



# TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

## MINUTES

| <b>MEMBERS</b>   |  |                                |                             |
|--|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>NAME</u>  | <u>CATEGORY REPRESENTED</u>              | <u>ORANGE COUNTY EMS STAFF</u> |                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Karras, Chair    | – Ambulance Association of Orange County | Carl Schultz, MD               | – EMS Medical Director      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Patt, RN        | – Base Hospital Coordinators             | Adrian Rodriguez, MD           | – EMS Performance Chief     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jacob Wagoner        | – Ambulance Service Provider non-9-1-1   | Philip Grieve, EMT-P           | – ALS/CQI Coordinator       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank Maas, RN                  | – Orange County ED Nursing Leadership    | Meng Chung, EMT-P              | – BLS Coordinator           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Druten          | – Ambulance Service Provider 9-1-1       | Jason Azuma, NRP               | – OC-MEDS Coordinator       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Creager         | – Air Transport Provider                 | Justin Newton, EMT             | – HCA Program Supervisor II |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bryan Johnson, RN    | – Fire Service Provider (with transport) | Drew Bernard, EMT              | – EMS Specialist            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristin Thompson, RN | – Fire Service Provider (non- transport) | Erica Moojen                   | – EMS Office Supervisor     |
|  |  | Eileen Endo                    | – EMS Staff Support         |

  

| <b>GUESTS PRESENT</b> |                                    |                     |                               |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>NAME</u>           | <u>REPRESENTING</u>                | <u>NAME</u>         | <u>REPRESENTING</u>           |
| Julia Afrasiabi, RN   | – UCI Medical Center               | Louis Mendoza       | – Liberty Ambulance           |
| Ernesto Barrajas      | – American Professional Ambulance  | Whitney Patnode, RN | – Children’s Hospital of O.C. |
| Ruth Clark, RN        | – Orange County Global Med. Center | Bill Weston         | – Emergency Ambulance Service |
| Damien Cyphers        | – Liberty Ambulance                | Kim Zaky            | – Children’s Hospital of O.C. |
| Josh Dean             | – Premier Ambulance Service        |                     |                               |

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am by the new Chair, Jim Karras.

II. **INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Dr. Schultz introduced Kristen Karpow, RN, the new EMS Systems and Standards Chief. Kristen previously served as the ED Director at Orange County Global Medical Center.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from January 4, 2023, were approved.

IV. **OCEMS REPORT**

- **OCEMS Report:** by Dr. Carl Schultz

Dr. Schultz reported that AB40 will a standard APOT time of 30 minutes. Counties may set a standard lower than 30 minutes. The bill also includes issues on documentation of patient transfer requiring a signature and ambulance company billing.

- **Bi-Directional Data Exchange** – by Jason Azuma

Jason presented changes to the Orange County EMS website regarding the Bi-Directional Data Exchange. Currently, UCI Medical Center is moving out of the test phase of the project and is exchanging data with Anaheim Fire Department as one of the first providers in the project. Other provider agencies will be added. In addition, facilities with Providence, Kaiser, and Prime Healthcare systems will be entering into the testing phase of the pilot program. It is anticipated that the majority of hospitals and providers will be included in the bi-directional data exchange.

- **Ambulance Patient Off-Load Times** – by Jason Azuma

Mr. Azuma shared the APOT Dashboard and presented a report on the June data (which is currently under review). If Committee members have any questions or concerns, he asked them to contact him directly.

- **NEMSIS v3.5 Update** – Jason Azuma reported:

A presentation on the accessibility of NEMSIS 3.5 was presented to Committee members. He demonstrated on how agencies may check on the status of their transition to NEMSIS 3.5 and the various elements on the website. The expected “go-live” date is October 1, 2023 with the State deadline of December 18, 2023. Mr. Azuma answered any questions that Committee members and those present had regarding the presentation.

## V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- *None.*

## VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Memorandum #4539 Extension of Current OCESMS Policies and Directives for Managing Increasing APOTs and Diversion Hours**

Dr. Schultz reported that the policies and directives as outlined in this memorandum may be used by field service personnel may use to reduce prolonged wait times that field personnel may experience.

- **Upcoming October 1, 2023 Changes to Policies and Standing Orders**

Dr. Schultz reported that changes to the policies and standing orders will have minimum impact to the ambulance service providers.

- **Maximum Emergency Ground Ambulance Rates (2023 Update)**

Dr. Schultz reported that the maximum emergency ground ambulance rates will be raised using the Consumer Price Index as adopted by the Board of Supervisors at their December 20, 2022 meeting. The rates will be released soon and become effective on July 1, 2023.

- **2024 Ambulance Provider Renewal Inspections**

Mr. Chung reported that a renewal letter has been sent via e-mail and certified mail to ambulance service providers on the upcoming annual inspections.

- **2024 Ambulance Age Limit Extension Requests**

Mr. Chung reported that challenges that ambulance service providers face on the replacement of vehicles greater than 10 years of age are primarily due to manufacturing shortages. Ambulance units whose age is greater than 10 years may be extended by the service provider filing an extension on the unit with Orange County EMS. He also recommended that companies order vehicles two to three years in advance due to the manufacturing shortage so an extension becomes unnecessary.

## VII. **NEXT MEETING**

The meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2023.

## VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.