



A Tradition of Stewardship  
A Commitment to Service

**Health and Human Services Department**  
Public Health Division  
Emergency Medical Services Agency

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**Randolph F. Snowden**  
Agency Director

# **MINUTES**

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE**

August 17, 2011, 10:30 A.M.  
St Helena Fire Department

**PRESENT:** :Mike Randolph, Chairperson; Stewart Slipiec, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson; Lois Husted, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson; Ty Cook, Michael Calkin, Dr. Andrew Nothmann, Mike Conley, Christy Hollis, David Shew, Paul Duncan, Sean Ashby, Ben Schmidt, and Keith Caldwell

**GUESTS:** Dr. Karen Smith, PH Officer, Napa County; Dr. Jim Pointer, Napa County EMS Medical Director, Sharon Antognazzi, Napa County EMS Office Assistant; Jesse Allured, Napa County EMS Specialist; Bruce Lee, and Dean Anderson, AMR; Randy Lyman, REACH; and Sean Sullivan, AMR.

### **I. Introductions**

Mike Randolph started the introductions around the table of members and visitors.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

Lois Husted stated she had given the wrong date of the last Base QA meeting (page 2 under Base QA Meeting), it should have been June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ty Cook stated that on page 3 under By-Laws, the bill number is incorrect it should read AB210.

With these corrections in mind, Andy Nothmann made a motion to approve the minutes of June 15, 2011, and Lois Husted seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Public Comment**

Ty Cook stated he would like to thank Jesse Allured for stepping up to the plate, jumping in with both feet and keeping the EMS Agency moving forward in a positive motion during these most critical times. Ty also thanked the providers for their support and assistance to Jesse, it was most appreciated.

Mike Randolph state he would like to recognize Sharon Antognazzi, our EMCC Secretary. This is officially Sharon's last EMCC meeting, and on behalf of all the members of EMCC and all the sub-committees, I would like to say thank you, thank you, thank you, for all your hard work.

Jesse Allured passed out a flyer regarding Sharon's Retirement.

#### IV. Committee Reports

##### Operational Area / Disaster Committee

Mike Conley stated he wasn't in attendance, but gave a brief update from his copy of the minutes. Mike stated that there was a presentation on the Emergency Volunteer Center, the medical preparedness and response to bombing incidents, and the consolidated emergency operations plan were all discussed. Eric Parks gave an update on Narrow Band, Susan Tam spoke about the statewide medical disaster exercise (to be held on November 17, 2011), there will be a table top exercise (November 20, 2011) at the Veterans Home, Chief Borman announced coordination of the EOC Section Training, and Neil O'Hare discussed Emergency Operations in schools and lastly an update was given on the Atlas Peak tower site.

Mike Randolph asked if there was more information regarding consolidation of EOC's and DOC's across the jurisdictions. There was much discussion about training after 911, NIMS training, the effort to maintain the centers with the high level of training, and the downfall of losing trained people.

##### Public Information and Education

No Report.

##### Base QA Meeting

Lois stated there was nothing yet to report. The next meeting will be on August 24, 2011. We'll be reviewing ground, trauma, and helicopter calls.

##### By-Laws Committee

Mike Randolph stated the committee didn't meet. The draft is the same as discussed at the last EMCC. The next steps are to find some time with Ty to incorporate which committees we want to maintain as sub-committees of EMCC.

##### EMS Aircraft Committee

Jesse Allured started by distributing a handout showing a slide presentation give during the first Napa County EMS Aircraft Committee meeting held on August 11, 2011. The group went away from this first meeting with a plan to create a mission statement, clean up some reporting forms and work on recording data. We didn't get to everything we wanted to cover at this meeting but we're on our way thanks to the active participation we had at this meeting.

Jesse went on, stating some past and current data:

Year	Item Measured	Total
2009	Total EMS Aircraft Calls	133
2010	Total EMS Aircraft Calls	119

2009	Total Transports	67
2010	Total Transports	68

2009	Total Cancellations	66
2010	Total Cancellations	51

Jesse continued with the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter stats:

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Total Requests 41 46%

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Total Cancellations 22 54%

Weather 29%

Unavailable 25%

Other 10%

By Ground 40%

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Provider Breakdown

CHP 26%

Cal Star 37%

REACH 37%

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Zone Activity

Zone	Area Name	April	May	June	Total
2	City of Calistoga	0	1	1	2
3	Unincorporated Up-valley	1	0	0	1
4	Wilderness Up-Valley	0	1	0	1
5	Angwin	2	0	3	5
6	Wilderness Lake Berryessa	3	2	0	5
8	Unincorporated (Surrounding Napa City)	1	0	1	2
10	American Canyon	0	0	0	0
11	Unincorporated Down-Valley	1	0	0	1
12	Wilderness Down-Valley	2	0	0	2
14	Lake Berryessa	7	5	2	14

Jesse continued stating that these figures are pretty normal with past records. He also asked that this data be taken back through the various providers and shared with their staff.

## V. EMS Agency Reports

### A. EMS Coordinator and RFP Process updates

Dr. Smith stated that the RFP Protest Period has ended. Piner and Medic both submitted their protests. The hearing officer reviewed all finds and found the process fair and unbiased and directed the Director of HHS to give his recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. His findings also included that county staff did their job as it was set out for them to do. The Board of Supervisors makes the final decision during an open session on Friday morning, 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome. The agenda will be: Randy Snowden will give a half hour presentation followed by a half hour presentation from each provider then a two hour block of time for comments from the public. This session can be watched on your computer.

Dr. Smith stated that Ty is back and his position will be going through some changes including a title change to "EMS Administrator", but that this change will still take some time.

## B. Certification / Accreditation Process

Jesse stated there was a meeting with the State EMS Authority yesterday. Currently we've requested the state to issue our EMT cards; but we found that because of that we must issue a 45 day temporary card. We issue the temporary card, the state issues the card and the EMT's are confused receiving two cards. So we'll be looking into the process, costs and logistics of issuing the State EMT Certification card directly from our office; more to come on this issue.

Jesse also asked everyone to please look at the Napa web site for all Certification, re-certification and Accreditation requirements and forms. [www.countyofnapa.org/ems](http://www.countyofnapa.org/ems)

Ty stated there have been a few bumps in the setting up processes of the new LEMSA but thanks to Dr. Pointer and his knowledge of the workings at the state we've been able to work smart and clear these hurdles. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of August we received scope of practice approval from the state.

Sharon Antognazzi stated there has been a lot of questions from EMT's regarding Certification. To help reduce the confusion, Sharon handed out a letter describing the process and what's needed. Sharon went on to explain, an EMT who changes LEMSAs must complete a new CORI/background check as a new EMT and they are subject to the Initial EMT fees at the new LEMSA. So those folks who have recertified with CVEMSA since 07/01/10, and then want to come back to Napa, will be considered new, and they will have to complete a new CORI/background and pay the initial fee. Two years down the road, when they recertify (if they stay within the Napa LEMSA) they will only pay the recertification fee. But should they decide to move to another LEMSA, then, they would start over again as an initial. EMT's can't collect county cards anymore; there is only one state EMT card now that is good in all the counties, but the EMT's still need to notify the county LEMSA that they working in that county. Lastly, there is a new state regulation that EMT's have 30 days to notify the LEMSA of their address change. We have a Personnel Change Form which can be used for this notification.

Mike Randolph asked if Napa City Fire wasn't grandfathered into the EMT 2010 system. Sharon stated there was only 1 person grandfathered in and that was Sue Dizmang, an EMT and Dispatcher for Central Dispatch. Sharon reminded everyone that when we were discussing this process back before 07/01/10, many of the providers choose to have their EMT's go ahead and recertify then in order to have a two year period to gear up for their budgets to withstand the increased fees. Dave Shew stated this fee for the background check will get everyone at one point or another, no matter where you do it. At some point in time, everyone will have to pay that fee. Now if they choose to remain in whatever LEMSA they are certified in they don't have to pay it again once they have been background checked. If they choose to change LEMSAs then they pay all over again. This is across the board for everyone. Sharon stated this bring us back to the Personnel Change form and when an EMT comes into a provider and is already holding a current State EMT License, all that provider need do is complete a Personnel Change form and attach a copy of the State EMT license, and a copy of the persons Drivers License, as photo ID. Sharon stated in the remainder of the hand out packet is the Napa County EMT Application which is a front and back form, a copy of the live scan form which is specific to Napa County, there is one specific to Coastal Valleys, so be sure you grab the right form.

Ty addressed the topic of Paramedics that were grandfathered in from Coastal Valleys. Sharon created new cards for the paramedics which covers from 07/01/11 (the start date of the Napa LEMSA) to their current paramedic expiration date, (shown on their state paramedic card), but she forgot to bring them today for distribution. They will be delivered to the providers in the near future.

When a Napa County Paramedic Accreditation card expires, they currently come to the LEMSA with their new State paramedic license, a copy of the last Orientation/Skills Class Certificate, a copy of their Drivers License (as photo ID) and there is no fee. Dr. Pointer stated just be aware, this re-accreditation process may change. The LEMSA is currently looking into the possibility of an open-ended paramedic accreditation. There will be more to come on this topic later.

#### C. Administrative Policies / Treatment Guidelines

Dr. Pointer stated we were looking at some ways to affect some efficiencies. We are looking into a change with the EMT and paramedic accreditation cards. The agency staff is reviewing the accreditation process to see if we can come up with a better process that still meets our goals Dr. Pointer stated he is concerned about medics just out of school because it's possible they may not have performed an intubation on true patient. So we're looking for some process that will help us insure that those medics have competency in getting the job done on day one.

Stewart Slipiec stated that Piners has had the opportunity to watch many of their medics grow, and they watch how they drive, how well they know the area, and their skills are watched for longer than just a 5 Call.

There was much discussion; Jesse summed it up stating, if we decide to delete use of 5 calls, what can we substitute, to keep us at a high clinical level. Napa City has a one week orientation as well as probation as needed while on shift. Piners differ as they grow up becoming an medic. So we feel our needs may be met but there may be a need for a LEMSA protocol test or something of that nature. Jesse stated he will continue to work with Christy (NFD), Meleah (Piners), and Holly (VeriHealth) on this project and report back to EMCC.

Jesse stated our administrative policies and treatment guidelines are on the web, they are not in the cleanest form, were working on it with IT. We've been asked for a pocket size version of the treatment guidelines. We are looking into some changes in the Treatment Guidelines to be effective January 1, 2012.

Dr. Pointer stated we would like to try this year is to have a process to follow for policy change on a yearly basis. We've already asked field personnel to submit ideas they have or changes they would like to see. After a few weeks we will take these ideas and publish them along with other policies that we wish to change for public comment. After a few weeks comments would come back to the office and we'd publish those comments. Then the guidelines would go out for a second comment period. Then after the second comment period we will make any final changes then distribute the new guidelines in time to provide an 8 week training period. Our implementation date will be January 1 each year with the goal of having a new field manual published each year. We're really looking for input from the field and the providers.

**D. Ambulance Ordinance – Napa County Approved Providers**

Jesse Allured gave a quick update on those approved as providers within Napa County:  
Priority One, looking at process to become an ALS provider  
Piners, ALS  
Medic, BLS and CCT  
VeriHealth, ALS, BLS and CCT  
Pro-Transport, BLS  
AMR, BLS and CCT

**E. Napa County Approved CE Providers**

Jesse Allured stated that the CE Providers are listed on the web site. Note: Cal Fire has a CE provider number issued by the State that they should use.

**F. ALS Update and Skills Review**

Jesse stated the ALS Update and Skills Review Class is scheduled for October 27, 2011, at the Wine County Regional Simulation Center in Yountville. You can sign up on line from our web site and pay for the class on line. The fee is \$50.00 and this is a Napa Valley College fee.

Between now and until October 27<sup>th</sup>, our LEMSA will accept CVEMSA's Skills certificates for new hires. After October 27<sup>th</sup>, it's still to be determined; were looking for a solution and welcome any input.

**VI. Medical Director's Report**

**A. Local Optional – Scope of Practice update**

Dr. Pointer stated that Jesse did a really nice job putting together the six hundred plus page document that was delivered to the state before the September 20<sup>th</sup> deadline which allow us permanently to follow our optional scope of practice.

**B. QVMC Neurosurgical Program update**

Dr. Pointer stated that the LEMSA received a letter from Queen of the Valley stating that they now have Neurological coverage with two neurosurgeons 24/7. It was noted that the Queen is committed in going through this Neuro process being done the correct way and it will take a little while to change policies and get this process completed correctly, including a plan for back up, pediatric age change, and a plan for by-pass or diversion. The Trauma Plan needs to be changed with the State also.

Ty stated that Tom Sprinkle, from Queen of the Valley, has accepted the position as Deputy Medical Director for our LEMSA, working with Dr. Pointer. Dr. Pointer stated he looks forward to working with Dr. Sprinkle.

**VII. Nominations for EMCC Chairperson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson**

Mike Randolph stated currently we have Mike Randolph as Chairperson, Stewart Slipiec as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson and Lois Husted at 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson. With that said, Mike asked for nominations: Ty Cook nominated Mike Randolph as Chairperson and Jesse Allured seconded. Mike nominated Lois Husted for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairperson and Ty Cook seconded. Mike Conley volunteered as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairperson and this was unanimously accepted. Sharon stated these would be posted in the minutes and agenda for the next EMCC meeting

when you'll have a chance to nominate anyone else and then vote. The new leaders will take office at the first meeting held in 2012.

#### **VIII. Round Table**

Keith Caldwell reminded everyone of the Special BOS meeting regarding the RFP on Friday, August 19, 2011 at 9:00am at the BOS meeting room and recommends everyone attend.

Michael Calkin stated that St Helena Hospital is restructuring a little so that their CEO now oversees five campuses and currently in talks with Petaluma Valley to become a partner in their facility.

Sharon Antognazzi thanked everyone and stated it's been a nice career, and we'll see you all down the road.

Jesse Allured stated the EMS Agency has an appointment later today to review the helipad as a newly opened LZ. Ty will send a memo to make the official announcement. Friday, September 9, 2011 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at QVMC MCR-1 a 12-Lead ECG Interpretation Class. The flyer will be out today with details where and how to sign up for this class.

Ty stated that EMT and Advanced EMT regulation changes are currently out from the State in a public comment period for your review.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Dave Shew made a motion to adjourn; Mike Coley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The next EMCC Meeting is October 19, 2011, 10:00 am until 11:30 am at Queen of the Valley Medical Center, Main Conference Room 2.