



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

## Regular Meeting

Friday, April 25, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Hall of Administration: Commission Hearing Room  
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana, CA 92701

## MINUTES

### MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

#### MEMBERS

- Ron Blaul
- Patrick Powers
- Nick Anas, MD
- Jon Gilwee
- Vacant
- Monica Ruzich
- Sharon Hoier, RN
- Kenneth McFarland
- Michelle Tom, MD
- Philip Davis
- Brad Reese
- Margie Harrier, RN
- Vacant
- Chief Wolfgang Knabe
- Bryan Hoynak, MD (excused)
- Chief Paul Henisey
- vacant

#### CATEGORY REPRESENTED

- Board of Supervisors, First District
- Board of Supervisors, Second District
- Board of Supervisors, Third District
- Board of Supervisors, Fourth District
- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District
- American Red Cross, OC Chapter
- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.
- Hospital Association of Southern California
- Society of OC Emergency Physicians
- Ambulance Association of OC
- League of California Cities
- OC Business Council
- OC City Managers Association
- OC Fire Chiefs Association
- OC Medical Association
- OC Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Assn.
- OC Senior Citizens Advisory Council

#### HEALTH CARE AGENCY STAFF

- Sam Stratton, MD
- Tammi McConnell, RN
- Holly Veale
- Lydia Mikhail
- Mike Delaby, RN
- Vicki Sweet, RN
- Fran Cohen, RN
- Erica Moojen
- Eileen Endo
- EMS Medical Director
- EMS Administrator
- Medical Services
- Health Disaster Management
- EMS Facilities Coordinator
- EMS CQI Liaison
- EMS Nurse Liaison
- EMS Office Supervisor
- Office Specialist

#### GUESTS PRESENT

- Bill Baker
- Fire Chief Randy Bruegman
- Deputy Chief Rusty Coffelt
- Walter Garcia
- Jim Ignacio
- Deputy Chief Pat Russell
- Anu Singh, MD
- Kristen Thompson, RN
- Rob Viera
- Bill Weston
- Robert Williams

#### REPRESENTING

- Mercy Air Service
- Anaheim Fire Department
- Anaheim Fire Department
- Lynch Ambulance Service
- JVI Consulting, LLC
- Anaheim Fire Department
- Kaiser Permanente Medical Center
- Anaheim Fire Department
- Care Ambulance Service
- Care Ambulance Service
- Mercy Ambulance Service

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Michelle Tom, MD, Chair.

### 2. INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

*None made.*

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MSC:** Minutes from the February 28, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

### 4. OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE

#### • **Medical Director Update**

Dr. Stratton reported on revised standing orders to become effective September 2, 2014; policies that have been released for 50-day public comment; and that Children's Hospital of Orange County has submitted a letter of intent to apply as a pediatric trauma center.

- **Program/OC-MEDS Update**

Dr. Stratton reported on the success of the online licensing and certification process. OC-MEDS allows prehospital personnel to submit their applications for certification/accreditation online, reducing the amount of foot traffic into the office. This allows our office to become more efficient in order to better serve EMS system participants.

- **EMCC Correspondence**

*None received since last meeting.*

5. **EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS**

Dr. Stratton reported that Orange County EMS conducted presentations on the ambulance RFP process during the March Facilities Advisory and County Paramedic Advisory Committee meetings at the request of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. Orange County EMS will be conducting the RFP process as mandated by the State EMS Authority. A report on the April 23, 2014 Transportation Advisory Committee was made by Mr. Powers.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Emergency Medical Services Plan (EMS) Public Comments**

Dr. Stratton reported that the 2014 EMS Plan was submitted to the EMS Authority for review and approval as required under state statute. Attached to today's agenda packet are the public comments received. The majority of comments made were concerns expressed on a city's rights to administer ambulance contracts under Section 1797.201 of the California Health and Safety Code. He explained the differences between this section and that of Section 1797.224 which allows a local EMS agency to create exclusive operating areas for the purpose of anti-trust protection. Dr. Stratton reported that OCEMS will be evaluating, collecting data and consult with County Counsel and ask the State EMS Authority to make a determination so that all concerns and questions are addressed.

*Chief Knabe: Shared the concerns of the cities on whether they were improperly being identified as not having exclusivity under state statute and how this will be addressed. He stressed the need for Orange County EMS to identify whether a city has or has not retained rights under Section 1797.201.*

*Patrick Powers: Expressed concerns on the increase of services by the ALS service providers using pilot programs.*

**B. Ambulance Request for Proposal (RFP) Process** – *Dr. Stratton reported:*

In previous years, the responsibility for conducting the RFP process has been delegated to the Orange County Fire Authority for 19 of the 23 cities who contract services with the Orange County Fire Authority. After much discussion, Orange County EMS was mandated by the State Authority to conduct the RFP process. The ambulance RFP process has been presented at three public meetings held by Orange County EMS; before the Orange County Board of Supervisors; and before the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors. Orange County staff (including EMS staff) met with the State EMS Authority to discuss the matter. In a separate meeting, Fire Authority staff and city officials also met with the State Authority to express their concerns. The Orange County Board of Supervisors sent a letter to the State Authority to request a one year extension. The RFP will not be released until the State Authority has sent a response to this request.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Ground Ambulance Service Rates Increase** – *Tammi McConnell reported:*

Attached to today's agenda packet is a memorandum sent to Orange County city managers, the fire chiefs, and ambulance service providers on the proposed ground emergency ambulance service rate adjustment and historical information on the ambulance rate history. At the June 27, 2014, Committee members are expected to hear a presentation by the Orange County Fire Authority and the Ambulance Association of Orange County regarding the rate increase. OCEMS has not received letters supporting nor opposing the rate increase.

*Chief Knabe: Inquired whether Orange County's ambulance rates continue to be among the lowest in the State.*

**B. City of Anaheim Community Care Response Unit**

Fire Chief Randy Bruegman, Anaheim Fire Department presented his city's Community Care Response Unit proposal. Anaheim Fire Department is partnering with Kaiser Permanente Medical Center and Care Ambulance Service (the city's ambulance service provider) in conducting a pilot program which would partner a paramedic and nurse practitioner to respond to low level acuity medical aid calls. This program is based upon a new program implemented in Mesa, Arizona. Chief Bruegman outlined the reasons for implementing the program, how the program would work, the types of calls the team would respond to, and the objectives of the pilot program.

Both the nurse practitioner and paramedic would work under their respective scope of practices. In the event, a higher level of care is required 9-1-1 paramedics would be dispatched. Anaheim Fire Department and Care Ambulance Service will allocate personnel and resources with Kaiser Permanente allocating \$200,000 to cover the cost of a nurse practitioner. Patients will not be required to pay for this type of service. Both Chief Bruegman and Dr. Anu Singh, the Director of Emergency Services for Kaiser Permanente Orange County, were on hand to answer questions regarding the proposal, the Mesa Fire Department program, and Kaiser's role in the program.

**C. EMS System Core Measures, CY 2013** – *Dr. Stratton reported:*

Attached to today's agenda packet is a copy of the EMS System Core Measures for the 2013 calendar year that was submitted to the State of California. The State EMS Authority has required that all local EMS agencies to participate in the "EMS Core Quality Measures Project". Dr. Stratton shared selected core measures with Committee members.

Committee members asked about the selection of core measures and the definitions of specific core measures.

**8. MEMBER COMMENTS**

*No member comments were received.*

**9. PUBLIC FORUM (non-agendized)**

*No public comments were received.*

- 10. NEXT MEETING** - Friday, June 27, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.  
Commission Hearing Room - 333 W. Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana 92701

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.