MINUTES
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

DATE: December 9, 2019   TIME: 8:30 AM
PLACE: Aptos/La Selva Fire District, 6934 Soquel Dr., Aptos, Conference Room

ITEM:
1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum, Review/Correct Agenda, Minutes– [8:30 am] – October minutes approved.
2. Written Correspondence Report – Behavioral Health report about usage of crisis stabilization unit briefly discussed. Commissioner Yellin expressed continuing concern with mental health crisis system.
3. Oral Communications –
4. EMS Administrator Report – Moving forward with First Watch for evaluation of compliance for late calls and outcomes. HIE grant – CMS approved agreements, working with SCHIO (Santa Cruz Health Information Organization) to move forward. Hopefully will go to Board in January. OCPRHIO will be working on platform for data exchange. The Innovator position with AMR is moving closer to being filled. The position will help manage and reduce number of frequent users of EMS system and research innovative solutions within EMS.
5. Prehospital Advisory Committee – Ghilarducci – Using First Watch to trend performance. First Watch will make this evaluation much faster. Thank you to Scott Vahradian and Brad Cramer for their hard work on this project. They are looking at clinical areas measuring performance for Fire, AMR and both together. Very proud of the work and exciting that this is built into contract. Adding new drug to EMS– tranexamic acid – TXA – for non-compressible trauma (bleeding that you can’t stop through usual methods such as blunt or penetrating trauma). Considering ketamine and toradol for pain management. Also working to make validation rules work for crews on patient care records. Example of the validation rule is when crews intubate patients but neglect to note whether or not ETCO2 measurements are taken. [NOTE – THIS ENTIRE SECTION SHOULD BE CHECKED FOR ACCURACY BY DAVE!]
6. SART Update with Sheriff’s Department – Hall– space at Dominican is ready. Are waiting for Santa Clara County Health Services Agency to approve agreement. Santa Clara County provides the service under their program at Dominican Hospital. Nurses have to be contracted with Santa Clara County. Gail Newell – Our Sheriff’s Department will have a local DNA analysis system available soon. Will be a 48 hour turnaround instead of a 6 month process.
7. Watsonville Hospital Purchase Update – Dan Brothman, the Chairman and CEO of Haulsen Healthcare (and the new Watsonville Hospital Board Chair) was introduced.
Brothman was served on the EMCC of Orange County and is very interested in serving on the Santa Cruz EMCC. Not contemplating any program reductions or staff layoffs. Committed to serving community and EMCC. Relationship with Kaiser – will continue to take patients.

8. ET3 – Mike Esslinger – have submitted application with intent to participate. Jack Hall is regional project manager. Santa Cruz County is one of the very few that did submit application. The application is regionwide with Dignity Health. He’ll find out next steps.

9. AMR/EMSIA Agreement - Done!

10. PG&E Power Shutoff Event – Biggest challenge is identifying vulnerable patients. Hope to be able to contact them early. CPAP are the patients with most obvious issues at night.

11. Invitation to Gail Newel – 30 years of clinical obstetrics and gynecology in Fresno in Level I trauma facility. Good to have reports back from Sutter/PAMF, metcom, Kaiser, Hospitals.

12. Statewide Exercise – Used the public safety power shutoffs for the exercise. Some of hospitals did their own exercises.

13. Kincaide Fire and other Skilled Nursing Facilities – AMR and Central Coast sent a total of 3 units for evacuation of hospitals. More recently – last Wednesday night – skilled nursing facility in San Benito was flooded and had to evacuate – AMR and Central Coast and Ben Lomond Fire offered resources. Santa Cruz County SNFs did bed poll. San Benito found beds and didn’t need to move patients here. One SNF evacuated from the Kincaide Fire to Santa Cruz. Approximately 10 EMS transports resulted from the relocation of the SNF patients. Newell contacted the appropriate administrators and the calls for EMS were more appropriately managed without impacting the 911 system.

14. Items for January Agenda – Mental health, SART, after action for power safety shutoffs (impact on clinics and infrastructure) Dominican Hospital remodel

15. Adjournment – Next meeting January 27th, AMR (10 Victor Square, Scotts Valley – behind Scotts Valley Market)

Commissioners in attendance:
- Celia Barry
- Marcus Kwan, MD
- Kent Benedict, MD
- Marc Yellin, MD
- Dan Quinto
- Eric Conrad, RN
- Chris Jones

Commissioners excused:
- Michael McGannon, MD
- Arnold Leff, MD
- Robyn McIntyre
- Craig Kunzler
- Ian Larkin

County Staff:
- Brenda Brenner
- Mimi Hall, Director of HSA
- Marcus Pimentel, Assistant Director of HSA
- Dave Ghilarducci
- Gail Newel, Santa Cruz County Health Officer

Guests:
- Scott Vahradian, EMSIA
- Jeff Horner, Calstar
- Michael Baulch, LifeFlight
- Brad Cramer, AMR
- Paul Angelo, Dominican
- Sean Egenese
- Dan Brothman
- Mike Esslinger