

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING

## MINUTES

February 7, 2019

1:00 PM

SHERIFF'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
5099 Old Hwy N  
MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nanette Wardle, Preston Smith, Jacob Figueroa, Joseph Moore, Tommy McAndrews, Gonzalo Tafoya, Tom Wilkinson, Luke Layton, Rick Lindgren, Steven Lewis, Jeremy Briese, Morris Jones, Dolores Lear.

STAFF: Jim Whitworth

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Nanette Wardle called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

B. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

C. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

D. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There was no quorum present to approve the agenda.

E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There was no quorum present to approve the minutes.

F. **NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

Tabled as the individuals needed to complete the nomination and election process are not present.

G. **MCI INCIDENT REVIEW**

Jim Whitworth reminded the group of the MCI on Highway 140 in Catheys Valley on 12/24/18. Mercy Medical Transport was the only organization that used triage tags. The use and importance of triage tags was emphasized.

Preston Smith reported the first paramedic on scene did not pull out the MCI bag, put on the vest, declare herself Medical Group Supervisor or contact the base hospital. Mercy Medical Transport units were more than 38 and 40 minutes out from dispatch. The scene was chaotic in the dark and rain. There were no serious injuries. Mercy Medical Transport personnel will be doing the online MCI training with MVEMSA and add some additional MCI drills.

Jacob Figueroa affirmed the chaotic nature of the scene and noted the lack of triage tags and that the EMT personnel were all new to the field.

Tom Wilkinson said it was difficult for the hospital ED to arrange where everyone was going to go without any prior contact from the field.

Gonzalo Tafoya said the EMT personnel involved will likely improve in MCI response after this experience. The hospital is willing to coordinate and be a part of any future MCI drills.

Dolores Lear emphasized the communication with the ED is very important and requested the communication happen as early as possible next time. The new radio system sometimes prevents the hospital from knowing about patients in transport until 5 to 7 minutes prior to arrival. It was difficult to use EMResource in an actual event as it is a seldom used skill.

Jim Whitworth stated lack of communication is the number one failure in MCI response. Although the potential for an MCI in Mariposa County is probably the greatest in the MVEMSA region, in actuality it still remains a seldom used skill for responders. In August/September the Agency would like to arrange a multi-disciplinary full scale MCI drill with a smaller number of patients. Coordination will be done via email.

Preston Smith suggested a tabletop exercise be accomplished sometime before August/September and requested any actual MCI event debriefs after each occurrence.

Group discussion highlighted the drill scheduling will also depend on the fire season activity.

#### H. **REPORTS:**

1. **JCFHCD** – Gonzalo Tafoya

There will be supplemental training based off the December 2018 MCI.

- HPP Grant Discussion – Nanette Wardle
  - The list of HPP purchased equipment was distributed and reviewed with the Committee.
  - There is a proposal out for a group in Sacramento to develop a 3 ½ hour training and conduct ten training sessions on workplace violence and active shooter. The target audience will be hospital and EMS staff.
  - In the FY 19/20 grant year, there will be a Mass Casualty Event exercise included in the work plan. The exercise would be planned and conducted in conjunction with law enforcement. Approval from the hospital CFO is pending.

2. **MCSO** – Jeremy Brieese

- Entered into an MOU with the Health Department regarding quarantine.

3. **American Red Cross** – Not present
4. **CHP** – Rick Lindgren
  - Working well together and promoting communication.
  - Please call if there are ever any issues with a CHP officer.
5. **MCHHSA** – Morris Jones
  - Presentation on the MHOAC Program
    - Unique to California
    - Provide guidance in responding to Medical/Health emergencies during a disaster incident.
    - In most cases the MHOAC is the Health Officer or his designee. Dr. Sergienko has designated the MHOAC role in Mariposa County to Morris Jones.
    - Examples of coordinating were given to include air scrubbers and N95 masks during the Ferguson and Detwiler fires.
    - Once resources within the County are exhausted, the MHOAC reaches out to the Region V RDMHS for resource requests.
    - MHOAC also works closely with OES.
    - Jim Whitworth said this process is also in place for reimbursement and documentation is very important.
  - A map of available ambulance resources from neighboring counties was shared with the group. This will be added to the County Mass Casualty Plan.
6. **CAL FIRE/COUNTY FIRE** – Not present
7. **MERCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT** – Preston Smith
  - There are two new Type II ambulances and one new Type III ambulance.
8. **AIR AMBULANCE** – Luke Layton
  - Call volume has been significantly reduced from previous periods.
  - Preston Smith said there were occasionally times of unavailability, but otherwise no issues with helicopter requests. Bad weather has been a factor.
  - Gonzalo Tafoya shared that patient volumes were down in the ED as well.
9. **MVEMSA** – Jim Whitworth
  - Riggs Air is no longer servicing Mariposa County. There has been a transition to Mercy Air. Air Methods is the sole provider. The radio identifier is Mercy Air 31.
  - The State adopted several new EMT skills which the Agency, in turn, is adopting as well. All EMTs will be trained in March and the skills rolled out in April.
10. **YOSEMITE MEDICAL CLINIC** – Not present
11. **PHYSICIAN REPRESENTATIVE** – Not present

12. **NORTH COUNTY CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE** – Not present

13. **SOUTH COUNTY CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE** – Not present

I. **NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 1:00 PM**

J. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Wardle adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM.