

**Mountain-Valley
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2022**

Location: Via Zoom
Time: 10:00 AM

Board Members Present: Gary Tofanelli (Chairperson) – Calaveras County; Jeff Brown (Vice-Chairperson) – Amador County; Terry Woodrow – Alpine County; Miles Menetrey – Mariposa County; Buck Condit – Stanislaus County

Guests: Alan McNany – American Legion Ambulance; Deb Thrasher – Stanislaus County Health Services Agency; Jim Whitworth – Mariposa County Public Health; Holly Sandman - Amador Public Health; Diana Evenson – Amador Public Health; Cindy Woolston – AMR; Dr. Sergienko – Mariposa County Public Health Officer; Jesse Figueroa – Mercy Medical Transport; Steve Madison – AMR; Chief Mike Johnson – Ebbetts Pass Fire District; Rita Carr – Amador County Public Health Officer

Staff: Cindy Murdaugh – Executive Director; Susan Watson – Executive Secretary / Financial Services Assistant; Derek Cole – Agency Counsel; Tom Morton – Communications/Data Systems Coordinator; Marilyn Smith – Response and Transport Coordinator

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chairperson Tofanelli with a quorum of five members present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Watson conducted a roll call of the JPA Board members. Chairperson Tofanelli called for self-introductions by guests.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Additions, Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

M/S/C (Condit/Woodrow) To approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Passed 5-0

E. Public Forum

None.

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

M/S/C (Brown/Condit) To approve the consent calendar.

Motion Passed 5-0

G. Amendment to Agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc.

Ms. Murdaugh explained the amendment to extend the current agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc. for a period not to exceed six months is needed to provide for further review from Mariposa County and Mercy Medical Transportation, Inc.

Supervisor Menetrey supports this amendment.

Dr. Sergienko stated modifying the contract mapping to ensure appropriate response time requirements makes sense for the provider. There has been a good set of negotiations with the Agency.

M/S/C (Menterey/Brown) To approve the Amendment to Agreement with Mercy Medical Transporation, Inc.

Motion Passed 5-0

G. Amendment to Agreement with Jim Whitworth

Ms. Murdaugh reported the current agreement with Jim Whitworth expires on June 30, 2022. The scope of work revision in the amendment is to eliminate Stanislaus County specific tasks related to CodeStar data and the Community Paramedicine project. An added responsibility is to use the SimMan for five call evaluations.

The amendment extends the current contract for six months through December 31, 2022 so the Agency can complete the recruitment process to hire a Quality Improvement Coordinator. There are some candidates for interviews to be conduct on June 27, 2022 at Copperopolis Fire Station Training Room. The interview panel at this time consists of the Agency Medical Director and Jim Whitworth. The individual member counties have also been asked to participate in the interview panel. That coordination will be completed this week.

Mr. Whitworth said he looked forward to continuing to help through the transition outside his hours with Mariposa County.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Menetrey) To approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Jim Whitworth.

Motion Passed 5-0

H. Amendment to Agreement with The Permanente Medical Group

Ms. Murdaugh explained the current agreement with The Permanente Medical Group will expire on June 30, 2022. As presented in the preliminary budget approve by the Board on May 9, 2022, the hourly rate has been increased to \$200 per hour. The value of the agreement shall not exceed \$48,000.00 for fiscal year 2022/2023. This amendment exercises the option in the agreement to renew it for an additional twelve months to June 30, 2023.

Exhibit A, Medical Director Services has been modified to eliminate services specific to Stanislaus County, which include oversight of the Agency's Regional STEMI QI and Stroke QI programs; assisting staff with feedback to the Trauma Registry program; and medical oversight of the Agency's Community Paramedicine initiatives. The number of anticipated hours per month has been reduced from 40 hours to 20 hours per month.

Supervisor Menetrey questioned why the hourly rate is increased even though the workload is drastically decreased.

Ms. Murdaugh replied the hourly rate for the Medical Director had not been changed in many years and there was a recent increase from \$150 to \$200 per hour after discussion with Dr. Kann and with Kaiser. As to workload and in the absence of an Agency QI Coordinator, Dr. Kann will be more involved in QI meetings and oversight than in the past.

Supervisor Woodrow asked how 20 hours will be enough for the extra hours Dr. Kann will need.

Ms. Murdauch responded the 20 hours is Dr. Kann's calculation based on everything that will be required.

M/S/C (Brown/Woodrow) To approve the Amendment to the Agreement with The Permanente Medical Group.

Motion Passed 5-0

J. Third Party Agreement with Calaveras County

Ms. Watson explained the Third Party Agreement is required by the Calaveras County Auditor in order to grant access to the Agency to participate in the County's financial system for deposits and issuing check payments.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Brown) To approve the Third Party Agreeemnt with Calaveras County.

Motion Passed 5-0

K. FY 2022/2023 Member County Agreements

Ms. Murdaugh noted the agreement term limits were updated to July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023. The contract values were updated to be consistent with the calculations in the County Contribution Letters for FY 2022/2023.

Chairperson Tofanelli observed the contracts are consistent with the previous years agreements.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Menetrey) To approve the FY 2022/2023 Member County Agreements.

Motion Passed 5-0

L. Planning Discussion

Chairperson Tofanelli reported he met with Ed Cardoza, the proprietor of the Lake Tullock Plaza office building and signed the contract. The amount of the rent is \$1,275 per month. The contract term is for two years with an option to renew for an additional three years.

Staff and a contractor met Chairperson Tofanelli at the office location to go over needed tenant improvements. It was difficult to find a contractor. The quote was received this morning and is for \$38,000. The quote will be sent to Derek to review and to Ms. Murdaugh and Ms. Watson for their review as well. Once comments are received, there will be a Special JPA Board Meeting sometime this week.

Supervisor Menetrey requested the contractor's quote be sent out to all Board members for review prior to the Special Meeting.

Chairperson described the tenant improvements to be made to the new office space.

Supervisor Woodrow asked if the quote includes building signs.

Chairperson affirmed signs for the building and for the plaza marquis are included.

Supervisor Menetrey how long it would take to get a permit from Calaveras County.

Chairperson said the contractor could get a permit fairly quickly and that he estimated the job could be completed in two to three weeks.

M. Closed Session

The Board convened closed session at 10:31 AM.

N. Results of Closed Session

The Board returned from closed session at 12:22 PM.

Mr. Cole reported the Board of Directors met in closed session to discuss two items, both of which were potential initiation of litigation items. As to one of the items, the Board received an update and provided direction to Counsel and staff. No other reportable action was taken. As to the other matter, it relates to the upcoming item in open session that is the Memorandum of Understanding. The Board of Directors has given its tentative approval to an agreement subject to the final approval in open session. Mr. Cole has the agreement in a PDF form that will momentarily be loaded up into the chat.

P. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

M/S/C (Menetrey/Woodrow) To nominate Gary Tofanelli to remain as Chairperson to continue leading the Agency through the rest of the transition period.

Motion Passed 4-0-1 (Supervisor Condit abstained)

M/S/C (Woodrow/Menetrey) To nominate Jeff Brown to remain as Vice-Chairperson and be able to take over when needed.

Motion Passed 4-0-1 (Supervisor Condit abstained)

Q. Agency and County Reports

Agency: Mr. Morton gave an update on FirstWatch projects:

- Alpine County: No data sources
- Amador County: Interface is established with the Sheriff's Office CAD for the EMS dispatch information. Currently working to coordinate a meeting between FirstWatch, Captain Benioff's CAD people and the Agency to understand the EMS data coding to be able to differentiate some of the data that is coming across the interface. The CAD vendor initially reported the setup would be the same as the Calaveras County Sheriff's Office CAD, but there are some variances. That data is required for FirstWatch to build the Online Compliance Utility (OCU). Reports can be built after the OCU is completed.
- Calaveras County: There is a stable implementation of FirstWatch. There was some contract changes that required some modifications, but the Agency is setting up meetings with FirstWatch, American Legion Ambulance and Ebbetts Pass Fire District to review the reports. The OCU is working and the providers are using it to make adjustments and request modifications and exemptions to actual specific response incidents.
- Mariposa County: FirstWatch has a viable interface with the CalFire CAD. This project is at a similar stage as the project in Amador County. This project will remain a work in progress until there is a fully executed ambulance provider agreement that will be the basis for building the OCU.
- Stanislaus County: The Agency has been working for several months with FirstWatch to separate the data sources for Stanislaus County from the Agency and provide a stable, robust platform to Stanislaus County EMS as of June 30, 2022. The Agency will retain the ability to query old data up through June 30, 2022.

Ms. Murdaugh added that Mr. Morton had done a lot of work with FirstWatch to provide this functionality for Stanislaus County. It will be the responsibility of Stanislaus County EMS to subscribe to the FirstWatch product and assume the financial cost for annual support and maintenance.

Mariposa: No report

Amador: No report

Alpine: No report

Stanislaus: Supervisor Condit reported on a ride-along he had with AMR last week. He observed there were good efforts and communications to make improvements and learned there had been several changes in the system since the time he worked on an ambulance himself. He further said it had been an honor to serve on this Board even through this tough situation. He complimented Ms. Murdaugh on her work through this period and he hoped everything would work out well for both the County and the Agency.

Chairperson Tofanelli thanked Supervisor Condit for his service to the JPA Board and appreciated his cooperation to recuse himself from certain conversations as the transition was developing.

Calaveras: No report

O. Memorandum of Understanding Between Mountain-Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency and the County of Stanislaus

Chairperson Tofanelli reported the Board discussed this agreement in closed session and authorized a couple of verbiage changes to be made. It has been a long and frustrating time to get to this point with this agreement and noted the very late point in time that this agreement is finalized. He recommended the motion authorize the Board Chairperson to sign the agreement as long as Stanislaus County signs it first.

Supervisor Woodrow agreed it has been a very, very long road.

Ms. Woolston noted that some of the fire departments listed in the contract assignment section of the MOU are not actually participating in reimbursements from AMR and requested a point of clarification.

Ms. Murdaugh responded the agreements listed in the MOU are contracts or MOUs the fire departments have with the Agency. In regards to reimbursement, that should be in contracts between AMR and the participating fire agencies.

Supervisor Menetrey observed there is not a signature line for the Board of Supervisors and asked if that Board is going to see this document.

Mr. Cole responded the County advised their CEO can and will approve this document.

Supervisors Menetrey and Woodrow and Chairperson Tofanelli observed that is an odd practice to not have this agreement go before their Board.

Supervisor Condit assured the JPA Board that the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors will see this document.

Supervisor Menetrey stated he was pleased with the content of the agreement.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Menetrey) To authorize the ChairPerson to sign this MOU only after Stanislaus County has signed it.

Motion Passed 5-0

S. Next Scheduled Regular Meeting

Monday, July 11, 2022 at 10:00 AM. An in person meeting was requested if possible.

Special Meeting Friday, June 24, 2022 at 4:00 PM via Zoom.

T. Adjournment

Chairperson Tofanelli adjourned the meeting at 12:54 PM..