

**Mountain-Valley
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 10, 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: Chief Richard Murdock – Stanislaus County Fire Warden; Chief Michael Johnson – Ebbetts Pass Fire District; Deb Thrasher – Stanislaus County Health Services Agency; Jesse Figueroa – Mercy Medical Transport; Cindy Woolston - AMR; Mary Ann Lilly – Stanislaus County Health Services Agency; Jewel Warr – Stanislaus County CEO Office; Alan McNany – American Legion Ambulance; Dr. Sergienko – Mariposa County Health Officer; Eric Lewis – PHI; Clint Bray – Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District

Staff: Cindy Murdaugh – Executive Director; Susan Watson – Executive Secretary / Financial Services Assistant; Derek Cole – Agency Counsel; Amy Diaz – Front Office and Certifications; Brenda Freese – Certifications, Training and Data Registrar; Jim Whitworth – Quality Improvement/Trauma Coordinator; Tom Morton – Communications/Data Systems Coordinator; Marilyn Smith – Response and Transport Coordinator; Justin Murdock – EMS Critical Care 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 staff and guests.

C. Correspondence

None

D. Additions/Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

M/S/C (Woodrow/Brown) To approve the agenda as presented.
Motion Passed 5-0

E. Public Forum

None.

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

M/S/C (Condit/Woodrow) To approve the consent calendar.
Motion Passed 5-0

G. Planning Discussion

Supervisor Menetrey reached out to Dr. Sergienko asking for an update from Tuolumne County. Dr. Sergienko responded there is support from Public Health staff and they have prepared a staff briefing for the Tuolumne Board of Supervisors but it has not yet made it onto the agenda.

Tuolumne County received notice from its current EMS provider, Manteca Community Ambulance, that the company will revoke its contract with the County on or before the start of the new fiscal year. As a result, Tuolumne County has started an RFP process for a new EMS provider.

Supervisor Tofanelli reminded the Board that he and Supervisor Woodrow reached out to Supervisor Ryan Campbell previously. At that time, he asked for some time to consider things. They will reach out to him again later this month.

Supervisor Woodrow shared the ambulance provider issue will be discussed at the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors tomorrow. The staff recommendation is to proceed with an RFP.

Supervisor Condit noted there seem to be a number of loose ends to tie up. He asked if contracting with Stanislaus County is still an option.

Supervisor Tofanelli said the JPA was not interested in contracting with Stanislaus County and that this had been stated previously. He did acknowledge there are a lot of loose ends to deal with.

Supervisors Tofanelli and Woodrow met with Agency Counsel to discuss him meeting with Stanislaus County Counsel. There is a resulting list of items to be negotiated with Stanislaus County and once it is solidified, it will be distributed to the remainder of the JPA Board members for your comments later in the week.

The foremost items involve contracts and possible liabilities after Stanislaus withdraws from the JPA. There are other considerations include the ability to collect on contracts after June 30th for periods before June 30th.

Derek Cole reported there was a very good call with Stanislaus County Counsel last week and there will be a standing weekly call moving forward.

Chairperson Tofanelli reported Rick Jones produced the itemized list of everything that belongs to Mountain-Valley EMS Agency as contracted. It will be distributed to the other JPA Board members later in the week for your comments. Contact Supervisor Tofanelli or Supervisor Woodrow and/or Agency Counsel for questions.

Chairperson Tofanelli said the auditor cannot close the books on the FY 20/21 financial audit until the Board states its plan for the Agency moving forward after the withdrawal of Stanislaus County.

Derek Cole will write a letter on behalf of the JPA Board to make the appropriate disclosures regarding the Agency as a going concern. The letter will be approved by the Board Chairperson before it is sent off to the auditor.

Susan Watson asked the Board's guidance on requesting a further extension of the audit submission date to allow time for the final audit report to be completed and reviewed by the JPA Board before it is submitted to the EMS Authority. Chairperson Tofanelli gave direction to request an additional 30 day extension.

Chairperson Tofanelli reported the planned meetings with employees did not occur since the last meeting. He and Supervisor Woodrow will meet later this week with labor counsel prior to meeting with the Agency employees. Meetings with the employees are anticipated for the following week.

The Board hopes to report out on more progress at the next JPA Board meeting.

H. Closed Session

The Board entered into closed session at 10:31 AM.

I. Results of Closed Session

Open session resumed at 11:37 AM.

Mr. Cole reported the Board met in closed session to hear potential litigation items. Direction was given to legal counsel. No further reportable action was taken on both items.

J. Agency and County Reports

Mariposa County: No report.

Amador County: Power is back on for the up country areas.

Alpine County: No report

Stanislaus County: No report

Calaveras County: No report.

Agency: Ms. Murdaugh reported:

- The Agency continues to monitor the BLS tiered response implementation in Stanislaus. As reported previously, AMR and Oak Valley Ambulance implemented their BLS tier response on November 1, 2021. Patterson District Ambulance implemented on December 1, 2021 and Westside Community Ambulance implemented on January 1, 2022.
- At the beginning there was a 15% paramedic intercept for these calls and are down now to 8% of the call volume requiring paramedic intercept. 100% of those calls are being reviewed to ensure the dispatch triage and response was assigned appropriately.
- The Agency is looking at implementing a BLS tiered response with American Legion Ambulance in Amador County. It was discussed at the Amador Fire Chiefs meeting last week and the Agency will be meeting with other stakeholders in the County to address any concerns and ensure we implement appropriately.
- The draft of the new ambulance provider agreement with Mercy Medical Transport in Mariposa County has been reviewed by the Agency and will be sent out this week to Supervisor Menetrey and Dr. Sergienko for their review before sending it forward to Mercy Medical Transport.
- Ms. Watson reported the financial audit continues to be underway. The auditor sent a list of a few items left to address. Ms. Watson will send the Board's request for a 30 day extension of the audit submission deadline to the EMS Authority today. That extension if granted will make the audit submission deadline February 28, 2022.
- Agency staff has been working very closely with the counties regarding the COVID-19 response and coordinating with the MHOACs. There have been some recent data requests from the State and the Agency is working on supplying that data to Region IV.

K. Next Scheduled Regular Meeting

The Board set the next regular meeting for Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM via Zoom.

L. Adjournment

Chairperson Tofanelli adjourned the meeting at 11:45 AM.