

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the January 8, 2014 meeting held at Redwood Memorial Hospital.

Present:

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| Doug Boileau, EMT-P | Arcata-Mad River Ambulance |
| Tim Olsen, EMT | Briceland Fire Department & Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs |
| Paul Duncan, EMT-P | CAL-FIRE |
| Joe Gregorio, EMT | CAL-ORE Life flight |
| Jaison Chand, EMT-P | City Ambulance |
| Kayce Hurd, EMP-P | City Ambulance |
| Tim Howard, Sr. Medical OA | DHHS--Public Health Branch |
| Charlene Pellatz, RN | DHHS--Public Health Branch |
| Ron Sandler, EMT-P | Del Norte Ambulance |
| Tim Citro, EMT-P | Humboldt Bay Fire |
| Angel Kellar, RN | Jerold Phelps Community Hospital |
| Patsy Barker, RN | Mad River Community Hospital |
| Steve Engle | Mad River Community Hospital |
| Larry Karsteadt | North Coast EMS |
| Ken Stiver, MD | North Coast EMS |
| Tina Wood, RN | North Coast EMS Disaster Liaison, CAL-ORE Life flight |
| John Sellers, RN | Redwood Memorial Hospital |
| Lori O'Shaughnessy, RN | St. Joseph Hospital |
| Wayne Shaw | RWS Services |

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for 12/11/13 were approved.

2. OLD BUSINESS

Med Net System Update—Wayne Shaw, RWS

Per Wayne: Every radio has been narrowbanded and should be operational. He has not yet been to all the mountaintop repeaters to address the problems with the MCI channel. He will wait until next Tuesday's roll-call to find out if the work he has done corrected any MCI problems. He has not yet installed VHF "packrats" for the ambulances, but will install them during the first quarter of the year.

MCI Channel Test

Per Paul: The test did not happen yesterday; it has been postponed until next Tuesday. Jerold Phelps will not be able to hear it and respond due to the problems with Pratt. Per Kayce: If Jerold Phelps listens in on Garberville dispatch they would be able to hear the test. Per Patsy: Mad River did not hear the last MCI test.

Mental Health/EMS & 5150 Handbook Update

Per Larry: Tabled until next month when Mental Health staff and Stayce Curry return to the meeting.

North Coast Paramedic Program Update

Per Doug: The course starts again on 01/14/14. They have lost three students for academic reasons and one for personal reasons; Doug believes there will be thirty-three students starting the second semester. They are fully involved in clinicals. Doug believes a Field Training Officer course will be offered in March or April. If ALS providers have staff interested in FTO training, email him as to the best dates/times. Larry wants information on the course to send to Lake and Del Norte Counties.

CEMSIS Rollout and Image Trend Update

Per Larry: Image Trend is still being tested in the region. Kayce and Tim C are helping implement the program. They plan to do in-service training together at Humboldt Fire station 5. So far, no major issues have been reported. Larry wants more participants. NCEMS is committed to Image Trend and expects providers from around the state to request rolling it out. Image Trend is fully online (there is an offline version but the region is not using it). NCEMS will stop supporting EPSIS when CEMSIS is fully implemented. There was a malfunction in EPSIS which prevents users from retrieving PCR's (it does not prevent users from writing PCR's). NCEMS is getting the equipment to fix this problem. Per Kayce: If a user logs in on the online version, starts a PCR, and logs out, when they log back in, they can continue to work on their PCR. If a user logs in on a stand-alone version (which Jerold Phelps and Redwood Memorial have), users can send and print their PCR. The longer a PCR stays on the computers, the more unstable they become.

EMS Plan Update

Per Larry: The plan has several sections; the topics of the narrative section have been vetted. Their plan will be submitted to the governing board on 01/29/14, however, the state has already approved the plan. If members have comments he wants them submitted soon.

3. NEW BUSINESS

North – Regional Trauma Coordinating Committee Meeting

Per Larry: The committee will meet on 01/28/14 in Sacramento. If members are interested in participating, contact him.

Left Ventricular Assist Devices – Dr. Stiver

Dr. Stiver addressed whether or not NCEMS should educate people to use these devices. While the device would not be used very often, most pre-hospital providers do not know much about them. Dr. Stiver believes that it would be valuable for hospitals to have some knowledge of the device, because it is effective and the need for it may increase over time. He will bring more research on this issue from Erick Rudnick, Director of NOR-CAL EMS, to the next meeting. Per Doug: Left ventricular assist devices are covered in the North Coast Paramedic Program.

Community Paramedic

Per Larry: He and Louis met with Alison Newman, CA Center for Rural Policy, at Humboldt State University on the subject. Alison is planning to create a report answering questions about community paramedics and has been in contact with others in the state testing pilot programs. None of those current programs are in rural areas, but this area is interested in learning what others are doing to help develop a program. Per Steve: Mad River Hospital wants to support the program, but funding is a challenge. He proposed researching private grant funding (there are currently no government grants available). Per Tim C: Much of federal funding for fire departments is based on their ability to provide community paramedicine. Paramedicine is also part of the Affordable Care Act. Humboldt Bay Fire is very interested in helping with the program and Tim C is beginning to research. He would like to meet with Alison as well. Per Charlene: Public Health has recently completed a Community Health Needs Assessment, and believes some of the data may be helpful in assessing needs for a community paramedic program. Larry will get Alison in contact with Charlene. Larry distributed a UC Davis article on community paramedicine.

4. EMS Report

Per Larry: The JPA meeting is on 01/23/14 at 3:00. If anyone wants to attend, please let Larry know. NCEMS is working on sending out Info-Mail; they needed to first buy a new scanner. They are working on a new inter-facility transfer policy. Larry distributed information on clinical trials showing that patient pre-cooling does not increase their survival when in cardiac arrest. Per Patsy: Mad River

found out that if patients are cooled for the entire thirty-six hour process, it is more likely to save lives, but if the process is stopped and then started again later, it is not effective. Per Dr. Stiver: More information is needed on this issue because there is a disconnect among what different counties are doing. Until more information is obtained, he does not recommend pre-cooling. Per Tina: The Criminal Mass Casualty plan will be completed next week. Tina will conduct a field care audit in Hoopa Monday, under the auspices of Mad River Hospital.

5. EMS Commission Report

Per Larry: The Public Safety regulations are out for public comment, which is due 02/02/14. Larry distributed copies of the revisions and timeline. The state has expanded terms, training requirements, and “optional skills”, and greatly expanded scope of practice. NCEMS will have to develop new two-hour instructions with an instructor, curriculum, and certification for these new skills and trainings. NCEMS is also concerned that agencies such as Red Cross who do first aid/CPR will have to revise their standards to conform to these regulations.

6. Facility Reports

Redwood Memorial Hospital—Per John: They are working on a plan to address their flight transportation issues. They are trying to purchase three new gurneys that will enable them to take patient X-rays from underneath. He wants staff to be MICN certified, and also wants TNCC training. Per Larry: Mary Cardineli-Stein, whom he was planning to bring here to do MICN training, has resigned from Sutter-Lakeside Hospital. He is now looking to Vicki Gibney to do the training. Lori will discuss this with Vicki as well.

CAL-ORE—Per Joe: They have been busy. There were a couple of flights that were delayed in landing at the airport due to weather. If the delay is over 10-15 minutes, they will transport a patient back to the hospital. They have worked with the ambulance companies to transfer patients to Ukiah in the event of bad weather. They are opening a base in Weed, CA part-time this month. They purchased a new ambulance which will arrive in a couple of months. Starting this month, they will start carrying ProPac monitor defibrillators on all their ground vehicles. They have started using LTV 1000 around a year ago and they work well. Per Doug: The Northcoast Paramedic Program will accept their old monitors. Per Charlene: College of the Redwoods still has an AED and Zoll defibrillator purchased by Public Health-Emergency Preparedness for their now-closed Simulation Center.

Mad River Hospital—Patsy has noticed ambulances, particularly Hoopa, are not waiting the required thirty minutes before re-dosing Zofran. She would like to change the time frame so ambulances do not have to call hospitals before re-dosing or switching to another medication. In their ER, they often re-dose after fifteen minutes. She will send a draft of her idea to Dr. Stiver. Mad River has updated their new electronic medical records program. Tom Taylor is still PCMD and plans to continue in that role. Even though he no longer works in their ER, he still makes rounds through the ER once or twice per week. Per Steve: They will start trending/tracking transfers to find out why there are so many and how the transfers are carried out. They have hired a new orthopedic surgeon who will start in March.

DHHS--Public Health—Per Charlene: They are spending funds from their Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP). She has a revised budget that she will soon send to the state. The state is only taking around four days (as opposed to six week turnaround time) to approve. Disaster Healthcare Volunteers of California is having a drill today. Charlene urged MAC members who are licensed medical professionals to sign up for the DHV network, which is implemented locally by Public Health-Emergency Preparedness.

City Ambulance—Per Kayce: They have been busy, passing the 300 patient mark this month. They have been working with CAL-ORE to better facilitate transfers. They will start carrying amiodarone in their ambulances by the end of the month. They have hired three new paramedics and will develop an in-house mini internship training program for them. A new ambulance is on order. They have switched

their third crew to 24 hours but still do not have their own building for them yet. Due to shortages, they are now on designated protocol. They have updated their first console for narrowbanding and are working on the second console. During the process their two radio channels for Eureka and Fortuna were accidentally reversed.

St. Joseph Hospital—Per Lori: They are upgrading Medi-Tec charting system and standardizing with many other hospital systems. Once this is complete, St. Joseph's charting system will be the same as other big hospitals. When they go live on 01/31/14, all computers relating to Medi-Tec will be down 9:00pm until 8:00am the next day. They have a lot of new staff, including a new physician group called Team Health. Lori is trying to ensure that someone from the ER is stationed near the keypad doors to help the ambulances when they bring a patient and cannot get in. Lori is leaving the PCNC position but will continue on as a disaster liaison and Clinical Coordinator. St. Joseph will hire a new PCNC.

Jerold Phelps—Per Angel: Amber Ford is leaving Jerold Phelps for St. Joseph. They will have new monitors next month. They will conduct an in-service for telemedicine this month to communicate with UC Davis's pediatrics.

Del Norte Ambulance—Per Ron: They are now a provider for ACLS PALS, and have a number of new programs including wilderness response and child care first aid. They have added E-scheduling software to track personnel. They are now using the new EPCR program from Image Trend. They have two new units on order. Sutter Coast is downsizing to a Critical Access hospital in about eight months. Sutter Coast has a new PCNC.

Humboldt Bay Fire—Per Tim Citro: They have removed ETADs from their BLS equipment; ETADs are still carried as secondary airways for their ALS equipment. They have a new station numbering system—one thru five. All of their stations will be "Safe Surrender Sites" once the Board of Supervisors approves.

CAL-FIRE—Per Paul: There have been ten different vegetation fires over the last six days. They are upgrading their microwave radio communications on Pierce Mountain. They are not getting notified when air ambulance transport is needed. Paul emphasized CAL-FIRE is the controlling agency for air ambulances in this region.

Arcata Mad River Ambulance—Per Doug: They have new furniture and lighting at their stations.

**Wednesday, 02/12/14 at Mad River Hospital at 9:00 a.m. has been canceled. Next Meeting:
Wednesday 03/12/14 at St. Joseph Hospital at 9:00 a.m.**