



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 3, 2024 – 9:00a.m.

MINUTES

MEMBERS

NAME CATEGORY REPRESENTED

- VACANT, Chair –
- Ryan Creager – Air Transport Provider
- Sonam Wangyal – Ambulance Service Provider non-9-1-1
- Chad Druten – Ambulance Service Provider 9-1-1
- Chris Childress, RN – ED Nursing Leadership
- Bryan Johnson, RN – Fire Service Provider (with transport)

ORANGE COUNTY EMS STAFF

- Carl H. Schultz, MD – EMS Medical Director
- Gagandeep Grewal, MD – Associate EMS Medical Director
- Adrian Rodriguez – Ambulance Performance Chief
- Laurent Repass, NREMT-P – Information Systems Chief
- Drew Bernard, EMT – EMS Specialist
- Justin Newton – HDP Program Supervisor II
- Sarkis Sarkisian – EMS Coordinator
- Lisa Wilson – IPT

GUESTS PRESENT

NAME

REPRESENTING

- Bill Weston – Emergency Ambulance
- Daniel Song – American Professional
- James Webb – IAEP
- Danielle Boal – Brea Fire Department
- Jenael Rosenberg – Hoag
- Abigail Baur – OCGMC

NAME

REPRESENTING

- Ryan Walters – IAEP
- Erick Quintanilla – Falck
- Patrick Powers – City of Placentia
- Shane Ryan – Falck
- Vishal Raj – Falck

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Meeting called to order at 9:04 by Bryan Johnson.

II. **INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS** by *Carl Schultz* – No introductions.

Chad Druten: A new EMCC chair will be nominated. This will be communicated with the County.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- *Action Item: Approval of April 3, 2024, Minutes by Bryan Johnson* – No issues or discussion. No opposition.

IV. **OCEMS REPORT**

- Medical Director Report by *Carl Schultz* – There is nothing on the horizon that would be of immediate import to this group. The practice of sending 911 ambulance providers long distances out of the county to transfer patients remains an issue. It will be a difficult problem to resolve and probably require at least a year for multiple stakeholders to weigh in. Typical transport is aortic disaster.
- EMS Report and Training Opportunities by *Gagandeep Grewal* – On the Emergency Management side, they are starting a new five-year grant cycle. Looking into what exercises & trainings we are going to be doing.

- Bi-Directional Data Exchange *by Laurent Repass* – Laurent has been reaching out to every 911 ambulance transport provider as well as IFT-ALS transport provider to onboard them to the system if they are not already onboarded. 21 out of 24 hospitals are connected to bi-directional data exchange. All hospitals in blue in attachment #2 are actively exchanging data with EMS providers throughout the County. Those hospitals can receive a PDF copy of the PCR & that copy is embedded into the patient's chart at the receiving hospital. In return, PCRs get populated with outcome data relevant to that patient's encounter at the hospital. You'll receive relevant clinical information, times, dispositions, admitting diagnoses, patient demographic information & insurance information. Six agencies are connected – Care Ambulance, Emergency Ambulance, Anaheim Fire, Costa Mesa Fire Department, Huntington Beach Fire Department & Newport Beach Fire Department. There are plans to onboard everyone else by end of month. Patrick Powers: Does OCEMS have visibility over the outcomes that are coming back from the hospitals so we can do a comparison of the treatment provided in the field & the outcomes? Laurent answered that we do & we're just starting to understand it. There is a lot of data coming in. It's likely every agency will be on board well before the end of the year. By the end of July, we will likely have 95% of our 911 transport providers on board.
- APOT *by Laurent Repass* – Numbers are flat. Transport volume is up.
- 2024 Ambulance Inspections update *by Drew Bernard* – 20 license providers. 19 ground ambulance providers. 1 helicopter provider. 404 permitted ambulance & 4 permitted helicopters.
- Policy Update to #470.00 on 7/01/24: Fees: Certification, Licensing and Designation *by Drew Bernard* – Increase in fees in several areas for certification & licensing.
- 2024 Ambulance License Approval to First Rescue Ambulance & AMR *by Drew Bernard* – 2 more companies approved since last TAC meeting. First Rescue Ambulance was approved in May & AMR was approved late last month.
- 2025 Ambulance License Applications *by Drew Bernard* – Early next week, renewal applications will be sent out for the 20 license providers for 2025 renewals.
- New Chair (*TBD*) – Dr. Schultz: There is currently no chair for this committee. Historically, the ambulance industry representative that is selected by the ambulance association as a representative to the EMCC sits as chair of Transportation. It must be someone who lives & works in the County & preferably has a clinical background.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Ryan Walters: Falck is reducing their working hours from 11 to 10. They are taking a \$5,000 reduction in pay. There is a great concern amongst themselves that they should be quitting or looking for other jobs. They are shutting down shifts. There was a rate increase in Orange County but none of their members have gotten anything from that rate increase.
- Vishal Raj: Just to clarify what was said, Falck is taking a different approach to deployment. Changes to shifts were made during Covid. Shifts were extended to 11 hours. Shifts were not shut down. There have been no shifts shut down, just reduced to 10 hours.

VII. NEXT MEETING

- October 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Bryan Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:19am.