



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting:

Friday, December 12, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>CATEGORY REPRESENTED</u>	<u>OCEMS / HDM STAFF</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Huan Vu Nguyen, MD	- Board of Supervisors, First District	Greg Boswell, RN	- EMS Program Manager
<input type="checkbox"/> Cathy Green, RN, JDCG	- Board of Supervisors, Second District	Sam Stratton, MD	- EMS Medical Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Winder	- Board of Supervisors, Third District	Ken Miller, MD	- EMS Assistant Medical Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harvinder Sahota, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Fourth District	Patrick Powers	- EMS BLS Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Schuetz, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Kathy Hiller	- EMS Office Supervisor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Fielder	- American Red Cross, OC Chapter		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jody Haynes, RN	- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Maureen Zehntner	- Hospital Association of So. Calif.	<u>OTHERS PRESENT</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christopher Kahn, MD	- Society of OC Emergency Physicians	Pam Skeen	- Mercy Air
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Pate	- Ambulance Association of OC	Steve Katanich	- Medix Ambulance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denis Bilodeau	- League of California Cities		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Bastone	- OC Business Council		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Douglas Reilly	- OC City Managers Association		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Duane Olson	- OC Fire Chiefs Association		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Ritter, MD	- OC Medical Association		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Paul Henisey	- OC Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Assn.		
<input type="checkbox"/> vacant	- OC Senior Citizens Advisory Council		

I. EMCC MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ritter, Chairman at 9:04 a.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greg Boswell reported that Terre Duensing, OCEMS Division Manager has been moved to Correctional Services in the interim for six months and Holly Veale will be acting as our Division Manager as part of the restructuring of the Health Care Agency.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The October 24, 2008 minutes were approved as written.

IV. OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE

Anaheim General Hospital - Greg Boswell reported

Anaheim General Hospital lost its joint commission accreditation and therefore EMS has revoked its paramedic receiving center designation, they can still operate their emergency room but can not accept ALS paramedic patients. The hospital is planning on working on their deficiencies and reapplying for their accreditation. There was a discussion on penalties that other counties used for non-compliance besides revoking the PRC designation and it was agreed that they should look into other LEMSAs and report back to members.

Closure of Irvine Regional Hospital - Greg Boswell reported

Irvine Regional will be closing January 15 and closing the emergency department on January 10. Public hearing on closure of Irvine Regional was held November 17, OCEMS has completed the Impact Evaluation Report and it is available on their webpage. There should be little affect on patients due to the opening of the new Kaiser hospital, only concerns would be that Irvine was a cardiac receiving center and Kaiser is not.

Hospital Diversion – *Greg Boswell reported*

Diversion numbers have gone down every month since June until November and the last few days there have been increases due to heading into the flu season. Dr. Stratton reported on the possibility of doing away with diversion and might do a 6-month trial of no diversion to see how it works and will report back to this group.

Disaster Preparations – *Greg Boswell reported*

The Golden Guardian exercise the "The Great Shake" was a huge success. Activations included the County Emergency Operations Center, the Health Emergency Operations Center (HEOC), and the EMS Department Operations Center (DOC). EMS participation was with the ambulance and hospitals of a simulated evacuation of patients from hospitals. EMS working on various grants evaluating the HPP grants for 09-10 and having a meeting today on the Chempak system. Members are welcome to visit the EMS DOC in conference room 319 and will schedule the next EMCC meeting out at the HEOC.

Stroke Care Treatment – *Dr. Samuel Stratton reported*

The stroke policy has gone out to the system. Will be sending out a letter to hospital paramedic receiving centers asking for those who are interested and designating specialty stroke centers in the beginning of the year and expect the system to begin the first triage of patients March 16. All Orange County paramedic will be educated to the field triage criteria by March 16. Dr. Miller developed the system in field triage of stroke victims early this year.

Mass Casualty Incident Plan – *Dr. Samuel Stratton reported*

MCI will be fully functional March 16 and is now fully functional in the northern part of the County. Utilized for designation of patients and MCI will be computerizing information and notification using the Reddinet system. Greg Boswell reported that there are some problems with Reddinet pop-up windows and that Reddinet is continually updating the system.

Resuscitation Outcome Consortium – *Dr. Sam Stratton reported*

The National Institute of Health multi-center trial has Orange County participating as well as others in the country using hypertonic saline solution in head injuries to see if there is a benefit. As required when the study was approved. EMS will be giving the EMCC brief updates of the study efforts in Orange County.

V. **PUBLIC FORUM**

No comments were made.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

No report.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

Election of EMCC CY 2009 Slate of Officer

MSC: *EMCC members recommend Dr. Michael Ritter for chairman and Dr. Chris Kahn for vice chairman for the EMCC 2009 Slate of Officers.*

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

A. **Facilities Advisory Committee** – *Greg Boswell reported*

The EMS Fee study has been completed and awaiting final approval of the new rates. OCEMS and representatives from fire and Trauma Centers are involved in the Regional Trauma Coordinating Committee. Ongoing involvement in the process is necessary to ensure that any state trauma system or regional components are developed with Orange County input.

- B. **County Paramedic Advisory Committee** – *Greg Boswell reported*
OCEMS plans on expanding the Orange County scope of practice to get in line with the national scope of practice which would permit the EMT to increase their scope of practice and assist with certain procedures like glucose testing, transporting patients with fixed medication pumps and assisting paramedics doing 12-lead EKGs.
- C. **Education & Training Advisory Committee** – *Patrick Powers reported*
Policy 120.10 and 120.20 Education & Training Advisory Committee bylaws have gone out for 50-day review and are posted on the EMS webpage.
- D. **Transportation Advisory Committee** – No report
- E. **Disaster Advisory Group** – *Greg Boswell reported*
The state wants a medical disaster plan for large disasters and have been tasked with coming up with a template for that plan.
- F. **Trauma Operations Committee** – No report
- X. **MEMBER COMMENTS**
- XI. **NEXT MEETING** – Friday, February 27, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at the Health Emergency Operations Center.
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting ended at 11:05 a.m.