

**Stanislaus County
Emergency Medical Services Committee
January 12, 2017
Special Meeting Minutes**

Location: Office of Emergency Services
Logistics Room
3705 Oakdale Rd.
Modesto, CA 95357

Time: 2:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Dale Skiles, Dan Cummins, Dr. Bruce Laverty, Sharon Young, Paul Baxter, James Holgersson, Mary Ann Lee, Bryan Whitemyer, Robert Ott

Committee Members Absent: Dr. Niamh Seavy

Guests: Dr. Walker, Jim Ferrera, Cherie Dockery, Jesse Nicasio, David Dalman, Cindy Woolston, Patty Hill Thomas

Staff: Richard Murdock – Executive Director, Cindy Murdaugh – Deputy Director, Tom Morton – Data Systems Analyst, Jim Whitworth – Facilities/Disaster Coordinator

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Chairman Paul Baxter with a quorum of nine members present.

2. Introductions

Committee members, Agency staff, and audience provided introductions.

3. Review and Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (Holgersson/Lee) To approve the agenda as written.

Vote: 9-0

Motion Passed

4. Correspondence

There were five pieces of correspondence received from the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, Clerk of the Board:

- a) Letter dated December 6, 2016 appointing Robert Ott as the Fire District Board of Directors representative with a term ending 12/31/18.
- b) Letter dated December 20, 2016 re-appointing James Holgersson to the Committee for a term ending 12/31/19.
- c) Letter dated December 20, 2016 re-appointing Dr. Bruce Laverty to the Committee for a term ending 12/31/19.
- d) Letter dated December 20, 2016 re-appointing Mary Ann Lee to the Committee for a term ending 12/31/19.
- e) Letter dated December 20, 2016, re-appointing Paul Baxter to the Committee for a term ending 12/31/19.

5. Public Comment Period

None.

6. Approval of Consent Calendar

M/S/C (Young/Laverty) To approve the consent calendar items as submitted.

Vote: 9-0

Motion Passed

7. Committee Reports

a) System Status

Cindy Woolston reported the System Status Committee did not meet in December as there were not any issues to address aside from standing agenda items.

b) SCHEPC

Tom Morton shared that Don Wyatt is the new coalition chairperson. The November and January meetings were very similar in content:

- There has been discussion of the winter surge impact on the Emergency Departments. The ED managers attended the meetings and mitigation measures were addressed.
- The Coalition also reviewed the draft surge plan that was presented to the Health Executives yesterday.

Dr. Walker explained the implementation and consistent use of the NEDOCS system by all five acute care hospitals in the County. The system is used to assess the level of activity within the facility and provides a consistent picture for comparison purposes in the operational area. Even with the seasonal surge, there have not been excessive delays of ambulances at the EDs.

Two main projects the Health Executives have been working on are to decrease mental health holds in the Emergency Department and to minimize the amount of time patients have to be held in the ED waiting for interfacility transfers (IFT).

Richard Murdock shared the Agency has implemented two processes to help manage IFT workload. One is the EMS Duty Officer who can release a 911 ambulance to complete the transfer based on patient acuity. The second is the monitoring of EMS system, NEDOCS, and overall system status.

c) OES

Chief Skiles thanked the Agency for the 24/7 EMS Duty Officer program which has been a help to the Office of Emergency Services.

The Threat Assessment Group met on October 31, 2016 to review reports of ambulance hold times at the Emergency Departments. The group chose to continue monitoring the situation and met again in early December 2016. As a result of the December meeting, the problem was found to be consistent and not related to seasonal surge. The group decided to continue monitoring and elevate the issue to the Health Executives.

The Office of Emergency Services is putting an emphasis on cybersecurity.

8. System Enhancement Fund Application

Richard Murdock revisited the purpose of the System Enhancement Fund and presented two applications for use of the funds:

- a) The first application is from Mountain-Valley EMS Agency and requests \$125,169 to purchase the FirstWatch data interface for the SR911 CAD to obtain real-time response information for ALS Fire EMS. The amount requested includes an amount of projected expenses at SR911 as well as three years of ongoing annual maintenance through 2020. The Committee was asked to recommend the report be forwarded to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

Committee discussion debated obligating the System Enhancement Funds for the three years of ongoing annual maintenance and questioned the need for an updated computer platform to run the software. Staff explained the original FirstWatch system and data are maintained at FirstWatch. The fees pay for the space required to maintain the Stanislaus Operational Area data and access to the virtual database. Upgraded computer systems locally will not be required.

Dr. Walker shared this application is an opportunity to connect with the CAD-to-CAD project.

Patty Hill Thomas emphasized the need for the reliable data FirstWatch provides and encouraged the Committee to recommend approval of the application.

M/S/C (Holgerson/Skiles) To recommend the Board of Supervisors approve the application as presented with a limitation of ongoing annual fees to three years and a revisit of the subject prior to the expiration of the three year period. The motion was further amended to include the ability to add to the amount in order to incorporate the Turlock PSAP at a later time.

Vote: 9-0

Motion Passed

- b) The second application is from the Office of Emergency Services for an amount of \$91,594.12 to purchase a variety of training manikins and training simulators on behalf of all Stanislaus County Fire Departments. The Committee was asked to recommend the report be forwarded to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

Chief Holly explained each fire agency identified their training needs. The CPR manikins will be used to replace dilapidated manikins and the Resusci-Annie simulators will be placed strategically to enhance CPR training throughout the County. The ALS training manikins will be used for training purposes by the ALS fire agencies only.

M/S/C (Skiles/Cummins) To recommend the Board of Supervisors approve the application as submitted.

Vote: 9-0

Motion Passed

9. Primary Stroke Center Designation

Richard Murdock reviewed the Agency's responsibilities in designating specialty care centers. Trauma Centers and STEMI Receiving Centers have already been designated. The Agency is currently working on designating Primary Stroke Centers. Several aspects of the designation process were described and the Go Live Date is presently planned for February 1, 2017. Doctors Medical Center, Memorial Medical Center and Kaiser Hospital Modesto have all applied for the Primary Stroke Center designation.

10. CAD-to-CAD Update

Richard Murdock reported SR911 is working to complete the upgrade of their CAD system with a target date of the end of the 1st Quarter CY 2017. The Go Live date is anticipated to occur by the end of the 2nd Quarter CY 2017. TriTech, the SR911 CAD vendor, has continued to work on the interface with connectivity in place. The testing will begin once the upgrade is completed. Cindy Woolston and Scotty Douglass have completed the Business Associate agreement between the two centers.

There was a meeting this past Monday with Turlock Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) representatives seeking information about the CAD-to-CAD interface as well as input about different available CAD systems. Committee discussion ensued regarding the involvement of the Oakdale PSAP. A future meeting with the Agency will address specific questions.

11. Disaster Control Facility

Richard Murdock explained the purpose and responsibilities of the Disaster Control Facility (DCF). The present DCF for Stanislaus County is based at Memorial Medical Center within the Sutter Health transfer center. Due to a large increase in volume in the transfer center, Memorial Medical Center has submitted a request to cease and desist as the DCF for Stanislaus County.

The contract gives the Agency 180 days to locate a new DCF and that time period will expire on April 1, 2017. In California it is atypical to have a control facility located at a place other than a hospital. Most are located at a trauma center. The Agency will be working with the County to determine where the new DCF will be placed. An update will be provided at the March meeting.

12. Medical Surge

Richard Murdock emphasized ambulance wall times are a main concern of the Agency. FirstWatch data and the EMS Duty Officer program have been successful in helping to return ambulances to service in a timely manner.

13. Air Ambulance Status

Richard Murdock reported that Reach and CALSTAR have consolidated resources with a CALSTAR ship currently based at Memorial Medical Center. PHI remains based at Modesto Airport. Air Methods has relocated to Merced County.

14. Next Meeting

Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm

15. Adjournment

Chairman Baxter adjourned the meeting at 3:10 pm.