospitals over the next few weeks. One of their paramedics will be working with Reach and three paramedics will be working with Cal Ore. 13 new paramedics will be starting internships in the next few weeks as well.

Cal Ore

Nothing to report

Cal Fire

Per Jon, they have brought in over 80 firefighters and they will be opening more stations in the next week. Bringing in that many people, they are being cautious with covid related issues.

AMRA

Per Doug, AMRA had it's second highest call volume month with over 400 calls and is following with possibly their lowest call month. They will be losing one paramedic who has just passed nursing school.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: June 9, 2021 via ZOOM