

Annual Report for 2020

Advisory Body Name: Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC)

Advisory Body Meeting Time/Location: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of March, June, September, and December, unless otherwise noted. Meetings are typically held at the EMS Agency office, 777 Arnold Drive, Suite 110, Martinez, unless otherwise noted. Since March 2020, meetings have been held virtually via Zoom.

Chair: Jon King (December 2019 – Present)

Staff Person: Rachel Morris (January 2017 – Present), Health Services, Emergency Medical Services

Reporting Period: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

I. Activities:

The EMCC, over three (3) regular meetings in the past year, was involved in or kept its membership informed about the following:

- Alliance annual report was approved by the Board of Supervisors, and an amendment to the County-Fire District Emergency Ambulance Services contract that extended the term to December 31, 2025 was approved.
- The continued process to update the county ambulance ordinance. Final draft ambulance ordinance has been released from County Counsel. Next steps include planning how best to reach out to stakeholders to discuss and optimize the plan before bringing the ordinance to the Board of Supervisors. Updates in ordinance are focused on non-emergency ambulance services and public safety, and integration of emergency and non-emergency transport providers in mass casualty and disaster events.
- LEMSA participation with CCHS partners and system stakeholders on opiate overdose workgroup.
- The Board of Supervisors recognized May 17-23rd as National EMS Week, and May 20th as EMS for Children Day.
- Monitor the continued status of potential closure of Alta Bates Hospital, Alameda County and City of Berkeley workgroup, and concerns of impact to West County.
- San Ramon RFP contract update: This is being discussed at a BOS level with regard to current statutory exclusivity interpretation for Emergency Response Area IV (ERA IV).
- EMSA approved EMS for Children (EMSC) regulations; LEMSA staff working on the local efforts for Contra Costa EMS for Children system of care.
- Treatment guidelines and policies updated for 2021 are mostly finished for sending out for public comment. Implementation is January 1st, 2021.
- The LEMSA along with other Contra Costa County divisions, stakeholders and outside agencies, all worked together during the continued PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).
- Biannual activity reported for the Contra Costa Med-Health Coalition to comply with Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) program requirements.
- Continued adverse impacts on 9-1-1 ambulance providers and patient care associated with prolonged ambulance patient offload delays (APOT).
- EMSA denials of Contra Costa 2016 & 2017 EMS system plans and appeals associated with the County Alliance procurement process in 2014.
- Appointment of Marshall Bennett as the new Director of Emergency Medical Services, and Dr. Senai Kidane as the new Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services.

II. Accomplishments

- Approval of EMCC 2019 Annual Report.
- Successful nominations and establishing of new EMCC membership for the term 2020-2022.
- LEMSA granted approval and began Buprenorphine trial.

III. Attendance/Representation

The EMCC is a multidisciplinary committee with membership consisting of representation of specific EMS stakeholder groups and organizations plus one (1) consumer member nominated by each Board of Supervisor member. There are twenty-four (24) authorized, voting seats on the advisory body. At the end of the 2018-2020 term, on September 30, 2020, there were twenty-one (21) member seats filled; three (3) seats were unfilled. So far for the 2020-2022 term, beginning on October 1, 2020, nineteen (19) member seats are filled; five (5) seats are unfilled. A quorum was achieved at three (3) of the three (3) EMCC meetings in 2020. The March meeting was canceled because of heightened activity

around COVID-19.

IV. Training/Certification

Each new EMCC representative was given a copy of the Advisory Body Handbook and copies of the “The Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance Training Video” and “Ethics Orientation for County Officials” video (updated to “Ethics for Local Government Officials” video offered by the Fair Political Practices Commission) during their two (2) year term. Responsibilities of County Boards were discussed including the responsibility to view the videos and submit signed certifications. For the 2018-2020 term, certification forms were received from 14 of 21 of the representatives. For the 2020-2022 term, certification forms have been received from 11 of 19 representatives so far. The two certificates received this year are attached.

V. Focused Objectives for Next Year

- Support stakeholder engagement for evaluation and feedback, and ultimately move forward finalization of Draft Ambulance Ordinance to the BOS for approval and implementation.
- Establish EMS Emergency Quality Improvement Plan (EQIP) as a county priority:
 - Stakeholder Education
 - Stakeholder support in building relevant, achievable, and sustainable Quality Improvement Plans that align with CA Regulation and State ‘core’ deliverables.
- Support exploration on innovative models of EMS service delivery with hospital community.
 - Local application related to AB 1544
 - Support ET3 field telehealth intervention as proposed by the Alliance
 - Continue to explore ways to develop a more tiered, efficient, and sustainable response to EMS calls.
- Support emergency ambulance provider and community hospitals efforts to reduce patient transfer of care extended delays that impact the availability of ambulances for the next 9-1-1 call.
- Facilitate cross-discipline work group with the intent to improve EMS Policy #1008 which is intended to guide, coordinate, and support operational integration of patient care between disciplines.

VI. Expected 2021 Reports, updates, and continued support items

- Continue to explore opportunities and efforts to procure sustainable funding for EMS System emergency communications, dispatch and data infrastructure enhancements to optimize patient care in day to day and disaster conditions.
- Support Medical Health Disaster Coalition preparedness and engagement throughout EMS System.
- Support Medical Reserve Corps’ capability for children and special needs populations.
- Continue to support LEMSA EMS System Plan(s) and Alliance procurement appeals to EMS Commission.
- Continue to monitor and report on EMS System impacts due to changing economics and health care reform.
- Receive 2019 Annual EMS System performance report.
- Support EMS System program (STEMI, Stroke, Cardiac Arrest, EMSC, Quality/Patient Safety and Trauma) initiatives.
- Support and sustain community education and outreach, e.g. *HeartSafe*, Child Injury Prevention.
- Support Law Enforcement Narcan program.
- Support appropriate use of 9-1-1, CPR Anytime, and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) programs through partnerships with law enforcement, CERT, fire first responders and community coalitions.
- Continue to support the Annual Contra Costa Survivors’ Reunion.
- Monitor West County EMS System associated with closure of Doctors Medical Center and pending closure of Alta Bates.
- Receive updates on the Contra Costa Med/Health Coalition.
- Receive updates on treatment guidelines and policies for 2021.
- Report to EMSA on progress of Buprenorphine trial.