

**Mountain-Valley
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 14, 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; Cindy Woolston - AMR; Mary Ann Lilly – Stanislaus County Health Services Agency; Alan McNany – American Legion Ambulance; Deb Thrasher – Stanislaus County Health Services Agency; Erik Klevmyer – Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services; Jim Whitworth – Mariposa County Public Health; Chris Parnel – Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services; Chief Mike Johnson – Ebbetts Pass Fire District; Paul Willette – Patterson District Ambulance; Kain Packwood – Turlock City Fire Department; Vito Chiesa – Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

Staff: Cindy Murdaugh – Executive Director; Susan Watson – Executive Secretary / Financial Services Assistant; Derek Cole – Agency Counsel; 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 guests.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Additions, Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

None.

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

Motion Passed 5-0

E. Public Forum

None.

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

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

Motion Passed 5-0

G. Amendment to Ambulance Provider Agreement with American Legion Post 108 Ambulance

Ms. Murdaugh presented an amendment to the current ambulance provider agreement with American Legion Post 108 Ambulance for service in Amador County. The amendment modifies the agreement to permit the use of BLS ambulances in response to non-life threatening injuries

when consistent with standards set by the Agency Medical Director, the EMS dispatch center authorizes BLS ambulances to respond to emergencies. The contract modification would become effective on April 1, 2022.

Mr. McNany discussed the plan to start the BLS implementation in the Ione area, where there are currently two ALS units posted. One of these units would be replaced with a BLS unit that will be able to perform long distance BLS transfers, respond to some of the calls from Mule Creek State Prison, and respond to other BLS level emergencies as dispatched. This will be a good pilot area for this project and will also help address the paramedic shortage which continues to be a big challenge.

Ms. Murdaugh also noted that American Legion Ambulance had done an excellent job of educating the community and the stakeholders within the community of this impending change.

Supervisor Brown expressed concerns over the communication process with himself and the Amador County Board of Supervisors and asked why the JPA Board was considering this amendment prior to a report to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. McNany shared they are trying to get on the agenda for the March 22, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting and noted his ambulance provider agreement, however, is with the Agency and not the County.

Ms. Murdaugh explained she understood the report to the Amador County Board of Supervisors was an information item only and that no action would be required in order to move forward with the BLS implementation.

Chairperson Tofanelli said he asked the amendment be added to the agenda for today's meeting, but would be willing to defer JPA Board action if Supervisor Brown wanted to wait for the presentation to the Amador County Board of Supervisors. The JPA Board would need to call a special meeting to approve the amendment before the April 1st implementation date.

Supervisor Condit asked if there were any Board of Supervisors action needed to allow the BLS tier implementation similar to the changes Stanislaus County had to make.

Mr. Cole explained the language in the Amador County ambulance ordinance already permits the addition of BLS ambulances and that the Agency Medical Director had identified the dispatch codes that would be appropriate for response by a BLS unit. However, the contract language needs to be amended as presented to provide the proper authorization from the Agency.

Supervisor Condit asked if the emergency dispatch center is properly certified.

Ms. Murdaugh affirmed this to be the case.

Supervisor Brown agreed to bring this item forward for a vote.

M/S/C (Brown/Woodrow) To approve the amendment to allow BLS at the Ione station.

Motion Passed 5-0

H. Planning Session

Chairperson Tofanelli, Supervisor Woodrow, and Agency Counsel Derek Cole worked on a letter to Stanislaus County identifying items for negotiation as part of the transition.

Mr. Cole confirmed things are still in a negotiation stance with Stanislaus County.

Supervisor Menetrey deferred communications with Tuolumne County to Dr. Sergienko. There has been no commitment yet from the county.

Supervisor Condit expressed hope the negotiations are going well with Stanislaus County and all will be ready to go on July 1, 2022.

Chairperson Tofanelli and Supervisor Woodrow will be meeting with the owner of the new Agency office site in Copperopolis and hope to have the lease agreement settled. Tenant Improvements would occur during the next 90 days.

Mr. Cole will reach out to Stanislaus County to meet regarding the items in the letter.

I. Closed Session

The Board convened closed session at 10:28 AM

J. Results of Closed Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 11:13 AM.

Mr. Cole reported the Board met in closed session to consider two potential litigation items. Report was given by staff and General Counsel. No reportable action was taken as to either item.

K. Agency and County Reports

Agency: Ms. Murdaugh reported

- The Agency is working with Mariposa County on the new ambulance provider contract for Mercy Medical Transport. Ms. Murdaugh met with Dr. Sergienko and Supervisor Menetrey to look at the draft. The map in the original draft was questioned. The Agency revisited its map files and found that an updated map had not been created from the most recent PIN maps. The Agency is working this week to get that accomplished. The new map will be imported into the draft contract which will then be sent to Mercy Medical Transport for their review.
- In Amador County the Agency is working on the implementation of the BLS tier as discussed earlier in the meeting. The Agency is also working on the data integration of the dispatch CAD to FirstWatch. The Agency will be validating data and FirstWatch will be building the Online Compliance Utility for response compliance monitoring.
- In Stanislaus County is doing 100% monitoring of the BLS tier responses. A couple of staff members are working with Stanislaus County OES staff in going over some of the requirements in setting up their EMS system.
- Ms. Watson reported the FY 2020/2021 Financial Audit report is expected to be released this week. It will be presented to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

Alpine: No report

Amador: No report

Mariposa: No report

Stanislaus: Supervisor Condit shared Stanislaus County is no longer operating under any emergency.

Calaveras: No report

L. Next Scheduled Regular Meeting

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 10:00 AM via Zoom.

M. Adjournment

Chairperson Tofanelli adjourned the meeting at 11:19 AM.