

Annual Report for 2021

Advisory Body Name: Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC)

Advisory Body Meeting Time/Location: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of March, June, September, and December, unless otherwise noted. In-person meetings were paused in 2021 and all meetings have been held virtually via Zoom.

Chair: Jon King (December 2019 – November 2021); James Lambert (December 2021 – Present)

Staff Person: Rachel Morris (January 2017 – Present), Health Services, Emergency Medical Services

Reporting Period: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

I. Activities:

The EMCC, over four (4) regular meetings in the past year and one (1) special called meeting in October, was involved in or kept its membership informed about the following:

- Alliance Annual Performance Report was approved by the Board of Supervisors, and a five (5) year extension to the County-Fire District Emergency Ambulance Services contract began on January 1, 2021.
- Continued discussion on the update to the county ambulance ordinance. LEMSA staff met with stakeholders to discuss and optimize the plan before bringing to the EMCC in October for a motion to approve, which passed unanimously. Next steps include finalizing the document with County Counsel before bringing the ordinance to the Board of Supervisors for approval and implementation. Updates in the ordinance include but are not limited to focus on non-emergency ambulance services and public safety, and integration of emergency and non-emergency transport providers in mass casualty and disaster events.
- LEMSA participation with CCHS partners and system stakeholders on opiate overdose workgroup.
- The Board of Supervisors recognized May 16-22nd as National EMS Week, and May 19th as EMS for Children Day.
- San Ramon RFP contract update: This Contract was approved by the BOS on November 2nd, 2021. SRVFPD will be included in the next EMS Plan as the exclusive non-competitive 911 transport provider in ERA IV.
- EMSA approved EMS for Children (EMSC) regulations; LEMSA staff working on the local efforts for Contra Costa EMS for Children system of care.
- Treatment guidelines and policies updated for 2022 are finalized. Implementation is January 1st, 2022.
- Biannual activity reported for the Contra Costa Med-Health Coalition to comply with Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) program requirements.
- Continued discussion on adverse impacts on 9-1-1 ambulance providers and patient care associated with prolonged ambulance patient offload delays (APOT).
- EMSA denials of Contra Costa 2016 & 2017 EMS system plans and appeals associated with the County Alliance procurement process in 2014.
- Hiring of Landee Linn as a new LEMSA Prehospital Care Coordinator.

II. Accomplishments

- Approval of EMCC 2020 Annual Report.
- Successful nominations and establishing of new EMCC Executive Committee for the 2021-2023 term.
- LEMSA successful launch of Buprenorphine trial.
- EMCC approval of proposed new ambulance ordinance.

III. Attendance/Representation

The EMCC is a multidisciplinary committee with membership consisting of representation of specific EMS stakeholder groups and organizations plus one (1) consumer member nominated by each Board of Supervisor member. There are twenty-four (24) authorized, voting seats, and two (2) non-voting, ex-officio seats on the advisory body. In 2021, nineteen (19) voting member seats and two (2) ex-officio seats were filled; five (5) seats were unfilled. A quorum was achieved at four (4) of the four (4) regular EMCC meetings, as well as at the one (1) special meeting in 2021.

IV. Training/Certification

Each new EMCC representative was given a copy of the Advisory Body Handbook and copies of the “The Brown Act and Better Government Ordinance Training Video” and “Ethics Orientation for County Officials” video (updated to “Ethics for Local Government Officials” video offered by the Fair Political Practices Commission) during their two (2) year term.

Responsibilities of County Boards were discussed including the responsibility to view the videos and submit signed certifications. Certification forms have been received from 14 of 21 representatives so far. The five (5) certificates received this year are attached to this report.

V. Focused Objectives for Next Year

- Continue to refine EMS Emergency Quality Improvement Plan (EQIP) and support stakeholder processes related to Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement.
 - Stakeholder Education
 - Stakeholder support in building relevant, achievable, and sustainable Quality Improvement Plans that align with CA Regulation and State 'core' deliverables.
- Support exploration on innovative models of EMS service delivery with hospital community.
 - Local application related to AB 1544
 - Support ET3 field telehealth intervention as proposed by the Alliance
 - Continue to explore ways to develop a more tiered, efficient, and sustainable response to EMS calls.
- Support emergency ambulance provider and community hospitals efforts to reduce patient transfer of care extended delays that impact the availability of ambulances for the next 9-1-1 call.

VI. Expected 2022 Reports, updates, and continued support items

- Continue to support stakeholder opportunities and efforts to procure sustainable funding for EMS System emergency communications, dispatch and data infrastructure enhancements to optimize patient care in day to day and disaster conditions.
- Support Public Health Medical Health Disaster Coalition preparedness and engagement as it pertains to the EMS System.
- Continue to monitor and report on EMS System impacts due to changing economics and health care reform.
- Support EMS System program (STEMI, Stroke, Cardiac Arrest, EMSC, Quality/Patient Safety and Trauma) initiatives.
- Support and sustain community education and outreach, e.g. *HeartSafe*, Child Injury Prevention.
- Support Law Enforcement Narcan program.
- Support appropriate use of 9-1-1, CPR Anytime, and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) programs through partnerships with law enforcement, CERT, fire first responders and community coalitions.
- Continue to support the Annual Contra Costa Survivors' Reunion.
- Monitor West County EMS System and Kaiser Richmond "Directed Destination" utilization.
- Receive updates on the Contra Costa Med/Health Coalition.
- Receive updates on treatment guidelines and policies for 2022.
- Report to EMSA on progress of Buprenorphine trial.