



## EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

**Regular Meeting:**  
**Friday, February 22, 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	Terre Duensing	- HDM Division Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Green, RN, JD	- Board of Supervisors, Second District	Sam Stratton, MD	- EMS Medical Director
<input 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	Kathy Hiller	- EMS Officer Supervisor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Schuetz, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District	Beverly Nighswonger, RN	- Facilities Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Fielder	- American Red Cross, OC Chapter	Patrick Powers	- BLS Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/> Jody Haynes, RN	- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Maureen Zehntner	- Hospital Association of So. Calif.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christopher Kahn, MD	- Society of OC Emergency Physicians	<b><u>OTHERS PRESENT</u></b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Pate	- Ambulance Association of OC	Jim Ruane	- OCFA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Dumitru	- League of California Cities	Bill Weston	- Care Ambulance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peter Bastone	- OC Business Council		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Douglas Reilly	- OC City Managers Association		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duane Olson	- OC Fire Chiefs Association		
<input type="checkbox"/> vacant	- OC Medical Association		
<input type="checkbox"/> John Schaefer	- OC Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Assn.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Anna T. Boyce, RN	- OC Senior Citizens Advisory Council		

I. **EMCC MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sahota, Vice Chair.

II. **INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. John Schuetz was introduced as the representative from the Board of Supervisors Fifth District.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MSC: The December 14, 2007 minutes were approved as written.

IV. **ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS MANDATED ANNUAL TRAINING**

All members of boards, committees, and commissions are required to have annual mandated training which covers the following topics: Brown Act, Gift Ban Ordinance, Code of Ethics, Conflict of Interest, and sexual harassment prevention. Training materials were distributed to members.

V. **OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE**

**Hospital Diversion and 2007-2008 Influenza Season:**

Dr. Stratton provided members with diversion data for February 2008 and discussed this data as compared to February 2007. He pointed out that it is a lot higher this year due to a late flu season, but should start dropping off in March. OCEMS issued a Press Release yesterday regarding the impact of the flu and if there is a need the County Health Officer will send out additional Press Releases.

**Disaster Preparations:**

Terre Duensing reported that there have been several activation debriefings at Loma Ridge on post fire, and re-evacuation response due to flooding and landslide issues. Dr. Miller reported on the successful destruction of the satellite and that FEMA was organizing search and hazmat support throughout the country ready to move if they are required.

**Stroke Care Treatment:**

Dr. Stratton reported that the stroke neuro specialty program has begun and that in June they will begin designating hospitals and training personnel in the field on triaging patients that are having an acute stroke to be transported to a stroke center.

VI. **PUBLIC FORUM**

No comments were made.

VII. **OLD BUSINESS**

No report.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Ground Ambulance Services Basic Life Support (BLS) Rates Adjustment and Advanced Life Support (ALS) Rate.**

On September 11, 2007 the Board of Supervisors OCEMS approved a new methodology for the adjustment of Basic Life Support ground ambulance rates and the Orange County Fire Authority's Advanced Life Support Paramedic Assessment and Transport fee. The method will find the percentage change in the annual "all Items" Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County area. This percentage change is multiplied by a factor of 150%. OCEMS will utilize data from the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics to determine the change from prior year and calculate any proposed rate increases. Members will be provided with a copy of the Board of Supervisors ASR regarding the selection of this methodology.

In accordance with Orange County Emergency Medical Services Policy 720.00, Section 314, *Orange County Ambulance Rules and Regulations Related to Ground Service Rates Adjustment*, the City Managers and Fire Chiefs (of cities that adopted the Orange County Ambulance Ordinance) will be notified of the proposed basic life support (BLS) rates and invited to provide written or verbal comments for consideration at the April 25, 2008 Emergency Medical Care Committee meeting.

This item was presented today for information only, but will be agenized at the next meeting for action by the Emergency Medical Care Committee. The calculated rates will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for consideration of an adjustment of the maximum allowable rates.

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

A. **Facilities Advisory Committee** – No report.

B. **County Paramedic Advisory Committee** – Discussed updates on field polices and working on the Treatment Guidelines

C. **Education & Training Advisory Committee** – Patrick Powers reported on putting more focus of skills treatment in the field looking at extending skills on the scope of practice, doing an EMT accreditation process and moving forward on the methodology for assigning accreditation numbers to prehospital personnel and matching up information in our system. Dr. Stratton reported that this group will be focusing on bringing the system up to the current technologies and advance the skills for the BLS EMT Basic, working with the schools curriculum and working with ambulance providers and fire departments on training using the CE advanced skills system.

D. **Transportation Advisory Committee** – No report

E. **Disaster Advisory Group** – No report

F. **Trauma Operations Committee** – No report

- X. **MEMBER COMMENTS** – Jim Ruane reported on the OCFA's Regional EOA Approach for ambulance contract renewals. He said that 7 cities want to go out to bid and 9 cities want to renew their contract, they are working on the RFP process and will keep EMCC updated. OCFA has hired Darlene Gidley, OCEMS' prior Program Manager, to help with the process.
- XI. **NEXT MEETING** – April 25, 2008, at 9:00 a.m.
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.