

**Mountain-Valley
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2016**

Location: Copperopolis Fire Station
Training Room
370 Main St.
Copperopolis, CA 95228

Time: 9:00 AM

Board Members Present: Terry Woodrow (Vice-Chair) – Alpine County; Louis Boitano – Amador County; Debbie Ponte – Calaveras County; John Carrier (Chair) – Mariposa County; Jim DeMartini – Stanislaus County

Guests: Ted Novelli, David Prentice

Staff: Richard Murdock - Executive Director; Jim Whitworth – Facilities/Disaster Coordinator; Susan Watson – Executive Secretary/Financial Services Assistant

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by Chairman Carrier with a quorum of members present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed those present.

C. Correspondence

No correspondence.

D. Additions/Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

Mr. Murdock asked to add an action item to the Executive Session to request approval of the California Department of Public Health Agreement for HPP Grant funding and issue an accompanying Board Resolution. The agreement was received after the meeting agenda was sent out. The matter is of a time sensitive nature that cannot wait until the next JPA Board meeting.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Boitano) To Approve the Agenda as amended.

Vote: 5-0

Motion Passed

E. Public Forum

None

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

M/S/C (Boitano/Woodrow) To Approve the Consent Calendar.

Vote: 5-0

Motion Passed

G. Executive Session

The Board convened Executive Session at 9:05 AM.

H. Results of Executive Session

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:24 AM. The Board received information.

Let the record show Supervisor Terry Woodrow left the meeting at 9:25 AM.

I. Ambulance Provider Agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc.

Mr. Murdock asked the Board to approve and authorize the Executive Director to sign an amendment to extend the present ambulance provider agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc. through December 31, 2018. This will provide time for the new Health Officer to understand and identify the EMS needs in Mariposa County before a new ambulance provider agreement is developed.

M/S/C (Ponte/DeMartini) To approve and authorize the Executive Director to sign the amendment to the present ambulance provider agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc, extending the term to December 31, 2018.

Vote: 4-0

Motion Passed

J. Air Ambulance Agreement with REACH

See Item L.

K. Air Ambulance Agreement with PHI

See Item L.

L. Air Ambulance Agreement with Air Methods Corporation

By direction of the Board, Agenda Items J, K, and L were addressed in one response.

Mr. Murdock reminded the Board of the air ambulance agreement extensions granted at the August 31, 2016 JPA BOD meeting due to some contractual language review in light of FAA regulations for the providers. The agreement was presented in legislative format. The Board was asked to approve the agreement template and authorize the Executive Director to sign the document after County Counsel review and final edits are accomplished.

M/S/C (Boitano/Ponte) To authorize the Executive Director to sign after County Counsel review of Items J, K and L.

Vote: 4-0

Motion Passed

M. Facilities/Disaster Preparedness Coordinator

Mr. Murdock introduced Jim Whitworth as the Agency's new Facilities and Disaster Preparedness Coordinator. Mr. Whitworth is a paramedic with extensive field experience in both ground and air ambulance service. He will handle the specialty centers and base hospitals. He will also work collaboratively in disaster preparedness for pre-hospital personnel to include MCI and triage tag training as well as other topics as assigned. Tom Morton will continue to handle more of the Public Health side of disaster preparedness and training.

N. EMSAAC Meeting Report

Mr. Murdock shared some notes from a recent EMS Administrators Association of California (EMSAAC) workshop. Standardized treatment of air ambulance contracts is a main topic throughout the State. Rural EMS issues are of specific concern as many rural providers are closing. There is a shortage of paramedics throughout California, so staffing issues are a difficulty for smaller ambulance providers. Aside from staffing challenges, reimbursement rates associated with the Affordable Care Act are also causing a negative financial impact on both private ambulance providers and rural hospitals. Patient volume has increased, but reimbursement rates have decreased. EMSAAC is looking at various models to maintain quality EMS service to the community.

O. California Department of Public Health Agreement for HPP Grant Funding

Mr. Murdock presented the contract amendment to the agreement with the California Department of Public Health for FY 16/17 Hospital Preparedness Program grant funding. The amendment includes a carry forward portion from FY 15/16 for work in progress with member counties. The Board was asked to approve the agreement, authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract, and issue a Board resolution stating the same.

M/S/C (Boitano/DeMartini) To approve the agreement as amended, authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement, and approve a Board Resolution.

Vote: 4-0

Motion Passed

P. Agency and County Reports

Amador County – No report.

Calaveras County – On October 21, 2016 there will be a tabletop exercise for disaster preparedness. The County is considering a review and update of the Office of Emergency Services.

Mariposa County – The new Health Officer is immersed in EMS issues and reaching out to the Agency staff.

Stanislaus County – No report.

Q. Next Scheduled Meeting

December 14, 2016 at 9:00 AM, Copperopolis Fire Station Training Room

R. Adjournment

Chairman Carrier adjourned the meeting at 9:54 AM.