



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE



Regular Meeting

Friday, January 29, 2016 – 9:00 am

*Location: Hall of Administration: Commission Hearing Room
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, California 92701*

MINUTES

MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Blaul	- Board of Supervisors, First District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jinha M. Park, MD, Ph.D.	- Board of Supervisors, Second District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Anas, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Third District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Greco, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Fourth District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Ritter, MD	- Board of Supervisors, Fifth District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Karras	- Ambulance Association of OC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dean Grose	- City Selection Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Virg Narbutas	- Hospital Association of Southern California
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trez Gutierrez, RN	- Orange Coast Emergency Nurses Assn.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lindley Garcia, RN	- Orange County Business Council
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Wolfgang Knabe	- Orange County Fire Chiefs Association
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bryan Hoynak, MD	- Orange County Medical Association
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Kevin Baker (excused)	- Orange County Police Chiefs/Sheriffs Assn.
<input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Gomez (excused)	- Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	- American Red Cross, OC Chapter
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	- OC City Managers Association
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	- Society of OC Emergency Physicians

CATEGORY REPRESENTED

HEALTH CARE AGENCY STAFF

Sam Stratton, MD	- EMS Medical Director
Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN	- EMS Administrator
Mike Delaby, RN	- EMS Systems & Standards Chief
Vicki Sweet, RN	- ALS/CQI Coordinator
Meng Chung, EMT-P	- BLS Coordinator
Jason Azuma, EMT-P	- OC-MEDS Coordinator
Juan Alvarez	- EMS Specialist
Andrew Roberts	- EMS Specialist
Erica Moojen	- EMS Office Supervisor
Eileen Endo	- Office Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Rocky Allen	- Mercy Air Service, Inc.	Laura Cross, RN	- Mission Hospital
Whitney Ayers	- Hospital Association of Southern California	Tina Heinemann, RN	- Lynch Ambulance Service
Lisa Carrillo	- Care Ambulance Service, Inc.	Steve Katanich	- Schaefer Ambulance Service
Ruth Clark, RN	- Orange County Global Medical Center	Christine Waddell, RN	- Huntington Beach Hospital

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Chief Wolfgang Knabe.

II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the October 2, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted
(Motion: Karras/Seconded: Dr. Anas).

IV. OCEMS REPORT / CORRESPONDENCE

• Medical Director's Report

Dr. Stratton reported:

- A number of policies and procedures were released for public comment ending on January 8, 2016. Orange County EMS received a large number of comments which are now being compiled. A request was made to extend the public comment period for Policy/Procedure #310.10 (Determination of Transport to an Appropriate Facility). Once the responses to the public comments have been

compiled, it is anticipated that this policy will be released for an additional 15-day public comment period.

- Orange County EMS is looking to develop a surge capacity plan that would allow facilities to transfer their patients to a facility they are associated with during an evacuation in an emergency. This would ensure that medical records are readily accessible by the receiving hospital.
- Survey of emergency receiving centers to identify which facilities are capable of caring for pediatric, obstetrical, and neonatal emergency patients.
- **Hospital Diversion Report (2015 Annual Report):** Michael Delaby presented the hospital diversion report for calendar year 2015 (Attachment #2). The report included a chart showing diversion hours over a four year period. Committee members discussed how recent changes in federal health care regulations have impacted diversion hours and the public's access to medical care.
- **EMCC Correspondence:** *None Received.*

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

Received reports on the Education and Training Advisory, Facilities Advisory; County Paramedic Advisory and the Transportation Advisory Subcommittees.

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

Informational Items Only:

- A. **Orange County EMD Policy/Procedure #355.00: Approval to Use OCEMS EMT and Paramedic Scope of Practice During Scheduled and Special Event Standby:** Dr. Stratton reported that this policy was released in November as a medical control policy. Medical control policies are not required to be released for public comment but are discussed within committees.

Dean Grose: Expressed interested in discussing this policy with Orange County EMS based on his experience and felt the policy needed fine tuning.

Ron Blaul asked how notification will be made to ensure that fire jurisdictional agencies and EMS are advised of specialty events. Dr. Stratton stated that before an EMT or paramedic is approved to practice they must notify OCEMS.

Chief Knabe stressed the importance of coordination when an incident occurs during an event. It is important that an event provider understands the local protocols.

- B. **New EMS Data System Requirements:** Attached to today's agenda packet is a letter received from the EMS Authority Director regarding the state's new EMS data system requirements. Implementation of new requirements under four assembly bills that now have been incorporated into state law. These changes require all providers to use electronic health records and that the record be compliant with the current version of NEMESIS as well as the adoption of standards related to data collection for ambulance patient offload time ("wall time"). As a result of the bills, a number of policies and procedures must be revised.

Chief Knabe stated currently the legislature is looking at the issue of wall time which impacts the fire service. Dr. Stratton indicated that this issue is one of the reasons for the establishment of the IFT-ALS program to meet the demand of moving patients within health care organizations.

Ron Blaul asked how guidelines will be addressing the issue of "wall time". Dr. Stratton reported that currently there is not a specific or precise definition for "wall time" and a mechanism needs to be put in place to track it. While Orange County EMS receives complaints about wall time, the data extracted do not support the complaints.

- C. **Regional EOA Activity Reports:** Ms. McConnell presented the Regional 9-1-1 Emergency Ambulance Activity Report for the period of June 1 to September 30, 2015 in the five regions for those areas covered by

the Orange County Fire Authority. Data show the response times, number of dispatches and the number of transports for this period of time in each region.

Jim Karras asked about the penalties assessed and if so, how much. Ms. McConnell replied that penalties have been assessed but the amount has been minimal.

Dean Grose shared information from a meeting he attended regarding the routing of 9-1-1 phone calls received via cell phones.

Chief Knabe stated that calls are routed through the California Highway Patrol and this issue is being addressed at the state level.

Action Items:

- D. **Appointment of Nomination Committee for EMCC Calendar Year 2016 Slate of Officers:** Dr. Stratton reported under EMCC bylaws require a nominating committee be organized to serve on the nomination committee to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair.

Committee members selected James Karras, Dean Grose, and Dr. Michael Ritter to serve on the Nomination Committee.

- E. **Re-Designation of Specialty Receiving Centers:** Mike Delaby reported that five facilities are being recommended for a period of three years, these facilities are Anaheim Global Medical Center; Anaheim Regional Medical Center, Huntington Beach Hospital, South Coast Global Medical Center; and Garden Grove Medical Center as indicated in the attached report. The Facilities Advisory Committee recommends these designations.

The Emergency Medical Care Committee recommended these facilities be designated as recommended by the Facilities Advisory Committee.

VIII. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Michael Ritter, MD: Mission Hospital has an affiliation with Children's Hospital of Orange County. The hospital receives more walk-in pediatric patients than patients received via the 9-1-1 system. Therefore hospitals should have the necessary equipment to treat pediatric patients in the emergency department.

IX. **PUBLIC FORUM**

X. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 29, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.