

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COMMISSION ON EMS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013
MARINES' MEMORIAL CLUB AND HOTEL
609 SUTTER STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102
(415) 673-6672**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Linda Broyles, Dan Burch, Jaison Chand, Steven Drewniany, Aaron F. Hamilton, Mark Hartwig, Ruth Haskins, MD, Richard O. Johnson, MD, Kristi L. Koenig, MD, Daniel Margulies, MD, Eric Rudnick, MD, Jane Smith, Kathleen Stevenson, Lew Stone, Dave Teter

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Alexis F. Lieser, MD, David Rose, Joy P. Stovell

EMS AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT:

Reba Anderson, Howard Backer, MD, Lauren Chandler, Adam Davis, Michael Frenn, Jennifer Lim, David Magnino, Lou Meyer, Tom McGinnis, LaShawn Pettit , Daniel R. Smiley, Nina Tonnu (student) Sean Trask, Adam Willoughby

AUDIENCE PRESENT:

Gail Porto, Alameda City Fire
Marcy Metz, San Diego County EMS
Dan Spiess, Nor-Cal EMS
Jeff Youngsma, Fremont Fire
Ron Maize, Fremont Fire
Jared Cooper, San Francisco Fire Dept.
Sam Stratton, Orange City EMS
Ross Fay, California Shock Trauma Rescue / CALSTAR
Jeff Schach, Petaluma Fire Dept.
Josh Cuzie, Santa Barbara Co. Fire
Norm Plott, Ventura County Fire
Leslie Parham, SB Co Fire
Leigh Overton, SB Co Fire
Cathy Ord, NBFDD / Cal Chiefs
Ellen Chavez, CPCS
Kara Davis, RN, Nor-Cal EMS
Kristin Thompson, Anaheim Fire
Crystal Wright, SF EMSA
Steve Carroll, Ventura County EMS
Joelle Samsel, Anaheim FD
Layne Contreras, Los Angeles County Fire

AUDIENCE PRESENT (continued)

Ray Ramirez, Cal Chiefs
 Steve Lieberman, San Luis Obispo County EMS
 Greg Reynar, Los Angeles Fire Dept.
 Bruce Haynes, San Diego, Imperial
 Troy Falck, MD, SSV EMS
 Pat Frost, Co EMS
 Bill Koenig, LA County EMS
 Marilyn Anderson, Vista FD
 Richard Watson, EMSA, Retired
 Katie Tataris, SF EMSA
 Mike Giannini, Marin County Fire / Cal Chiefs
 Patrice Christensen, San Mateo Co. EMS
 Cathy Chidester, LA Co EMS Agency
 Kim Roderick, PAFD
 Sandy Carnes, Rancho Cucamonga FD
 Pam Martinez, Ontario Fire
 Mary Magocsy, San Francisco EMS Agency
 Jan Ogar, San Mateo EMS Agency
 Don Campbell, Cal – AAMS
 Belinda Schafer, APCC
 Dwayne Preston, LBFD
 Brian Hartley, Bound Tree Medical
 Arthur Hsieh, SR JC
 Rich Porcelli, San Mateo County EMSA
 Emil Picchi, San Mateo County
 Steven Silici, San Mateo County
 Jeff Smeenk, Stockton Fire
 Fred Claridge, Alameda EMS

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Jane Smith called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Fifteen Commissioners were present. Chairperson Smith requested Vice Chairman Lew Stone lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairperson Smith reminded the group about the EMS Awards Luncheon and Ceremony taking place at 12:30 p.m., and that all comments should be brief in order for the meeting to adjourn by 10:30 a.m.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 MINUTES

Vice Chairperson Lew Stone moved to approve the September 18, 2013 minutes.
Action: Moved (Lew Stone). Second (Kristi L. Koenig). Motion was passed. Minutes were approved.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Howard Backer presented his report:

Goals and Objectives for EMSA

Dr. Backer shared eight goals and objectives for EMSA, local agencies and providers to move toward in the coming year. His priorities centered on:

- 1) Engaging and unifying the EMS community
- 2) Applying consistent policies impartially
- 3) Quality improvement
- 4) Basing decisions and protocols on scientific evidence
- 5) Developing and analyzing data for quality improvement purposes
- 6) Defining the role of EMS in Health Care Reform
- 7) Integrating EMS in the evolving health care system
- 8) Discussing potential sources and methods of funding

Community Paramedicine

- REMSA (Reno Emergency Medical Services Agency) secured the largest innovation grant that was solely focused on EMS; they're developing a multi-faceted community paramedicine program, which will include a nurse advice line, alternate destinations and management of the EMS super users.
- A few of the takeaways from a recent visit include:
 - Do outreach and focus on developing community partnerships with healthcare and professional groups in their area.
 - Start slowly then reevaluate after program initiation before expanding.
 - REMSA has extreme data demands from Health and Human Services and discussed its importance. Their challenge is how to make the program self-supporting after the grant runs out in about 18 months.
 - They are willing to assist EMSA in a consulting capacity to help develop pilot programs.

Health Information Exchange

- The event held in Los Angeles in November 2013 was a success; with broad representation from EMS providers across the spectrum and good feedback received.
- Data is currently being shared between provider agencies, local EMS agencies and state EMS agencies, with the objective of involving hospital and clinics in this process.

Data and Core Measures

- For core measures to be successful, interest must start at the provider level.
- More outreach at the provider level is needed so that a better understanding of data capture is understood.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (continued)

Wall Time / ED transfer

- Two surveys recently gathered information on Wall Time. One was sent by CHA to hospitals, the other, driven by EMSAAC, was sent to local EMS agencies. Dan Burch received 100% participation from the LEMSAs. This effort should help shine a light on the issue. EMSA's partnership with CHA has raised its profile within CHA as well as in some corners of the medical community. More details (and perhaps a presentation) will be shared at the March 2014 Commission meeting.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Teter moved to approve the Consent Calendar. **Action: Moved (Teter). Second (Burch). Motion was passed. Accept and file the Consent Calendar**

5. EMS PERSONNEL

DNR Guidelines

Sean Trask, Division Chief, presented his report with the first item being a revision to the "Do Not Resuscitate Guidelines," which is an action item. The California Coalition for Compassionate Care (CCCC) and the POLST Task Force made revisions to the form with an implementation date of April 1, 2014 being the goal. The DNR Guidelines are intended to assist the LEMSAs with drafting their own policies. EMSA received a request in late November 2013 from CCCC to postpone implementation of the form and the new DNR Guidelines due to data collection and a renewed implementation date.

The Commission is being asked to either approve the DNR Guidelines as written and wait until the October 1, 2014 implementation date or table the DNR Guidelines and revisit them at the June Commission meeting.

Eric Rudnick moved to accept the DNR as written. **Action: Moved (Rudnick). Second (Koenig).**

There was brief discussion regarding whether legislation was passed that allowed nurse practitioners, PA's or nurses to sign the POLST form in lieu of a physician (in certain instances). Jennifer Lim, Deputy Director, stated research was necessary and she would respond after definitive information was obtained.

The motion was called for again. **Action: Moved (Rudnick). Second (Koenig). The motion was approved.**

EMS PERSONNEL (continued)

Office of Administrative Law Rulemaking Calendar (Attachment A) (Attachment B)

This is an action item. An estimate of rulemaking efforts is provided to the Office of Administrative Law in order to give them an idea of how many regulations will be opened in 2014 which will assist them in determining each department's workload.

Action: Moved (Stone). Second (Hamilton). The motion is approved.

Community Paramedicine

Sean Trask stated that Lou Meyer would present his report on this topic and he referred to two issue memos in the commission packet on this topic.

Lou Meyer, Community Paramedicine Project Manager, presented his report: At the September Commission meeting, Meyer reported that letters of intent were being received and they were awaiting word regarding grant funding approval from the HealthCare Foundation. On September 20, 2013, the Board of Directors approved the grant request.

EMSA received 27 proposals and selected 13 for provisional approvals. Four involve alternate destinations, five involve post-hospital discharge, two involve frequent 9-1-1 contacts, one involves in home and hospice support, and one involves treatment of TB patients.

The Healthcare Foundation's request for proposal (RFP) received three responses and ultimately selected the University of California, San Francisco to be the evaluator with Dr. Janet Coffman leading the endeavor; the project manager is Cynthia Wides.

Planned activities include the formation of local steering committees, conference calls with site managers, webinars, and a data survey.

Meyer stated he anticipated the filing of the OSHPD application before staff was out of the office for the Christmas holidays.

The program has been receiving many phone calls regarding the curriculum. A curriculum advisory group composed of educators and physicians has been created to come up with the necessary core competencies.

First Aid Standards for Public Safety Personnel Regulations

There hasn't been a lot of progress in this area; however, it is anticipated that the regulations will be revised in 2014. The outdated first responder course will be replaced

EMS PERSONNEL (continued)

with a version of the current EMR course, which will add the use of epinephrine, oxygen, hemostatic dressings, tourniquets and a tactical first aid training course for public safety personnel

SB 669 – Epinephrine Auto Injector Legislation

The governor signed this bill that would allow lay people and off-duty EMS personnel (with certain training) to acquire and use an EpiPen. It is estimated an eighteen month window will be required as well as an additional position to help with the rulemaking process, a task force to assist with writing standards and training requirements, and completing the rulemaking process to finish the regulations. The estimated implementation date is January 1, 2016.

6. EMS SYSTEMS

Tom McGinnis, Chief of EMS Systems, gave his report

Emergency First Aid Guidelines for California Schools, EMSA #196, Issue Memo

Revisions are being proposed to make this document more consistent with current medical and first aid standards. The Department of Education and the California School Nurses Association has provided input to make guidelines workable from their standpoint. Commissioner Margulies motioned to vote for approval of the EMSA 196 revision. **Action: Moved (Margulies). Second (Rudnick).**

Dr. Backer had a comment regarding the number of revisions of this document and how the revisions will be distributed – hard copy (cost prohibitive), electronically or via cell phone app. There was discussion regarding preferences from Commissioners including: opting for the electronic option; however, a back-up is needed in the event of a power failure and making certain a link to the site is provided. The most popular option was the app.

After five vendors submitted their bids Tom McGinnis stated it would cost about \$25,000 to develop an app, which includes a \$2,500 license rights fee with further license rights costing approximately \$3 each. There was discussion that the \$25,000 price point was too high and \$5,000 was a more reasonable cost.

Chairperson Jane Smith restated there was a seconded motion on the table to approve the revisions. **Action: The motion was approved.**

EMS SYSTEMS (continued)

Data / CEMIS

Tom McGinnis reported that a total of six rollout sessions had taken place across the state with 240 attendees. EMSA is forming a work group to help develop the NEMIS Version 3 standard. Currently, there are 200,000 records in the database and the latest run revealed a 97.2% success rate of items importing directly into the NEMIS database.

EMS Core Measure

This is an action item related to Appendix E of EMSA 166. In March 2013 the same document was presented to the Commission for approval due to content revision. We are now seeking approval to make the document more user-friendly for data systems. Commissioner Koenig motioned to approve proposed changes to the document in question. **Action: Moved (Koenig). Second (Johnson). The motion was approved.**

7. GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT

Scott Clough, Assistant Chief of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District presented his report to address the program, provide a status report, talk about the impact and address questions that have been asked since his tenure as Project Manager for 3 ½ years.

GEMT is a Certified Public Expenditure program “CPE” and is one of many ways to access federal financial participation dollars. The most common users of CPEs are hospitals, mental health clinics, health clinics, and schools. GEMT is a MediCal program, which is a federal Medicaid program – it is an entitlement not an appropriation. Who is allowed to participate? Essentially, five forms of government can participate in GEMT: states, cities, counties, specialty districts or other governmental units. It is strictly a fee-for-service MediCal benefit.

There are currently 162 eligible providers in California. GEMT is voluntary and no provider is required to participate just because they are eligible. Scott Clough stated that as of December 3, 2013, there were 110 agencies that are formally enrolled.

Contracting is allowed and private entities can participate; however there are restrictions on how it's applied.

Based on Scott Clough's opinion there should be little to no impact on the statewide ambulance system. How will the exclusive operating area be affected when it goes out

EMS SYSTEMS (continued)

to bid? Clough cannot determine whether or not there will be a difference but the dollar amounts are likely to be small and would have minimal impact on the bidding process. The fees will likely amount to less than 2% of the overall income of that exclusive operating area.

The reason why an entity would not participate if it were eligible is because it only applies to fee-for-service MediCal patients. For some providers, this population is very small, due to few MediCal patients or the predominance of managed care MediCal. According to Clough, there may be a second step to this process and there was brief discussion regarding this. The Power Point of Scott Clough's presentation will be included in the minutes.

Dr. Backer added that he would like to see a partnership between the fire service, CAA and EMSA to evaluate the impact. There was discussion regarding providing more information on the four private providers that are currently participating in the program under contract.

8. DISASTER MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Ambulance Strike Team/Medical Task Force Program (AST/MTF)

Michael Frenn spoke on behalf of Lisa Schoenthal, Chief of the Disaster Medical Services Division and provided an update. The AST/MTF is an essential component of our disaster medical assets. It is comprised of the Mission Support Team, the Disaster Health Care Volunteers Program, the California Medical Assistance Team Program and the Mobile Field Hospital Program. The AST and EMSA has trained more than 100 people in AST since 2003 and is being used more regularly.

In June 2013 EMSA began issuing qualification cards for AST personnel and to date almost 100 cards have been issued. Additionally, there are almost 30 Disaster Medical Support Vehicles (DMSUs) in the state with the goal being to secure more vehicles as well as have official FIRESCOPE recognition of the program.

9. NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR MARCH 2014 – MARCH 2015

Commissioner Mark Hartwig submitted a motion for Lew Stone to be nominated Chairperson. Commissioner Aaron Hamilton motioned for Jane Smith to be nominated Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Dave Teter seconded.

For Administrative Committee: Vice Chairperson Lew Stone nominated Jaison Chand for the Administrative Committee. Commissioner Dan Burch seconded.

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS FOR MARCH 2014 – MARCH 2015 (continued)

Commissioner Dr. Kristi Koenig nominated Dr. Ruth Haskins for the Administrative Committee. Dr. Haskins accepted the nomination. Commissioner Dr. Daniel Margulies seconded.

These nominations remain open until the March 2014 Commission meeting at which time the election will be held.

10. APPROVAL OF 2015 COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Commissioner Hartwig motioned to approve 2015 meeting dates:

March 18, 2015 in Los Angeles

June 17, 2015 in Sacramento

September 16, 2015 in San Diego

December 2, 2015 in San Francisco. **Action: Moved (Hartwig). Second. (Chand).**

The 2015 meeting dates have been approved.

11. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

There were none.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Smith motioned for the meeting to adjourn. **Action: Moved (Smith). Second. (Rudnick). The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.**