



El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority

JPA Special Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 26, 2022 – 1:00 p.m.
El Dorado Hills Fire Department Command Training Center
4640 Golden Foothill Parkway, Suite 10, El Dorado Hills, CA

CALL TO ORDER: 1:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Board Attendees:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAL FIRE - Cameron Park Fire, Assistant Chief Sherry Moranz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAL FIRE Cameron Park, Battalion Chief Josh Agustin @ 1:09 pm |
| <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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Springs Fire, Battalion Chief Leah Yaws |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> El Dorado County Fire, Chief Tim Cordero, Vice Chair | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Georgetown Fire, Chief Glenn Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Georgetown Fire, Assistant Chief Bob Bement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marshall Medical Center, Nicole Lamm @ 1:09 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> Marshall Medical Center, EMS Coordinator Michele Williams |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mosquito Fire, Chief Jack Rosevear @ 1:07 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> Mosquito Fire, Vacant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pioneer Fire, Chief David Whitt | <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 |

Guests: None

Other Attendees:

Doug Alliston, Murphy Campbell Alliston & Quinn
Battalion Chief Mike Batham, Cal Fire ECC
Director John Girauda, El Dorado Hills Fire Department
Battalion Chief Dusty Martin, Cal Fire AEU/Cameron Park Fire
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 Gallagher seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- *Chief Johnson expressed congratulations to Chief Moranz on her retirement and thanked her for her many years of dedicated service to El Dorado County and the JPA.*
- *Chief Johnson introduced and welcomed Battalion Chief Dusty Martin who will be assuming the position Chief Moranz previously held with Cal Fire AEU/Cameron Park.*

3. CLOSED SESSION

3.1 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.

- *The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 1:08 p.m.*

4. PUBLIC REPORT OF DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION

4.1 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION (§54956.9)

Conference with Legal Counsel-Anticipated Litigation-1 case.

- *The Board returned from Closed Session at 1:18 p.m. No reportable action was taken.*

5. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEMS

5.1 Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire Protection District Force Majeure Notice

- *Executive Director Veerkamp briefed the Board on the Notice of Force Majeure received from Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire Protection District. DS Fire anticipates invoking Force Majeure effective July 1, 2022.*
- *Chief Gallagher provided an update on the current recruitment process for the department. Candidate testing is scheduled for June 3, 2022 and should have additional information on the potential hiring status after that date. The department anticipates the need to hire for 5 Firefighter/Paramedic positions.*
- *Chief Johnson discussed two distinct challenges the JPA Board will need to discuss. The first challenge is how to cover the impact of Medic 49, the second busiest medic unit in the system potentially not being fully staffed. The second challenge is evaluating if the JPA should direct hire EMTs and Paramedics.*
- *Deputy Director Jorgensen agreed that both topics be covered, but that the discussion focus on each individually. Focus on the immediate impact of how to manage the system as of July 1st if DS Fire can not fully staff the unit. Then have the conversation on evaluating if the JPA should direct hire EMTs and Paramedics.*
- *Executive Director Veerkamp polled the transport agency Fire Chiefs on availability of existing staff to cover overtime shifts to continue to staff Medic 49. Consensus from the transport agency Fire Chiefs was that their personnel are currently working overtime shifts, either voluntarily or via mandatory staffing and that they did not think there would be enough personnel willing to work the ambulance overtime shift to staff the unit at this time in lieu of DS Fire personnel. Staffing would be inconsistent from day to day.*
- *Chief Cordero talked about the impact that Medic 49 has on the system overall. It is the second busiest unit in the system and a Core coverage unit. The lack of that resource is going to create an impact on the entire system. Chief Cordero recommended that the Board look at temporarily move units around to cover the response area. Discussion on temporary movement of Medic 28 to Station 48 which would provide two units to cover responses in the Core. The temporary movement of Medic 61 to Station 74 provides the coverage to Cameron Park, Rescue and Shingle Springs areas that were being primarily covered by Medic 28. Consider moving Medic 17 to Station 21 and Medic 19 to Station 23 to also bolster coverage in the Core. The only other unit in the Core is Medic 25 and they are currently the busiest unit in the system. They cannot take all the additional call load from Medic 49 responses.*
- *Chief Moranz brought up the idea of the JPA looking at alternative staffing models for Medic 49. Discussion on whether the JPA could subcontract labor costs or direct hire personnel to staff the unit as part-time employees.*
- *Discussion on Utilization of the current medic units. There is capacity with some of the units based on current response volume and Unit Hour Utilization. Discussion on if units were moved to new locations during this time, would it be less of an impact on the crew members to have them stationed full time out of the new location rather than driving back and forth between their home station and the coverage station. This may lessen the impact of increased driving time covering move-up assignments in addition to the increase in call volume.*
- *Discussion on modifying mutual aid to Folsom during this timeframe. This would include notifying Folsom Fire of the issue with Medic 49 and working with ECC to decline mutual aid requests, specific to 911 response should the system reach a Level 4 status (4 available medic units in the system) or lower. Begin with 30-day notice to Folsom and as staff monitors call volume and the impact, may need to extend longer.*

- All acknowledge the impact this will have on the crews and are vested in exploring options to lessen the impact on the crews.
- Director Bement brought up the historical increase in call volume into the Crystal Basin area over the next 90-days with increased response time to that area. Chief Cordero mentioned that Medic 17 also sees an increase in call volume to that area during the same time period. Discussion on the use of flight medics for these calls. Staff displayed map showcasing medical call volume during 2021 for each individual medic unit. Compared overall 2021 call location information from Medic 61 and Medic 17 for the Crystal Basin area against the overall 2021 call location information for Medic 49 for the Core area.
- Chief Szczepanik mentioned that US Forestry also staffs the Crystal Basin area over the summer months and the use of flight medics may help to decrease the impact that the movement of Medic 61 and Medic 17 may have to that response area.
- Director Bement expressed concern on temporarily moving Medic 61 to station 74 but acknowledged that a plan needs to be developed. Does not support the crew being stationed at 74 all shift during this temporary assignment. Shared the staffing difficulties that Georgetown Fire is currently facing which is consistent with what the other fire departments have reported as well.
- Chief Johnson brought up the possibility of Medic 61 crew moving to station 74 during the day-time peak hours to assist with coverage of the Core and then head back to station 61 for the overnight hours. Discussed the potential impact that travel could have on the crew, having to drive back and forth between the two stations.
- Chief Szczepanik asked if Medic 61 could be moved to Station 51 instead of 74. ECC provided input on the response times from the two different locations and the coverage area that would need support with the movement of Medic 28.
- Staff displayed map showcasing medical call volume during 2021 for Medic 28 and Medic 89 to see where the majority of their calls were dispatched to.
- Chief Johnson recommends that whatever decisions are made are continuously monitored during this time and regularly reported back to the Board to discuss the impact that these movements will have on the system overall. Chief Cordero agreed, that the system will need to be closely monitored during this time.
- Deputy Director Jorgensen stressed that this is going to be challenging for all involved and that staff and the Board need to remain diligent in moving forward with a formal plan to address the Medic 49 issue, with clear tasks that can be reported back to the crews to show that the JPA is moving forward in putting a solution in place.
- Chief Johnson brought up the idea of still offering overtime shifts to attempt to staff Medic 49, and if no one signs up for the shift that day, then the movement plan goes into effect.
- Concern was expressed that the issues facing DS Fire are also being faced by several other agencies which could potentially put the JPA in the same situation with other medic units in the system.
- Discussion on the JPA needing to move forward with exploring the concept of direct hire of EMTs and Paramedics.
- Staff will draft a coverage plan with coordination from ECC considering the temporary movement of units as discussed. Will schedule Special JPA Board Meeting in early June. Will need to include the County in the decision making process.
- Director Lamm recommended an evaluation process with trigger points of any plan that the Board will enact to ensure that potential provider safety and patient safety issues are identified early for remediation of the plan. Chief Johnson agreed that this is a critical component of the plan. Recommended constant monitoring of UHU levels.
- Director Lamm encouraged communication with the community on any significant changes that may occur to the response system, even if those changes are on a temporary level. Will develop messaging associated with whatever decision the Board takes action on.
- Per the terms of the Master Contract, the JPA may need written approval to enact temporary changes to system coverage. JPA Executive Staff will coordinate information sharing with the County Contract Administrator.

- Discussion on the JPA hiring part-time EMTs and Paramedics to start staffing medic units. Explore what that process would entail and how quickly could the JPA begin doing that.
- Director Lamm offered the suggestion of looking at alternative staffing options for EMTs and Paramedics on the medic units similar to traveling nurses used in the hospitals.
- Chief Cordero mentioned that under normal circumstances operational changes would go through EMSOC for review and consideration but due to the time sensitive nature of the discussion it was brought directly to the Board for discussion.

5.2 IFT Pilot Project-April Statistics

- Staff presented the first month of data on the IFT Pilot Project. Briefly reviewed the overall Pilot program language. Compared data from first month of the Pilot-April 2022 with April of 2021. Report included information on response times, number of Code 2 IFTs, number of Code 3 IFTs, number of Medical Transports and number of Behavioral Health Transfers. Report also included data on Total Incident by medic unit, total move ups by medic unit and UHUR by medic units. Also compared data on mutual aid requests between the JPA and Folsom. Reported on comparison of APOT.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1 IFT Pilot Project Timeframe

- After initial evaluation of the IFT Pilot Project staff is recommending that the project timeframe be extended to one year rather than the 3-month timeframe initially agreed upon. This would provide for a more comprehensive evaluation of the project covering both Summer and Winter months, and allow for unknown potentials such as wildfires, pandemics and other such anomalies that likely would not be captured in a 3-month trial.

ACTION: Chief Cordero motioned to approve the extension of the IFT Pilot timeframe to one year. Chief Gallagher seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

6.2 Policy 2.1.10 JPA Vehicle Use

- Staff briefed the Board that the JPA did have a Use of Private Vehicle Policy but did not have a policy specific to JPA vehicles that staff may drive. The proposed draft policy combines language that would cover both private and JPA owned vehicles for staff use. Legal has reviewed the policy draft.
- Staff pointed out a typo error under Article IV Section A that currently reads, "Drivers need to be aware when use of the cell phone is creating a distraction from 'sage' driving that should read 'safe' driving instead. Staff will make that correction to the policy language.

ACTION: Chief Hall motioned to approve and adopt Policy 2.1.10 JPA Vehicle Use Policy with the minor edit correction mentioned by staff. Chief Moran seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

6.3 Amendment I to Contract #2298 for Prehospital Advanced Life Support, Ambulance and Dispatch Services Between County of El Dorado and El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority.

- Staff presented the proposed Draft Amendment to the Master Contract received from the County. Chief Brown brought to staff attention that the language in the Semi-Annual Cost Report section requires the JPA to submit the first cost report on June 30, 2022 however the contract amendment goes into effect on July 1, 2022. Requested to make the recommendation that the first cost report be due on December 31, 2022 instead.
- Reviewed the specific terms of the contract with the Board.
- Staff will work with the Contract AdHOC on drafting a new agreement for the transport agencies. That draft will come to the Board for approval before being sent to the transport agencies.
- Director White encouraged the Board to provide authority to the Executive Director to request the cost report change and to execute the agreement with the County rather than bringing it back to another meeting of the Board.

ACTION: Chief Hall motioned to approve and authorize Executive Director or EDC ESA Board Chairperson to execute Amendment I to Contract #2298 for Prehospital Advanced Life Support, Ambulance and Dispatch Services Between County of El Dorado and El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority with direction for staff to request modification to Article VI-Data Collection and Reporting Requirements to move the first Semi-Annual Cost Report from June 30, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Chief Szczenpanik seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

7. Board of Director Questions & Comments

- Director Veerkamp recommended the Board consider replacing several of the medic units during the

upcoming fiscal year due to the supply delays for new chassis from the manufacturers.

7.1 CAL FIRE ECC AEU: *Absent*

7.2 CAL FIRE Cameron Park: *Chief Moranz thanked the Board for being such great partners. CP Fire is fully staffed right now.*

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

7.4 El Dorado County Fire: *No Report.*

7.5 El Dorado Hills Fire: *No Report.*

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: *No Report*

7.11 Rescue Fire: *No Report.*

8. Adjournment-2:33 p.m.