



# Sonoma County Emergency Medical Care Committee



Dean Anderson, Chairperson  
Bob Norrbom, Vice Chairperson

General Meeting Minutes

**Monday, January 28, 2019, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Sonoma County Water Agency Conference Rooms B and C  
404 Aviation Blvd - Santa Rosa, CA 95403**

**Members Present:** Aaron Abbott, Stephen Akre, Dean Anderson, Mark Andrews, Mike Bates, Steve Herzberg, Dave Kahn, Mark LaGrave, Jim Levy, Ellie Lowry, Bob Norrbom, Malissa Opulencia, Dave Smith, Fred Seydel, and Brad Silvestro

**Members Absent:** Linda Anderson and Vern Losh

**Others Present:** Jen Banks, Bryan Cleaver, Joanne Chapman, Lucinda Gardner, Chris Gossner, Tom Hinrichs, Theresa Lombardi, Mark Luoto, James Salvante, Carly Sullivan, Ken Bradford, David Bynum, Evan Dilks, Cathy Dooyes, Willow Farey, Nicole Hendrickson, Pat McAlpin, Gary McCalla, Erin Olson, Jeff Schach, Steve Suter

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Dean Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM, and introductions followed.

**II. Approval of Minutes from October 2018 meeting**

October 2018 minutes were approved as written.

**III. Public Comment Period**

None

**IV. 2018-EMS-Awards**

EMS Awards: recognized throughout state and these are presented for those who didn't make the awards ceremony in December. See attachment out for all of those who were honored.

**V. H.E.A.R.T. Transport – Presentation and Discussion**

H.E.A.R.T (Hospital Emergency Care Alternative Transport) program, Chris Keys presented on how this system can enhance the 911 system. Calls from folks who do not really need an ambulance or an emergency room, but do need to help, can call HEART. Over use of the 911 system by homeless folks for hospitable emergency care, but can use Alternative Resources Team. The costs of the emergency rooms and the 911 response, and access to care for a number of people on the street or close to that. SRMH has put a Nurse Practitioner at the mission 2 times per week, and this has impacted the number of calls to 911 and visits to ER. The call would go through the 911 system, and this is an additional available resource to those who are going out on call, non-emergency folks meet them and stay with them while they receive the services they need. HEART is at least EMT level to assess needs of person, social worker, and homeless services outreach worker.

HEART workers could be an additional resource to EDs that maybe can help people or intervene to get people the help they need and redirect them from 911 and EDs. How are you collecting data on beds available? There are many that are available to find beds and hold beds. What is the timeline? HEART can bridge gap with agencies that are now working on homelessness. Wants to wait until partners know that HEART resource is available. And hoping to have up and running by end of calendar year 2019. Funding may come from EDs that save from people going someplace else. Sobering center idea, is phase III of HEART. Costing huge amounts of money to have people go to jail, or ED who are just needing a place to get sober. Other places are too expensive for these people. If medical isn't needed, and not broken the law. We could receive monetary support from



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places that are currently inundated with these folks because HEART would be able to redirect people to more appropriate and less expensive care.

VI.

### Coastal Valleys Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency

- EMS Agency Report
  - 1. Ambulance Ordinance
  - 2. Sonoma County Ad Hoc Committee
  - 3. EOA Contract Extension – EMSA Report
  - 4. Emergency/Public Health Preparedness
  - 5. Regional Update

Ambulance ordinance- Bryan Cleaver reported Barbie Robinson sent out a couple of emails, regarding process and the next steps. Taking a pause from the EMS Stakeholders meetings. Next meeting on February 19. Working with what we have received from stakeholders and the EMS Ad Hoc wants to take a look at the draft ordinance. Barbie will be at the meeting 2/19. Was this Barbie's idea? Bryan is not sure if it was Barbie's or the EMS Ad Hoc that wanted this change.

Steve Herzberg what is the status on item 3. The extension of the contract. Dean Anderson from AMR has had conversations with DHS and CVEMSA, and explained what AMR needed, made changes and the draft is back in DHS and should go to the BOS on 2/7? Maybe later. The ordinance and stakeholders have met at least 21 times. Ordinance would precede the RFP. Ordinance discussion should conclude before the RFP goes out. Stakeholders are expecting answers from the CVEMSA and a list of items to regulate and start the discussion. The previous draft was not brought to the EMCC. He wants insurance before we go out to an RFP. Tremendous amount of effort, and don't cut this short, otherwise the values in RFP are reflected.

Steve Akre commented the last process was not a collective process, and now we are making progress in the current process and doing it together. We have engagement of all in the field. He was floored that the process was stopped. Steve wants this group the EMCC to take a position and bring back the process. We could run into a place where we may not get an extension. We support Dean and AMR in getting the extension of the contract. Steve Herzberg wants the agenda for EMS Stakeholder meeting at least a week in advance. Bryan explained Paused the ordinance process to get to the RFP.

If our extension is successful, it will be extended out to June 2020. For normal RFP process DEAN indicated, since we are in stakeholder discussion, input, and system design now; by April 2019 RFP release; then proposers submit in July/August and contract negotiations November/December. This timeline is cutting it short for a start time of June 2020. This is the urgency. We could ask for a second extension from EMSA, the some folks say they are will to ask.

Jeff Schach commented that we as the EMCC are the empowered group to take more action. Seventeen members of the EMCC needs to have more involvement, and help with these discussions.

The EMCC group went on record with an advisory motion for the stakeholder engagement process to be restarted as soon as possible with the goal to complete the ordinance revision prior to beginning to work on the RFP for a new EOA contract. Bob Norrbom made this advisory statement and it was seconded by Steve Herzberg, a straw vote was taken all in favor, except Ellie Lowery abstained.



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Brad Silvestro expressed every 10 years approximately 150 EMTs, and paramedics are held hostage by the RFP process. We have served our community since 1991. The process of competitive bidding causes us to await the selection of a provider to determine our future employment. We have served and continue to serve with heart, compassion, and commitment and we deserve job security that this process does not provide.

Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) – report on activities from MAC meeting and subcommittees.

VII.

### **Standing Items –**

- Save Lives Sonoma
- Pulse Point Live
- REDCOM report
- Fire Chiefs report

Steve Akre reported that the Fire Chiefs are going to BOS to consider improving services, consolidations, and underserved areas in Sonoma County reduce the different organizations from 39-27 fire agencies. Rincon Valley, Windsor, Mountain Valley will merge. The BOS will consider a .5% sales tax to support this new structure.

- Board of Supervisors District Representative Updates
- Training Programs
  - CLSD  
There are 15 students for EMT class.
  - SRJC  
Erin announced SRJC is starting a preceptor's class.

VIII.

### **Announcements and Items from the Membership**

Conducted as a roundtable of members.

IX.

### **Adjournment**

At 2:03 PM

**NEXT MEETING-July 22, 2019**  
**404 Aviation Blvd, Conference Rooms B and C**

EMSA Legislative Link: [http://www.emsa.ca.gov/legislative\\_activity](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/legislative_activity)