

**Mountain-Valley
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2020**

Location: Copperopolis Fire Station Training Room
370 Main St.
Copperopolis, CA 95228

Time: 9:00 AM

Board Members Present: Jeff Brown (Vice-Chairperson); Terry Woodrow – Alpine County;
Dennis Mills – Calaveras County; Miles Menetrey – Mariposa County;
Jim DeMartini – Stanislaus County

Guests: None

Staff: Lance Doyle – Executive Director

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Vice-Chairperson Brown with a quorum of five members present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were unnecessary as there were no members of the public present.

C. Correspondence

None.

D. Additions/Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

Mr. Doyle noted the typographical error on Item L which referred to Amwest Ambulance in the description of the item regarding Bay Medic Transportation, Inc. A corrected agenda was emailed to the Board members prior to today's meeting.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Mills) To approve the agenda.

Motion Passed 5-0

E. Public Forum

None

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

The Board unanimously approved the Consent Calendar.

G. Amendment to the Ambulance Provider Agreement with American Legion Ambulance

Mr. Doyle explained the amendment extends the present agreement with American Legion Ambulance for ambulance services in Calaveras County through May 31, 2021 to provide for completion of the present RFP process which will result in a new ambulance provider agreement effective June 1, 2021.

Supervisor DeMartini asked for clarification on the extended date.

Mr. Doyle cited the delayed RFP release date due to COVID-19 as well as the previously approved RFP timeline changes to accommodate the request from the Calaveras County fire agencies as two key reasons for the lengthening of the RFP process which was originally expected to be completed by December 31, 2020.

M/S/C (Brown/Woodrow) To approve the second amendment to the Ambulance Provider Agreement with American Legion Ambulance for service in Calaveras County.

Motion Passed 5-0

H. Amendment to First Responder Advanced Life Support Agreement with Copperopolis Fire Protection District

Mr. Doyle stated the amendment extends the present agreement with Copperopolis Fire Protection District for First Responder ALS services in Calaveras County through May 31, 2021 to provide for completion of the present RFP process. There is a component in the RFP that allows for contracting between the ambulance provider and the first responder ALS fire agency so this extension allows for all of those agreements to be completed at the same time.

M/S/C (Mills/Woodrow) To approve the amendment to the First Responder Advanced Life Support Agreement with Copperopolis Fire Protection District
Motion Passed 5-0

I. Agreement with Doctors Medical Center for Designation as a Comprehensive Stroke Receiving Center

Mr. Doyle reported Doctors Medical Center passed their accreditation to become a Comprehensive Stroke Center which allows them to treat a large vessel occlusion type of stroke which has a high morbidity/debilitation rate and requires a higher level of specialty care than is available in a standard stroke center. They will be the only Comprehensive Stroke Center between the Grapevine and Sacramento and will be a very valuable resource to have in the MVEMSA region.

The Agency has completed training with the ambulance providers on a specific assessment to help identify a possible large vessel occlusion stroke. Suspected patients would be transported directly to Doctors Medical Center.

Supervisor Woodrow asked how this could benefit patients in Alpine County.

Mr. Doyle noted to follow up with the Agency's EMS Critical Care Coordinator to address training needs and logistics regarding patients originating in Alpine County.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Mills) To approve the Agreement with Doctors Medical Center for Designation as a Comprehensive Stroke Center.
Motion Passed 5-0

J. Agreement with Doctors Medical Center for Designation as an ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction Receiving Center

Mr. Doyle explained Doctors Medical Center has been a designated STEMI Center for many years. This is a renewal agreement for a three year term. There are no significant changes to the terms of the previous agreement.

M/S/C (Woodrow/Mills) To approve the Agreement with Doctors Medical Center for Designation as an ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction Receiving Center.
Motion Passed 5-0

K. Ambulance Provider Agreement with Amwest Ambulance

Mr. Doyle presented this new agreement with Amwest Ambulance for non-emergency interfacility transfers into and out of Stanislaus County. The initial agreement is for one year as a probationary step before offering a longer term agreement. Adding this new provider will be a benefit to Stanislaus County.

M/S/C (DeMartini/Woodrow) To approve the Ambulance Provider Agreement with Amwest Ambulance.
Motion Passed 5-0

L. Ambulance Provider Agreement with Bay Medic Transportation, Inc.

Mr. Doyle presented this new agreement with Bay Medic Transportation, Inc. for non-emergency interfacility transfers into and out of Stanislaus County. The initial agreement is for one year as a probationary step before offering a longer term agreement. Adding this new provider will be a benefit to Stanislaus County.

Supervisor DeMartini asked if there is enough business to add two new non-emergency transport providers.

Mr. Doyle affirmed the inter-facility transport needs are high in Stanislaus County.

M/S/C (DeMartini/Woodrow) To approve the Ambulance Provider Agreement with Bay Medic Transportation, Inc.
Motion Passed 5-0

M. Calaveras RFP Update

Mr. Doyle reported the due date for proposals is Monday, October 19, 2020. He explained the review process from the Agency's determination if a proposal is valid through the detailed review and scoring by the Proposal Review Committee. The Proposal Review Committee is composed of five members, none of whom are affiliated with the Agency. Additionally, none of them live and/or work in Calaveras County. Oral presentations will be on October 30, 2020. Once the scoring is complete, the Committee will make a recommendation to the Agency. The Intent to Award will be released on November 6, 2020. The Notice to Award will require approval from this Board and is presently scheduled for November 16, 2020. A special meeting is requested. The new contract will be implemented June 1, 2021. An update to the Calaveras Board of Supervisors will be coordinated.

N. Special Meeting Date

The Board members set a special meeting date via Zoom on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

O. Stanislaus System Redesign Update

Mr. Doyle reminded the Board the Stanislaus County EMS System Redesign was implemented in January 1, 2020 and is generally working well as a whole. The ambulance compliance monitoring is complete through FirstWatch and compliance looks very good. Fire agencies are very engaged in the system and there has been an increase in their training on medical topics.

The Mobile Simulation Lab is close to completion. The vehicle is presently being wrapped by AMR and should be on the road soon. This is a regional resource that will benefit all member counties.

One growing pain is a six to eight month delay in the FirstWatch compliance report building primarily due to demands created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Within the current ambulance provider contracts there is a 3 month discovery period (grace period) before penalties are assessed; but the Agency was not able to provide the compliance reports to the providers until September 2020. As a result the Agency has asked the Stanislaus County EMSC to recommend forwarding a request to the Stanislaus Board of Supervisors for approval of an extension to the discovery period in the ambulance provider agreements.

Subsequently, the same compliance reporting issue happened with the fire agencies. There are some issues with geographic pockets that are difficult to get to within the response time standards; as well as some data challenges related to the fire agencies evaluating calls and applying for corrections or exemptions where appropriate. So as a result of that, the fire chiefs have requested the Agency look

at an amendment to address the fine issues. The amendment is in process and will likely come to this Board for approval in December 2020.

Supervisor DeMartini commented the fines were not that high.

Mr. Doyle responded that the intent was the fines were not supposed to be high. However the underlying historical data for the fire agencies was not available; and there are some unintended consequences where in some cases the fines would be equal to or exceed the amount of their reimbursement. This was not the intent of the system redesign.

Supervisor DeMartini noted the ambulance provider on the west side is now performing much better.

P. COVID-19 Response

Mr. Doyle stated the Agency's COVID-19 response has plateaued as the EMS System is getting back to normal operations. EMS is actively performing COVID-19 testing in Amador County and Stanislaus County.

The meeting recording malfunctioned at this point of the meeting, so no further notes are available.

Q. Agency and County Reports

R. Next Scheduled Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 9:00 AM; Location to be determined.

N. Adjournment

Vice-Chairperson Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:47 AM.