



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



## REGULAR MEETING

Friday, July 10, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

**Location: Via Zoom**

## MINUTES

<u>MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE</u>		
<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>HEALTH CARE AGENCY STAFF</u>
Arturo Pedroza	– Board of Supervisors-First District	Carl H. Schultz, MD – EMS Medical Director
Jeffrey Barke, MD (excused)	– Board of Supervisors-Second District	Gagandeep Grewal, MD – Associate EMS Medical Director
Timothy Munzing, MD	– Board of Supervisors-Third District	Steve Thronson – Deputy Agency Director. R/MHS
Luis Estevez	– Board of Supervisors-Fourth District	Mike Delaby, MSN, RN – Assistant EMS Administrator
Ted Heyming, MD	– Board of Supervisors-Fifth District	Danielle Ogaz – EMS Systems & Standards Chief
Dean Grose	– City Selection Committee	Adrian Rodriguez – EMS Ambulance Performance Chief
Karen Sharp, RN	– Hospital Association of S. California	Laurent Repass, NREMT-P – EMS Information Systems Chief
Trez Gutierrez, RN	– Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.	Meng Chung, EMT-P – BLS Coordinator
Chief Adam Loeser	– Orange County Fire Chiefs Assn.	David Johnson, RN – Facilities Coordinator
David Gibbs, MD (excused)	– Orange County Medical Assn.	Andrew Roberts – EMS Specialist
Michael Killebrew	– Orange County City Managers Assn.	Erica Moojen – EMS Office Supervisor
		Eileen Endo – Office Specialist
		Lisa Wilson – Information Processing Technician
<u>GUESTS PRESENT</u>		
Jordan Abushawish	– Providence St. Joseph	Nicole Ploffel, RN – Children’s Hospital of Orange County
Whitney Ayers	– Hospital Association of S. California	Patrick Powers, EMT-P – Powers Mobile Health
Ruth Clark, RN	– Orange County Global Med. Center	Rhonda Rosati, RN – Brea/Fullerton Fire Department
Chad Druten	– Emergency Ambulance Service	Michael Tou – Providence St. Joseph
Hyun Hwang		Robert Viera – Care Ambulance Service
Julie Mackie, RN	– Mission Hospital	Kim Zaky, RN – Children’s Hospital of Orange County

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Michael Ritter.

### **II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. Ritter thanked Letitia Clark, representing the City Selection Committee; Rebecca Gomez, representing the Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council; and James N. Karras, representing the Ambulance Association of Orange County for their valuable contributions and services to the Emergency Medical Care Committee. **(Note: Certificates of Appreciation have been prepared for each of these members in recognition of their contributions and service to this Committee)**

#### **New Members:**

Dr. Ritter welcomed Luis Estevez, representing the Orange County Board of Supervisors, Fourth District; and Dean Grose, representing the City Selection Committee as new members to the Emergency Medical Care Committee.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Minutest of January 10, 2020 were approved as submitted.*

#### **IV. OCEMS REPORT**

- **Medical Director's Report**

The City of Placentia did not renew its contract with the Orange County Fire Authority and has established its own fire department. Paramedic services have been subcontracted with Lynch Ambulance Services. Currently, Orange County EMS has reviewed all calls and with no problems noted to date.

The Orange County Fire Chiefs reached out to Orange County EMS to develop a Fire EMS Advisory Group for the purpose of reviewing policy changes and making any recommendations. This new advisory group has met twice and will be meeting on an ad hoc basis.

Fairview State Hospital is currently an alternative care site to care for COVID-19 patients in Southern California. These are patients who are medically stable but not able to go home or return to a skilled nursing facility/board and care home. Currently there are 15 patients at this site with an additional three patients having been accepted. Fairview State Hospital is expected to remain open as an alternate care site through the summer.

- **Orange County EMS Report**

David Johnson reported that the Facilities Advisory Committee has not met since March. Due to COVID-19, neither Joint Commission nor the American College of Surgeons are conducting verifications by their respective organizations. The American College of Surgeons has delayed their verification process by one year. Trauma centers scheduled for verification in 2020 will be verified in 2021 and those facilities scheduled for verification in 2021 will also be delayed by one year.

- **Health Emergency Management Report**

Mike Delaby reported on the duties of Health Emergency Management which is a component of EMS. Currently, Health Emergency Management has distributed 4.5 million pieces of personal protective equipment include N95 masks, gowns, etc. since the beginning of the pandemic. Currently, the system is helping to supply equipment to dialysis centers, urgent care centers, hospitals, and ambulance service providers. Dr. Ritter asked if there is a mechanism in place to have positive COVID-19 dialysis patients to be seen at a dialysis center rather than in the hospital emergency room.

- **Hospital Diversion Report (January 1 to June 30, 2020)**

Attached to the agenda is the Hospital Diversion Report for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2020. Currently there is a spike in diversion seen in June and July. David Johnson reported on the types of reasons that hospitals need to divert patients. Of special note is an increase in CT diversion time to ensure the CT scan is cleaned between patients, especially when it is needed for COVID patients.

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time (APOT) Report (January 1 to June 30, 2020)**

Attached to the agenda is the Ambulance Patient Off-Load Time (APOT) Report for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2020. Currently the Median 90<sup>th</sup> percentile APOT time is 24:19.

- **9-1-1 Emergency Ambulance Transportation Contract Performance (October 1 to March 31, 2020)**

Adrian Rodriguez reported that both contractors (Care Ambulance and Emergency Ambulance) met all contract requirements

#### **V. EMCC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS**

- **County Paramedic Advisory Committee (July 8, 2020 meeting)**

Dr. Schultz reported that a policy on the care of hospice patients is expected to be released soon. This policy was reviewed by the Fire EMS Advisory Group. A revised I-20 (Pediatric Medication Dosage)

policy will be implemented. Orange County EMS has sought and gained approval by the State EMS Authority to allow emergency medical technicians be used in skilled nursing facilities and also in COVID testing.

- **Facilities Advisory Committee** (Meeting scheduled for July 14, 2020 has been cancelled)
- **Education and Training Advisory Committee** (Meeting scheduled for July 15, 2020 has been cancelled)

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- **Orange County Ground Emergency Ambulance Rates FY 2020-2021**

Attached to the agenda is the Emergency Basic Life Support Ambulance Rate Report for FY2020-21 prepared for review by Committee members. This report includes the calculations for both the increase in minimum wage and the increase in the Consumer Price Index. This is a scheduled increase that was approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2017.

- **Redeployment of Orange County Fire Authority Assets Formerly Staffed in the City of Placentia**

Dr. Schultz reported that effective July 1, 2020, the City of Placentia implemented their own fire department with Lynch Ambulance Service terminated its contract with the Orange County Fire Authority and initiated its own fire department. As a result, the Orange County Fire Authority has redeployed assets held at its stations in the city, to other parts in the community.

- **Orange County EMS Facility Designation – Mission Hospital’s Comprehensive Children’s Emergency Receiving Center**

Attached to the agenda is the report presented to the Facilities Advisory Committee on March 10, 2020 for the designation of Mission Hospital’s Comprehensive Children’s Emergency Receiving Center for a period of one year with a six month review (to be performed in August). The Facilities Advisory Committee recommends that EMCC approve this designation.

**MSC:** *The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended that Orange County Emergency Medical Services designate Mission Hospital as a Comprehensive Children’s Emergency Receiving Center for a period of one year (March 2020 through March 2021) as recommended by the Facilities Advisory Committee.*

**VIII. MEMBER COMMENTS**

*Chief Loeser reported that fire service providers are having difficulties in having their personnel tested for COVID-19 in a quick efficient manner. The fire chiefs are asking for assistance in getting their personnel tested as quickly as possible.*

**IX. PUBLIC FORUM**

*No public comments from members were received.*

**X. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 9, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room. Due to the current pandemic, the location is subject to change.