

**Mountain-Valley  
Emergency Medical Services Agency  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
June 13, 2007**

Location: Amador County Board of Supervisors Chambers  
Jackson, California

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Terry Woodrow - Alpine County; Louis Boitano – Amador  
County; Bill Claudino – Calaveras County

Board Members Absent: Jim DeMartini - Stanislaus County; Brad Aborn – Mariposa  
County

Guests: Al Lennox, Don Campbell, George Friss

Staff: Steve Andriese – Executive Director; Douglass Sisk – Deputy  
Director; Tina Casias - Executive Secretary; Marilyn Smith –  
Response & Transport Coordinator

**A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Vice Chairman Bill Claudino

**B. Welcome and Introductions**

Everyone present at the meeting introduced themselves.

**C. Correspondence**

Steve Andriese reported on one piece of correspondence received from the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors appointing Supervisor Bill Claudino as the Board's liaison to the Mountain Valley EMS Agency, and Supervisor Russ Thomas as the alternate.

**D. Additions/Deletions, Corrections to Agenda**

M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To accept agenda as submitted

**Vote** – Unanimous

**E. Public Forum**

There were no comments from the public.

**F. Approval of Consent Calendar**

Steve Andriese requested that 'Item # 10-Renewal of Air Ambulance Agreements for Air-Med and Medi-Flight' be pulled off the Consent Calendar, and placed on the regular agenda.

M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To approve consent calendar after pulling Item # 10 and placing on the regular agenda

**Vote** – Unanimous

Marilyn Smith explained to the Board Members the reason they requested Item # 10 be pulled from the Consent Calendar. She explained that after the agenda was sent out, she met with the providers to discuss the agreement, and from this meeting, the Agency is proposing a change to Page 4, Section 3.12 of the Air Ambulance Agreement. She requested the Board approve changing this section of the agreement to read, "The provider shall submit to the Agency an Unusual Occurrence Report each time an aircraft aborts a mission due to mechanical failure."

**M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To approve change as requested**

**Vote – Unanimous**

**G. State General Fund Augmentation**

Steve Andriese reminded the Board how State General Fund Augmentation has been a standing agenda item. The problem for Mountain Valley EMS Agency, and other EMS Agencies statewide, is the lack of funding increases since 1998. However, the workload for the staff has continued to grow, especially with regard to disaster related requirements.

The Mountain Valley EMS Agency, and other EMSAAC member agencies, have attempted to get additional State funding over the past year and a half. Several attempts have been made by submitting reports to the State which justify these requests. Attempts were made to get support from legislative members to carry this request forward, but to no avail. With the State Budget in a deficit, he believes there is no chance for funding in FY2007.

Mr. Andriese went on to say how the Agency budget will be in a deficit, as he will explain to the Board when he asks for approval of the preliminary budget under agenda item L. For this and other reasons, he explained, his concerns are growing that the budget deficit will continue to grow unless additional funding is found.

**H. Stanislaus County Report**

Steve Andriese reported to the Board Members that the new contract has been signed with Stanislaus County. Attached to the new contract is a new requirement for performance standards agreed to by Mountain Valley EMS Agency and Stanislaus County Public Health.

Another part of the new agreement requires the Medical/Health Operational Area Coordinator (MOHOAC) function will now be at the Stanislaus County Public Health Department. Mountain Valley EMS Agency is continuing to work closely with Dr. Walker, the Stanislaus County Public Health Officer, and the new MOHOAC, to provide a list of duties for this function.

**I. Approval of Changes To Regional Advisory Committee Bylaws**

Douglass Sisk explained that there were two changes being brought before Board Members for their approval. The first, he explained, is requesting a change to RAC bylaws concerning membership terms of appointment.

Douglass Sisk explained to the Board Members that the current bylaws of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) allows for members to be appointed by their counties' Board of Supervisors for three year terms. He stated how RAC members appointments actually lapsed before their counties' were able to renew their appointments.

Therefore, the Agency and the Regional Advisory Committee is requesting a change under Article 3, Membership, Section 2 – 'The member's appointment shall be continuous unless the member resigns; the BOS rescinds an appointment or appoints a replacement; or, the member fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings.

The second requested change is a revision to the RAC required meeting schedule to mirror the current language in the JPA regarding the frequency of the Board of Directors' meetings. Article 3 B.5 provides for the Agency Board of Directors to hold regular meetings in each calendar quarter of the year.

Currently there is no intent to change the meeting frequency for the Regional Advisory Committee meetings. However, the RAC membership felt that meeting quarterly, rather than bi-monthly would create more productive meetings.

**M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To Approve Bylaw Changes as Requested**

**Vote - Unanimous**

**J. Approval of Medi-Flight Air Ambulance Rate Increase**

Marilyn Smith informed the Board members that the current air ambulance provider Agreements allow the air ambulance providers to request a rate increase. She explained that a formula was established contractually in 2004, requiring air ambulance providers to apply for rate increases based upon the Medicare allowable rate, and up to 200% above that rate.

Ms. Smith then referred to documentation in the packet showing the maximum allowable rate compared to the Medi-Flight requested increase.

Ms. Smith also informed the Board that current legislation being appealed will no longer allow for ambulance fee regulation. So, this will be the final rate increase request brought before this Board. The new ambulance contracts will be effective November 1, 2007, and will not contain this rate increase clause.

**M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To Approve Air Ambulance Rate Increase**

**Vote - Unanimous**

**K. Approval of Contracts for Special Projects in FY2007/08**

1) Approval of State Disaster Plan

This document has been worked on through the State EMS Administrator's Association (EMSAAC). When completed, this document will provide a standard for which local EMS agencies can develop local medical disaster plans.

This is a subcontract with Global Vision Consortium, who was awarded a contract with the State EMS authority. The Global Vision Consortium has requested Mountain Valley EMS Agency staff assist in the development of this document. The proposed contract is \$20K.

2) Approval of State Trauma Cache Special Project Contract

This special project grant is funded through HRSA in the amount of \$230,389. The administration of the contract is through the State EMS Authority. This contract allows for the purchase of bulk trauma supplies for our two designated trauma centers, to be dispersed in the event of a mass casualty incident.

Of the \$230,389, a total of \$219,418 will be allocated for the purchase of supplies, and \$10,971 to Mountain Valley EMS for administration of the grant.

**L. Approval of Preliminary Budget for FY2007/08**

Steve Andriese referred Board members to the reports provided in their agenda packet. He explained that the Agency is required to submit a preliminary budget in order to be able to legally expend funds as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Andriese reviewed the significant changes to the budget for FY2007/08:

- Two special projects approved by the Board in Agenda Item # L.
- Adjustments to the revenue and expense line items based upon preliminary analysis of historical expenditures, contract changes, and estimated project needs.
- New staff position budgeted amounts have been reduced based upon a starting Salary at the time of recruitment.
- Staff pay adjustments have been made based upon the five year salary contract established last fiscal year.

**M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To Approve Agency Preliminary Budget for FY2007/08**

**Vote – Unanimous**

**M. Nomination and Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for FY2007/08**

M/S/C (Boitano, Woodrow) To nominate and elect Bill Claudino as chairman

**Vote** – Unanimous

M/S/C (Woodrow, Claudino) To nominate and elect Louis Boitano as vice-chairman

**Vote** - Unanimous

**N. Executive Session (Government Code 54957, 54957.6)**

**O. Results of Executive Session**

The Board decided to maintain package as originally determined when first presented in October 2006.

**P. Agency and County Reports**

Mariposa County – No report

Alpine County – Supervisor Woodrow reported on the starting of new construction in Bear Valley.

Amador County - Supervisor Boitano reported that a lost hiker was found alive and well. A helicopter spotted smoke from the hiker's signal fire.

Calaveras County – Al Lennox reported from American Legion Ambulance perspective on issues for both Amador and Calaveras County:

- 1) The summer posting plan is working well, and they are meeting their response time requirements.
- 2) Communications is much better due to new repeater.
- 3) Completed ambulance inspections, and passed with flying colors.
- 4) Beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> EMT training class due to great demand.
- 5) Looking at satellite automatic vehicle locators for possible purchase
- 6) Labor contract has expired, and currently in negotiations
- 7) Providing ambulance service at both county fairs
- 8) Call volume for both counties has increased by 7.5%.

Stanislaus County –No report.

MVEMS Agency – Steve Andriese reported that he will be unable to attend the next Board meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>. He will be attending the ICS300/400 disaster training given by Stanislaus County. The Deputy Director, Douglass Sisk, will attend in his place.

**Q. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is August 8, 2007 in Bear Valley.

**R. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.