

# MINUTES

## **JOINT POWERS AGENCY BOARD – BI-MONTHLY MEETING**

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

### Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Roger Abe  
Marcia Armstrong  
Denise Carter  
Dennis Garton  
Jim Holmes  
Larry Montna  
Leonard Moty  
Don Saylor  
Kim Yamaguchi

#### REPRESENTING

Yuba County  
Siskiyou County  
Colusa County  
Tehama County  
Placer County  
Sutter County  
Shasta County  
Yolo County  
Butte County

#### MEMBERS ABSENT

Hank Weston

#### REPRESENTING

Nevada County

#### EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

Victoria Pinette

#### REPRESENTING

S-SV EMS Agency

#### LEGAL COUNSEL

Brian Wirtz, Counsel

#### REPRESENTING

Placer County/S-SV EMS Agency

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Karen Crain-Riddle  
Kristy Harlan  
Diana Nolasco  
Geoff Peabody  
Karl Pedroni  
Dana Carey

#### REPRESENTING

S-SV EMS Agency  
S-SV EMS Agency  
S-SV EMS Agency  
S-SV EMS Agency  
AMR  
Yolo County Health Department

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#### A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Larry Montna called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

#### B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present introduced themselves.

#### C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Supervisor Abe moved to approve the Agenda. Supervisor Saylor seconded. Motion approved.

D. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Montna asked the public if anyone would like to speak to an issue that is not on the Agenda. None was forthcoming.

E. **BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

F. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Supervisor Saylor moved to approve the following items from the Consent Agenda. Supervisor Holmes seconded. Chairman Montna called the question. Motion approved.

1. Minutes dated February 18, 2011
2. Agreement with Rideout Memorial Hospital for Designation as a Level III Trauma Center
3. Agreement with Shasta Regional Medical Center for Designation as a Level III Trauma Center
4. Resolution #11-0408 in the matter of approving Amendment #2 to Schedule A of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agreement for coordination of air ambulance
5. Approval of the S-SV EMS Agency Aircraft Advisory/CQI Committee Bylaws
6. Revenue and Expenditure Statement through February 28, 2011
7. ESO Solutions contract for electronic patient care record data system

G. **INFORMATION UPDATE**

1. **Response time compliance** – At the Board’s request from the previous meeting, Kristy Harlan of S-SV gave a brief overview on how she compiles the response time reports. Following are topics that were further clarified and/or discussed.
  - a. **Different clock starts** - Clocks do not start at the same time for each provider because providers cannot be held responsible for any errors or delays that may occur when using another dispatch center. Providers start their clock at the time they receive the call.
  - b. **Contracts** – A provider is considered in breach of contract when they are out of compliance for more than 3 consecutive months for a total of 4 months in 12 consecutive months. At this time, S-SV has signed contracts with exclusive providers only. Negotiations with non-exclusive providers will begin after the RFP for Butte County is complete, at minimum.
  - c. **Validity of Data** – Kristy obtains response time reports either directly from the provider’s CAD data or a completed report is sent to her. She audits raw data twice a year at minimum.
  - d. **Determining Boundaries** – Kristy considered population density, number of transports, and mileage from point A to B to determine boundaries. One of the goals for

establishing response times is to serve the population without inundating the area with ambulances. Too many ambulances in the system result in the degradation of the paramedics' skills. EMS national standard is 90%, and start at 8 minutes depending on population density and call volume. Percentiles are monitored for changes to determine if additional ambulances are needed.

- e. **Response times based on type of call** – Currently, Nevada is the only county with a tiered-response system. Their dispatch center will dispatch Code 3 (lights and sirens) and Code 2 (not lights and sirens). Shasta County is implementing this system.
  - f. The counties of Siskiyou and Tehama still need to be set up for monitoring. Kristy is currently working on Shasta and Tehama counties. Establishing response times take approximately 6 months.
  - g. Siskiyou County asked about waivers for patients who do not want to be transported by an ambulance. A policy addressing this issue already exists and S-SV will send Supervisor Armstrong a copy as she requested.
  - h. Colusa County captures Williams and Colusa only. They do not capture data outside of the 8 minutes. This was established by the County before joining S-SV as determined by their RFP.
2. **Announcement of New Hires** – S-SV filled the Office Assistant position for Rocklin, and the RDMHS position in Redding. Amy Boryczko is the new Office Assistant and Dave Alvarez is the new RDMHS. The RDMHS job description and work plan is developed by the State and is funded through the grant. S-SV receives administrative assistance for employing the RDMHS.
  3. **Report on EMSAAC and Commission meetings** – Vickie reported the following discussions from the last EMSAAC and Commission meetings.
    - a. The Disaster Committee meeting discussed the Health Preparedness Program (HPP) funding specific to the LEMSA component. Regional EMS agencies are not funded the same as single county agencies. Single county agencies are funded at \$50,000 while regional EMS agencies receive \$65,000 no matter how many counties they have. Funding goes to whoever is managing the grant that is either the county's Health Department, or the hospital, or the local EMS agency. S-SV is managing the grant for 3 counties. Other counties are doing it themselves while some chose to fund S-SV the LEMSA piece which includes a LEMSA self-assessment. Some of the other counties chose to do the LEMSA component themselves. It is the opinion of the regional LEMSAs that if the State Dept. of Health Services is going to fund the LEMSA piece and require the LEMSAs to do work, they then need to pay the LEMSAs directly. The regional LEMSAs are also of the opinion that funding is not equitable.
    - b. At EMSAAC, the Chapter 13 Task Force is addressing 1797.201 and 1797.224 which is the exclusivity issue and statute. This is a huge statewide issue. The Task Force is designed to rewrite the statute 1797.201. This was established in the 1980's and was intended to sunset and EMS Authority intends to do so. The EMS Authority together with the Task Force is trying to rewrite the statute to make exclusivity a lot easier.

- c. EMSAAC also discussed EMR background checks. This has unanimous support by LEMSA administrators throughout the State and the State Commission including CalFire's representative. There are two pending legislations. One says that if the State promulgates regulations for EMR certification, then all EMRs should be background checked. The other states that all CalFire EMR first responders must be background checked.

## H. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Emergency Medical Response (EMR) certification** – At the last Board meeting, Brian Wirtz, legal counsel, was directed to research and discuss this issue with CalFire. Since then, he learned of statewide activities that may address these concerns. Based on his research, he thinks there is still an open question on whether or not a LEMSA can adopt this background requirement for all EMRs in S-SV's area. Currently, all EMRs that certify with S-SV are required to have a background check whereas CalFire does not require background checks for their EMRs. Given the substantial amount of activity occurring on a statewide level, Brian recommends that this issue be tabled until the State has made a determination. Supervisor Holmes motioned to table this item. Supervisor Abe seconded. Motion approved.
2. **CERBT Agreement for OPEB Contributions** – CalPERS requires the Board's approval of this Resolution which says that S-SV will be part of the CERBT for pre-funding. Vickie recommends that this year we fund our annual required contribution of \$63,370 before the next actuarial valuation. Supervisor Holmes motioned to approve with the values recommended by Vickie. Supervisor Saylor seconded. Motion approved.

## I. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Engagement Letter for Bickmore Risk Services to conduct OPEB Actuarial Valuation** – Vickie asked the Board for approval to engage Bickmore Risk Services to conduct S-SV's OPEB actuarial valuation as required by GASB 45. The cost for this service is \$6,000. Supervisor Holmes moved to approve this engagement letter. Supervisor Saylor seconded. Motion approved.
2. **Draft budget 2011/2012** – A final budget will be presented in June 2011 for the Board's approval. Vickie kept the State General Fund at the same amount although she expects an increase due to the disbanding of a regional agency by July 2011. Funding for that agency will be redistributed among the existing regional agencies. Grants for the Trauma Data project and the Data grant are blanks because it is the end of the 3 year cycle. The RDMHS grant is federally funded and is expected to continue. The RDMHS position is not generally funded by S-SV. S-SV has not heard about the HPP Year 10 grant. Revenue from this grant is dependent on the county's decision to either manage the grant themselves or have S-SV manage it for them. Information for Member County Shares will be available by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Vickie will inform each county of their share as soon as it is available. A decrease in certification fees is expected with the assumption that CalFire will certify their own EMTs. Total revenue is significantly lower due to changes with the grants. Filling the EMS Specialist position in Redding will depend on the amount that S-SV will actually receive from the State and county contributions. The Board requested a breakdown of the cost of

S-SV's employee benefits to compare with the counties within S-SV. They would also like to see what benefits are available for S-SV employees. Placer County charges for legal services and risk management are new expenses. Space expense increased because of our new office in Redding.

**J. EMCC/COUNTY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **Bi-County** – They will conduct an inventory of their disaster supplies, conduct radio training, establish field treatment sites and prepare work plans and budgets for HPP Year 10. Drilling on SNF evacuations and conducting mass casualty training were discussed.
2. **Placer County** – no meeting
3. **Yolo County** – Quorum issues continue to be discussed. Response times were discussed, and report on disaster preparedness and field treatment sites was given.
4. **Nevada County** – No meeting
5. **Colusa County** – They will open their emergency operation center during the Golden Guardian Statewide drill in May. They also reported on the loss of funding for the State stockpile. They will begin utilizing an inventory tracking program to track their supplies.
6. **Butte County** – A representative from Chico State reported that they see 200 patients daily at their campus clinic. Biggs-Gridley will conduct mandatory pediatric and cardiac training for their nurses and other medical staff. Enloe will conduct a pediatric trauma symposium. They had a presentation on addiction, then discussed RFP, and ambulance ordinance.
7. **Shasta County EMS Advisory Committee** – Will meet later this month.
8. **Tehama County EMS Advisory Committee** – Will meet later this month.
9. **Siskiyou County** – Will meet later this month.

Dana Carey, Yolo County health department, informed the Board that Yolo County is merging the HPP Committee and the EMCC in an attempt to obtain a quorum.

**K. LEGISLATION**

1. **AB 210 - Solorio** – This bill affects 1797.201 and 1797.224. They changed this bill from making emergency medical care committees as mandatory to 'may'.
2. **AB 1245 - Williams** – This concerns background checks for EMRs.
3. **SB 92 - Maddy** – EMSAAC is watching this closely. The committee members receive daily updates and participate in weekly conference calls. There was talk of taking all the Maddy monies from the counties and giving it to the State to offset MediCal losses. There was also talk of the State taking 50% of the Maddy monies to offset MediCal losses while increasing fines and forfeitures from \$2 to \$4. The counties continue to collect the fines and forfeitures.

L. **MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

None

M. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board convened to closed session at 2:23 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. Government Code §54957.6 – Conference with labor negotiators (Cost of Living Adjustment) for the following unrepresented employees: Associate Regional Executive Directors, QI/Education Coordinator, Data Analyst, Contract Compliance Monitor, IT, EPO/Disaster Coordinator, EMS Specialist, Clerical Assistant, Executive Secretary, and
2. Benefit adjustment for all employees.

N. **OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened from closed session at 2:47 p.m. Brian Wirtz, Legal Counsel, reported that the Board discussed Government Code §54957.6. The Board heard and considered a written statement by the employees regarding their suggestions. The suggestions were deliberated at length by the Board and they would like to express appreciation and acknowledgement to the employees. One of the employees' recommendations was no pay increase for the coming fiscal year. The Board was quite impressed and would like to commend the staff for acknowledging the budgetary constraints everybody is in. The Board also acknowledged and appreciates the additional workload that every staff has voluntarily taken on as S-SV doubled the number of counties. The Board motioned and approved a 2-year plan. Fiscal year 2011/12 there will be no pay increase. Fiscal year 2012/13 will be a 2% increase but subject to future budget approvals. The motion carried.

O. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Noted

P. **S-SV EMS AGENCY ACTIVITIES**

Noted

Q. **NEXT JPA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

Friday, June 10, 2011 – 1:00 pm

R. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Diana Nolasco, Clerk to the Board

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Date

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Chairman Larry Montna

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Date