



# Sonoma County Emergency Medical Care Committee



*Bob Norrbom, Chairperson  
Dean Anderson, Vice Chairperson*

General Meeting Minutes

**Monday, April 26, 2021, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

## **Virtual meeting by WebEx**

**Members Present:** Mike Bates, Brian Henricksen, Steve Herzberg, Mark LaGrave, Jim Levy, KT McNulty, Bob Norrbom, Jeff Schach, Dave Smith, Fred Seydel, Brad Silvestro

**Members Absent:** Mark Andrews, Ellie Lowry (no longer a representative), Tim Aboudara, Linda Anderson, Steve Akre, Todd Axberg

**Others Present:** Jen Banks, Bryan Cleaver, Kristina Griffith, James Salvante, Carly Sullivan, Joanne Chapman, Evan Dilks, Willow Farey, Erin Olson, Steve Suter, Ambrose Stevens, Ben Gould, Doug Williams, Evonne Stevens, Janet Uhde, Jeff Cress, Mark Luoto, Michele Lawrence, Patrick McAlpin, Paul Ricci, Trisha Cress, Art Hsieh, Chris Ottolini, others possible not recorded.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

**II. Approval of Minutes from October 2020 meeting**

January 2021 minutes were approved as written., Motion to approve – Fred Seydel, second Jeff Schach

**III. Public Comment Period**

- Bob Norrbom reviewed annual report information. Report not done in several years. He would like to get information together on subcommittees, ImageTrend, Saves Lives Sonoma, Pulse Point, RFP and EMS ordinance. Looking for help gathering that information. Brian Henricksen offered to help.

**IV. New Business**

- EMS trust fund revenues (EMSA MADDY and RICHIE).  
Josh Cazares from DHS accounting presented information on these funds. MADDY funds have a current balance of \$94,371.69. EMS trust fund has a balance of \$38,289.38, as of March 31, 2021. Josh will send out copies of ledger to Brian and James to send out to those that would like to see it.  
Collect court revenue on a monthly basis. At the end of the year that money is distributed with 17% going to EMS, 25% local hospitals and 58% to Physician reimbursements. Hospital and physician reimbursement funds are direct reimbursement of un-compensated care. That fund allowed for AEDs for all schools in Sonoma County. Discretionary EMS portion of the fund, goes into overall operations such as CQI, policy development, and medical direction. All details will be in annual fiscal report. Board of Supervisors decided on how funds were distributed.
- Wall Times / APOT time for ambulances.  
Lucinda Gardner reported. All six hospitals reported on. Report from January 2020 through March 2021.  
Comments: Brian Henricksen states much of the reduction in transport volume was eaten by longer times to turn over care, after care, protective equipment and cleaning transport beyond COVID levels. As APOT times increase there is still the need to perform these measures even as transport volume increases. May be some value in tracking that. Steve Suter and Mark Luoto discuss conversation that happened during MAC meeting. Needing real time notification if there is a pattern or prolonged situation. Looking more deeply into



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individual outliers. Potential large barrier is the percentage of psychiatric patients being regularly held in EDs. We are close to the State standard. State is actively working on data that is being collected to look for solutions. CAHOOTS model is being looked at to address wall time issues with behavioral Health.

- Public Comment for Treatment Guidelines open until May 15, 2021

No comments.

- ALS Provider Authorizations.

Sonoma County Sonoma county ordinance policy for approving ALS providers from BLS to ALS – state statute has been revised recently to put time frame for public agency of 90 day approval or denial when submitted request. Working with partners on expanding parameters of approval of programs. Working on it with Sonoma County Fire Chiefs EMS subcommittee in addition to Mendocino providers, Ukiah and Coast Life support. Comments – Steve Suter asks if this is driven by EMS ordinance. Two reasons, must have a policy in place per Title 22 requirement and health and safety code says 90 day time frame is required, also if there is an obligation to provide weigh in by people covered by ordinance.

### V. **Coastal Valleys Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency**

- Sonoma County EMS AdHoc Committee

AD Hoc committee helped primarily working on providing guidance for RFP. Draft RFP went before the Board of Supervisors who approved draft to be sent on to EMS authority. Now looking at 4 to 6 week review time period. If state comes request changes they will be discussed with ADHOC committee before going to full board. Will know the timeline better after that. Continue to have BOS ADHOC monthly.

Comments – no comments or questions.

- RFP Update – see above.

- Emergency / Public Health Preparedness

Updating our response and communications plans prior to fire season. Disaster Health Care coalition form having 1 1/2 hours meetings instead of one 4 hour meeting, focusing of HVA in next two meetings. No meetings scheduled for September and November due to fire season. Grant information - all facility's able to submit requests for disaster items, all were approved.

Comments – none

- Mendocino Update

Sitting on advisory group meeting, College of the Siskiyous hoping to open registrations for Paramedic education for Mendocino County in fall semester. Kirk Thompson is now the program director at College of the Siskiyous. Currently hiring staff for this program. DOC staffing downsized for COVID in Mendocino County. Jen Banks went to board with funding proposal for PG&E disaster settlement funds. Requesting 3.2 million dollars to support EMS systems structure in Mendocino County.

Comments – PG&E settlement for Mendocino is just shy of 22 million. Mark Luoto states it is hopeful that Board will agree to requests. Sonoma County did also receive settlement per Dr. Baldwin, but we have no knowledge of how it is going to be used. KT McNulty says Sonoma County received 149 mill for vegetation management from PG&E settlement.

- MAC committee



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MAC review of protocol updates, protocol committee meeting on quarterly basis to review all protocols every two years. Will finalize current draft protocols at that committee and put out for use at end of May. Plan a CQI meeting in Sonoma County on May 25th. Mendocino in June. CARES data was shared and more information will be provided by Lucinda and Joanne at a later date. Clearly had an increase in death rate in the field due to COVID. Still doing twice as well as California and nationally. ALS update class is hopefully going to be opening up in the fall. Looking for input in subjects and looking for speakers for those classes.

Comments - none

### VI. Standing Items –

- Save Lives Sonoma  
Still on hold, hoping to start again soon.
- REDCOM  
PulsePoint REDCOM board of directors did approve PulsePoint funding for another year. PulsePoint verified responders implementation free until end of September, AED's need to be registered through the county. Dave Smith or KT can get verified AED into system.
- Fire Chiefs report  
Board of Supervisors Fire ADHOC committee meeting to discuss how better to support Bodega Bay. Fire Serves working groups working on funding, possible ballot measure in June of 2022. Cities of Petaluma and Santa Rosa looking at CAHOTS style system to help keep behavioral health community out of EMS system and ED's.  
Comment - James Salvante, CAHOOTS model utilizes an EMT to do medical clearance which is problematic to California regulations, clearly a Paramedic has the ability to this kind of work, but it does require specific protocols that EMS needs to weigh in on. Please include LEMSA partner in any discussion of developing protocols. Discussion round keeping calls out of the EMS structure and having alternate sites available, through the CAHOOTS program.
- BOS district rep update  
Steve Herzberg reports out for District 5. Supervisors Hopkins is on the Fire/EMS ADHOC committee's and is deeply involved. Fred Saydel – Supervisor Rabbitt is also on that committee and well informed.
- Hospitals –  
Erin Olson with Santa Rosa Memorial going ahead and dealing with staffing issues, metrics and workflows to better accommodate extended APOT times.  
Marl Lagrave from Kaiser 24/7 emergency department psychiatric social workers doing evaluations, seeing a decrease in overall stay of psychiatric patients, but not offsetting volume of patients. Talk of building physical structure for alternative site program.
- Ambulance providers  
Brian Henricksen – Appreciation to Public Health and CVESA and Lucina for work on COVID – number of people on Sonoma Life support work force had less positive tests than general public, due to support from Pubic Health and quick access to testing and vaccine was very helpful in reducing impact on teams.
- Training program  
Coast Life Support - Current EMT program has no loss of students, beginning to place on ride along. Had to turn away students from current class, hoping to do second class in fall,



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in addition to regular spring semester. Completed two title 22 public safety classes. CLSD providing training to all Fire Departments on the coast, looking to expand all pre-hospital training opportunities. Waiting to hear about 2<sup>nd</sup> year of grant award in July. Continue to develop and expand community outreach with Menonoma Health Alliance on mental health and substance abuse awareness. Mark Luoto wanted to thank CLSD for all they are doing. SRJC – Art not too much to report – reached out to providers for paramedic internships. Going to finish semester in May. Looking to place 22 students in internship placements over summer. Hope to place all within 60 to 90 day window.

**VII. Agenda Topics for Next Meeting**

None

**VIII. Announcements and Items from the Membership**

Survivors Reunion will be virtual, prerecorded by production company. End of EMS week. Public Link will be available.

Battalion Chief Brian Cyr will be taking over Bob Norrbom duties at Sonoma County Fire District. Bob will complete his term as EMCC chair. Brian Cyr introduced himself.

**IX. Adjournment**

Fred Seydel motion for adjournment, Brian Henricksen seconds.

**NEXT MEETING-July 26, 2021**

**TBD: either Webex or physical meeting**

EMSA Legislative Link: [http://www.emsa.ca.gov/legislative\\_activity](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/legislative_activity)