



El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority

JPA Special Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 - 8:30 a.m.
El Dorado Hills Fire Department Station 85 Main Conference Room
1050 Wilson Blvd. El Dorado Hills, CA

CALL TO ORDER: 0835

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Board Attendees:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAL FIRE - Cameron Park Fire, Assistant Chief Sherry Moranz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAL FIRE Cameron Park, Battalion Chief Josh Agustin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAL FIRE ECC AEU, Unit Chief Mike Blankenheim | <input type="checkbox"/> CAL FIRE ECC AEU, Assistant Chief Brian Newman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diamond Springs Fire, Chief Matt Gallagher @0841 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Springs Fire, Battalion Chief Leah Yaws |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> El Dorado County Fire, Chief Tim Cordero, Vice Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> El Dorado County Fire, Division Chief Paul Dutch |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> El Dorado Hills Fire, Chief Maurice "Mo" Johnson, Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> El Dorado Hills Fire, Deputy Chief Dustin Hall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Valley Fire, Chief Wes Norman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Garden Valley Fire, Assistant Chief Linda Szczepanik |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Georgetown Fire, Chief Glenn Brown | <input type="checkbox"/> Georgetown Fire, Assistant Chief Bob Bement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshall Medical Center, Nicole Lamm | <input type="checkbox"/> Marshall Medical Center, EMS Coordinator Michele Williams |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mosquito Fire, Chief Jack Rosevear | <input type="checkbox"/> Mosquito Fire, Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer Fire, Chief Mark Matthews | <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer Fire, Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rescue Fire, Deputy Chief Mike Lilienthal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rescue Fire, Deputy Chief Dustin Hall @ 0839 |

Guests: None

Other Attendees:

Division Chief Paul Dutch, El Dorado County Fire Protection District
Director John Giraud, El Dorado Hills Fire Department
Director Tim White, El Dorado Hills Fire Department
Executive Director Brian Veerkamp, EDC ESA
Deputy Director Cristy Jorgensen, EDC ESA

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- *Chief Cordero motioned to approve the agenda. Chief Szczepanik seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- *Director White from El Dorado Hills Fire Department and a LAFCo Commissioner expressed thanks for the Fire Department Board of Directors who supported his election to the LAFCo Commissioner position. Encourage the Fire Chief's and Board of Directors to review the LAFCo MSRs. Comments due by April 24th but encourage submission comments as soon as possible.*

3. ACTION Items

3.1 IFT Pilot Project

- *Staff presented an updated report on IFTs, Medical Transports and Behavioral Health Transports currently being performed in the system.*
- *Staff presented DRAFT Pilot Project document for review by the Board.*
- *DRAFT Pilot Project document defines:*

- *Project length-anticipated to be 3 months-April 1-June 30, 2022.*
- *Evaluation Method includes ECC Medic Unit Utilization Report, ECC Medical Transport Transfer Segment Report, Custom ImageTrend Report on IFT/Medical Transports. MMC will track refusals as discussed at the last JPA BOD meeting.*
- *Evaluation Criteria includes interfacing with MMC to evaluate and track refusals, compare ECC data with the ImageTrend data. Bring all data to EMSOC on monthly basis to evaluate impact on the system.*
- *Trigger points begins with definitions taken right from the County Ambulance Ordinance. Includes information currently listed in the JPA System Status Management Policy which provides direction to ECC on dispatch of resources.*
 - *Code 3 IFTs remain consistent with current practice.*
 - *Project to focus on Day Code 2 and Night Code 2 requests. Reviewed unique call types including IFTs, Behavioral Health and Medical Transports.*
 - *Staff seeking direction from the Board on defining this section of the project.*
- *Staff presented information on current trends for IFTs and Medical Transports.*
- *Discussion led by Director Lamm on differences between IFTs and Medical Transports from the clinical perspective. Basic definition is Acute Hospital to Acute Hospital is an IFT. Acute Hospital to a Nursing Home where the patient currently resides is being returned "home" is a Medical Transport.*
- *Discussion on Behavioral Health Transfers and reporting on those under separate section. Per Director Lamm, medical clearance for these patients occurs prior to County Behavioral Health involvement who then work to place patient into appropriate facility. Discussion on historical practice of transporting Behavioral Health patients including use of law enforcement, and County sponsored vehicle transport. Discussion on medical necessity for these transports. JPA staff to contact County Behavioral Health to discuss alternative means for transporting these patients rather than a 911 medic unit. Board direction to provide 30-day notice to County Behavioral Health of JPA intent to decrease/decline these transfers. Discussion on whether to include Behavioral Health component with the IFT Pilot Project or as a separate component. Discussion on contractual obligation for the JPA to perform IFTs, and specifically the Behavioral Health Transfers. Discussion on whether to update the System Status Management Policy with language specific to Behavioral Health Transfers or to include them with the IFT Pilot Project.*
- *Discussion on documentation issues. JPA Staff waiting for LEMSA Documentation Policy to be released and will then update JPA specific documentation policy and look at developing training program associated with updated policies.*
- *Chief Cordero suggested action item to direct staff to set up meeting with County with intent to notify them that the JPA will no longer provide Behavioral Health transports with the understanding that they are outside the scope of the contract. That allows the County to put together alternative transportation plans. Pilot policy will be sent to ECC and incorporate changes to System Status Management Policy at the end of the pilot.*
- *Provide clear direction to ECC on terms of the pilot project.*
- *Staff to schedule meeting with the County providing 30-day notice of intent to eliminate Behavioral Health Transports. If they need 45-60 days to affect change, bring back to full Board for consideration.*
- *Transport of Code 3 IFTs will remain the same.*
- *Discussion on Code 2 IFTs and Medical Transports. Reviewed language in master contract. Reviewed language in County Ambulance Ordinance.*
- *Discussion on service providers who are approved in the County to facilitate transports of patients out of the county.*
- *Discussion on how to word the language in the pilot document for Code 2 transfers and medical transports. Remove from the call list vs. move to the bottom of the call list. One potential is Day Code 2 IFTs that terminate outside of the County shall be declined. One potential is to incorporate system status levels into the equation. Decline if System drops to Level 5 or below. One potential is to decline and if there is an emergent need then MMC can contact the JPA directly for approval.*

- *Executive Director Veerkamp recommends looking at current IFTs and how this pilot will impact MMC as well. If JPA declines transfers at MMC, that could increase APOT at MMC which means longer offload time at the local hospital.*
- *Director Lamm from MMC shared hospital perspective. Requested current stats on recent Code 2 transfers to review with hospital staff.*
- *Code 2 Out of County recommended language is to decline. In case of emergent need, MMC can contact JPA Executive Director for approval. If the request drops would drop the system to a level 4 it will be declined. Decline overnight requests.*
- *Discussion on how to handle requests that terminate in the County and those requested overnight.*
- *MMC would prefer a step or tiered approach rather than implementing massive change all at once. Each change would be evaluated to determine the impact to the system. JPA has shared data with MMC staff to review recent practice of Code 2 Medical Transports to patient residence. Will bring data on night discharge and transfers of patients. Discussion on decline overnight transports from 2300-0900 depending on what the data shows from MMC. The hours may adjust depending on the data.*
- *Clarifying discussion on difference from MMC perspective on IFT vs. Medical Transport. Leaving for medical necessity, in-patient to in-patient is an IFT. Leaving/discharge to go home is Medical Transport.*
- *Executive Director Veerkamp to schedule meeting with Nicole, Dr. Entwistle, County Public Health, LEMSA, and JPA Board Chair and Co-Chair.*
- *Review of proposed language: Day Code 2 terminating in the County filled with first available medic unit. If the request drops the system to Level 4 or lower, it will be declined. Behavioral Health transfers will be declined. Day Code 2 terminating outside of the County will be declined. Night Code 2 will be declined. ECC to track and notify JPA of requests that are declined.*

ACTION: Chief Cordero motioned to approve the proposed IFT Pilot Project as discussed. Chief Johnson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEMS

4.1 Medic Unit Staffing

- *Chief Cordero initiated the discussion on the staffing issues that agencies are currently facing primarily due to the nation-wide shortage of licenses paramedics.*
- *First question that needs clarification is, what is the expectation of the personnel assigned to the medic unit when they are responding to non-EMS related calls?*
- *Second questions that needs discussion is, what staffing model variations should the JPA consider for the medic units?*
- *Recruitment process is becoming an FTE position. Doesn't include attention that needs to be given to retention process.*
- *Discussion on the role of the medic unit personnel in the system overall. Discussion on single function employees as utilized in other systems. Discussion on specific staffing language in Master Contract with County.*
- *Discussion on ways to work within the community to develop potential candidates.*
- *Discussion on challenges with JPA hiring personnel vs. agencies hiring personnel. JPA would need to develop model employee pay and benefit package for reimbursement to transporting agencies to stabilize variances in each agencies pay and benefit package.*
- *Chief Brown discussed importance of GEO Fire being able to maintain the position of dual role positions for the medic unit assigned to GEO Fire. Also mentioned potential of the JPA offering Cal PERS retirement to entice potential candidates. Discussed that the candidates could be both those who are interested in a career in the fire service to develop a hiring pool for the fire agencies as well as candidate whose career focus is on the single function position.*
- *Chief Johnson recommended the BOD establish a Medic Unit Staffing AdHOC for further discussion on the issue. AdHOC membership consists of representatives from the transporting agencies.*
- *Staff requested direction from the Board to prepare for the Medic Unit Staffing AdHOC. Direction included researching other single role programs. Gather existing job descriptions and*

salary/benefit information in preparation for the AdHOC meeting. Research staffing schedules utilized in other systems.

- Staff to send out calendar invite for AdHOC meeting on March 14, 2022.

5. CLOSED SESSION-10:47 a.m.

5.1 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54956.9)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9-1 case.

5.2 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54957)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Executive Director

5.3 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54957)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Deputy Director

6. PUBLIC REPORT OF DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION-11:31 a.m.

6.1 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54956.9)

Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation-1 case

- *No reportable action taken.*

6.2 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54957)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION-Executive Director

6.3 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54957)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION-Deputy Director

- *Board of Directors directed Board Chair and Vice Chair to meet with the Executive Director and Deputy Director to review the Employee Evaluations.*

7. Board of Director Questions & Comments

7.1 CAL FIRE ECC AEU: *Absent*

7.2 CAL FIRE Cameron Park: *No Report.*

7.3 Diamond Springs / El Dorado Fire: *No Report.*

7.4 El Dorado County Fire: *Appreciates the discussion on medic unit staffing.*

7.5 El Dorado Hills Fire: *Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Training Center on March 10th at 2pm.*

7.6 Garden Valley: *No Report.*

7.7 Georgetown Fire: *No Report.*

7.8 Marshall Medical Center: *No Report.*

7.9 Mosquito Fire: *No Report.*

7.10 Pioneer Fire: *Absent*

7.11 Rescue Fire: *No Report.*

8. Adjournment-11:33 a.m.