

**Mountain-Valley
Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2016**

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

Time: 9:00 AM

Board Members Present: Terry Woodrow – Alpine County; Louis Boitano – Amador County (Chair); Debbie Ponte – Calaveras County; John Carrier (Vice-Chair) – Mariposa County; Jim DeMartini – Stanislaus County

Guests: Al Lennox, Ted Novelli, Alan McNany

Staff: Richard Murdock - Executive Director; Susan Watson – Executive Secretary/Financial Services Assistant

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Boitano with a quorum of members present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed those present.

C. Correspondence

No correspondence.

D. Additions/Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

M/S/C (Woodrow/Ponte) To Approve the Agenda as written.

Vote: 5-0

Motion Passed

E. Public Forum

No public comment.

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

M/S/C (Woodrow/Carrier) To Approve the Consent Calendar.

Vote: 5-0

Motion Passed

G. Office Lease Renewal

Mr. Murdock explained the current office lease is due for renewal and the Agency would like to enter another five year agreement to remain at the same location effective May 1, 2016. Minor tenant improvements in HVAC and electrical work have been requested. Rental costs will increase by 2.5% annually over the next 5 years. The Board was asked to approve the terms of the new lease and authorize the Executive Director to sign the final agreement once it is completed.

M/S/C (Ponte/Carrier) To approve renewal of the office lease with Standiford Plaza and authorize the Executive Director to sign the finalized lease agreement.

Vote: 5-0

Motion Passed

H. Mercy Ambulance Contract

Mr. Murdock reported the current Ambulance Provider Agreement with Mercy Ambulance will expire in December 2016. Mercy Ambulance serves Mariposa County, which is a non-exclusive operating area. An RFP process is not required. The new contract is being drafted and should go to Mercy Ambulance for review by the end of June 2016. It will be presented to the Board at the October 2016 meeting. There are not any major contract changes anticipated, but the new agreement will be consistent with the Agency's current ambulance provider agreement template and will reflect statutory changes.

I. Advanced EMT Program

Mr. Murdock updated the Board on the status of the Advanced EMT Program in Calaveras County. Students are working in Mark Twain Medical Center Emergency Department, finishing up clinical hours. The next step will be to complete required ride time with American Legion Ambulance. Once that is complete, there will be a refresher course and then the students will be eligible to take the National Registry test. Once the test is completed, their employing organizations will need to apply to become a Limited Advanced Life Support First Responder company.

J. Community Paramedicine Pilot Study

Mr. Murdock shared the Community Paramedic Pilot Study has been far more successful in Stanislaus County than anticipated. Community Paramedics have performed field screening examinations on 350 behavioral health patients to date, with 105 of them eligible for transport directly to a behavioral health facility, bypassing the hospital Emergency Departments.

The program is gaining national attention. Dr. Mackey, Mr. Murdock, and Agency QI/Trauma Coordinator, Lance Doyle have been asked to attend and present at the 2016 EMS World Expo in October 2016. Mr. Murdock was asked to write an article on the pilot study and will be published in July 2016 in a national EMS magazine. Dr. Mackey has been invited to present in Seoul, Korea and will do so at his cost; and other invitations continue to arrive from various parts of California and other states.

The study concludes in September 2016. The State EMS Authority project manager will work with the UC San Francisco research team to compile a report for presentation to OSHPD. Subsequently, the EMS Authority will pursue legislation to recognize Community Paramedicine in California and change the scope of practice for paramedics.

The Agency's next steps are to sustain the program and look at avenues to expand beyond the behavioral health program into post-discharge follow-up for patients with chronic conditions that are not eligible for federal reimbursement to the hospitals when there is a readmission. Data from other states proves that this expansion of community paramedicine saves millions of dollars for hospitals and counties.

K. Cardiac Arrest Outcomes Presentation

Mr. Murdock clarified the Agency is scheduling with the member county Boards of Supervisors for Dr. Mackey to present on EMS initiatives affecting cardiac arrest outcomes. Currently there will be presentations in July 2016 for Amador, Calaveras and Mariposa Counties.

L. Agency and County Reports

Mariposa County – A new Health Officer has been hired. He is a former Yosemite park ranger and paramedic before going to medical school. He has had a distinguished career in the US Navy and is presently going through the military retirement process. He is expected to report for duty mid-August 2016.

Alpine County – No report.

Amador County – No report.

Mr. Lennox commented that establishing new programs such as AEMT and CCTP are challenging but make a big difference for the community. The MVEMSA region has a history of initiating work that becomes statewide practice.

Mr. McNany reported the AmGEN tour will pass through Amador County next month. The route is from Lodi to Lake Tahoe via Kirkwood.

Calaveras County – No report.

Stanislaus County – The issues with Westside Ambulance have been ongoing for years and disrupts the system when Westside has to leave the area to go to Los Banos. Ambulances from Patterson have to cover Newman and ambulances from Gustine have to cover Patterson.

Mr. Murdock explained Merced County has hired a law firm to analyze the EMS system and the use of Westside Ambulance to address Merced calls on a daily basis. The results of the analysis are expected by the end of the summer.

MVEMSA issued a memo requiring Stanislaus County ambulances may not respond into Merced County unless there is a life-threatening emergency. Merced County ambulances need to respond to the hospital district taxpayers.

Mr. Murdock will give an update to Stanislaus County administration and include Supervisor DeMartini.

M. Executive Session

The Board convened Executive Session at 9:40 AM.

N. Results of Executive Session

The Board returned by Executive Session at 10:15 AM.
Three items were discussed. Direction was given to staff.

O. Next Scheduled Meeting

June 1, 2016 at 9:00 AM, Copperopolis Fire Station Training Room

P. Adjournment

Chairman Boitano adjourned the meeting at 10:16 AM.