

# Sierra – Sacramento Valley EMS Agency Joint Powers Agency (JPA) Governing Board Meeting



# **MEETING MINUTES**

# **Meeting Date**

• Friday, April 11, 2025

# **MEETING ATTENDANCE**

	BOARD MEMBERS		
MEMBER	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
Bill Connelly	Butte County	х	
Merced Corona	Colusa County	х	
Grant Carmon	Glenn County	х	
Susan Hoek (Chairperson)	Nevada County		Х
Cindy Gustafson	Placer County	Х	
Matt Plummer	Shasta County	Х	
Jess Harris	Siskiyou County		Х
Jeff Boone	Sutter County	х	
Pati Nolen	Tehama County	Х	
Seth Fuhrer	Yuba County		Х
	EX-OFFICIO MEMBER		
MEMBER	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
John Poland	S-SV EMS Agency	Х	
	LEGAL COUNSEL		
ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
Clayton Cook	S-SV EMS Agency/Placer County	Х	
	CLERK OF THE BOARD		
ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
Amy Boryczko	S-SV EMS Agency		Х
Whitney Sullivan S-SV EMS Agency		х	

# Sierra – Sacramento EMS Agency – JPA Governing Board Meeting Minutes

# **MEETING ATTENDANCE (CONTINUED)**

OTHER ATTENDEES					
ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING				
Troy Falck, MD	S-SV EMS Agency				
Michelle Moss	S-SV EMS Agency				
Patrick Comstock	S-SV EMS Agency				
Gabe Cruz	AMR				
Jennifer James	S-SV EMS Agency				
Tim Reeser	AMR				
Alex Bumpus	Bi-County Ambulance				
Rob Oldham, MD	Placer County Public Health				
Mike Romero	Placer County Public Health				
Bill Bullard	Healthcare Strategists				
Lou Meyer	Healthcare Strategists				

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

# A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Corona (Vice-Chair) called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. and led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **B. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

All in-person and remote attendees introduced themselves.

#### C. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Board member announcements.

#### D. ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

Supervisor Gustafson motioned to approve the consent calendar. Supervisor Boone seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=6 (Placer, Colusa, Sutter, Tehama, Glenn and Butte Counties). Noes=0. Absent=4 (Nevada, Siskiyou, Yuba and Shasta Counties). Motion approved.

## **E. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None was forthcoming.

## F. INFORMATION UPDATE – Oral Update by John Poland, Regional Executive Director:

# 1. 911 Ground Ambulance Response Times – attachment and verbal report

- Response times data reports were included in the meeting packet and will be posted on the S-SV EMS Agency website.
- Mr. Poland provided the following additional comments:
  - o There are continued excellent response times in Colusa County. The addition of the 24-hr unit has worked out as expected.
  - This is the first time since 2018 that Glenn County has been compliant with all response times. This is directly related to the 12-hr ambulance that was recently added there.
  - There have been some difficulties in Shasta County with the accuracy of data from SHASCOM. S-SV EMS staff have worked with them and believe the issues have been resolved at this point and will start publishing the data again.
- Any questions or concerns regarding ambulance response times should be directed to Mr. Poland or Ms. Harlan, S-SV EMS Agency Contracts Compliance Manager.

#### 2. Member County Updates – attachment and verbal report

- Mr. Poland presented the information contained in the Member County Updates written report included in the meeting packet.
- No additional updates were presented, and no additional questions were asked.

#### 3. S-SV EMS Agency Updates – attachment and verbal report

- Mr. Poland presented the information contained in the S-SV EMS Agency Updates written report included in the meeting packet, and provided the following additional comments:
  - As a result of previous Board action, S-SV EMS is in the process of paying (from a combination of the CEPPT fund as well as money from extra money in the budget this year) a \$245K payment towards the agency's unfunded liability which will result in a 14.5% decrease in the unfunded liability.
- No additional updates were presented, and no additional questions were asked.

#### 4. Performance Measures & Quality Indicators – verbal report

- This item was presented by Michelle Moss, S-SV EMS Deputy Director of Specialty Programs and Quality Management.
- The newest S-SV EMS employee, Jared Gunter, has allowed the agency to complete more work and initiate additional projects. Historically, there have been 26 specialty patient quality measures that are reviewed on an ongoing basis. With the addition staff and some new software tools, the agency was able to expand to 46 quality measures. This assists the agency and EMS providers with their quality improvements processes. Additional information/data related to this matter will be presented at future board meetings.

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- Annual Meeting, pursuant to Article IV, Section A, Paragraph 5 of the S-SV EMS JPA
   Agreement, "at which time a review of the Joint Powers Agreement may take place" –
   for discussion
  - According to the current JPA agreement, this is the 'annual meeting' at which a review on the JPA agreement may take place, so it has been included.
  - There were no questions or further discussion/action related to this agenda item.

## **G. NEW BUSINESS**

Note: Supervisor Plummer arrived at 1:28 pm

- 1. FY 2025/2026 Draft S-SV EMS Agency Budget for discussion.
  - Revenues: There is a change from \$380K to \$450K under 'Franchises'. The agency is spending about \$50-60K to help negotiate the AMR contract which will be regained once the contract is signed with AMR during FY 24/25.
  - Expenditures: 'State Aid/Other Programs' has a decrease due to changes in the Sutter & Yuba HPP grants. 'Other Fees/Charges' will decrease by about \$100K as well due to more specific numbers related to the Glenn County Westside Ambulance subsidy. These revenues/expenditures are pass-through funds. There is an increase from last year due to the hiring of the new staff member this FY.
  - There continues to be a balanced budget without changes to fees.
  - The final budget will be brought to the June meeting for approval.
- 2. Resolution allowing the S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director to sign the FY 2025/2026 Regional Disaster Medical Health Specialist (RDMHS) contract with the California EMS Authority (EMSA) for approval
  - This is the annual approval for the Board to allow Mr. Poland to sign this contract. This grant contract will come in and need to be signed prior to the next Board meeting.
  - The grant amounts for FY 25/26 are the same as the FY 24/25 grant amounts. Supervisor Nolen motioned to approve. Supervisor Plummer seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties). Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved.
- 3. Resolution allowing the S-SV EMS Regional Executive Director to sign the FY 2025/2026 State General Fund Multi-County LEMSA contract with the California EMS Authority (EMSA) for approval
  - This is the annual approval for the Board to allow Mr. Poland to sign this contract. This grant contract will come in and need to be signed prior to the next Board meeting.
  - The grant amounts for FY 25/26 are the same as the FY 24/25 grant amounts.
  - The application was due on April 1<sup>st</sup> this year and has been submitted to the State. Supervisor Nolen motioned to approve. Supervisor Gustafson seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties). Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved.

- 4. Resolution approving adoption of the CalPERS 457 Plan option for Agency employees *for approval* 
  - This is an optional plan that allows employees to set aside pre-taxed money from their paycheck at no cost to the agency.
  - The agency had previously set up a 457 plan through an outside vendor but none of the current employees have contributed to that plan for the last 8 - 10 years. A few employees have recently inquired to Mr. Poland about this type of plan. After researching, Mr. Poland discovered that CalPERS has a 457 plan but requires a board resolution to set-up.
  - The motion included an amendment to change the name/signatory on the resolution from Sue Hoek to Merced Corona since Supervisor Hoek is not present.
     Supervisor Nolen motioned to approve. Supervisor Boone seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties).
     Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved
- 5. Conduct a public hearing to consider adjustments to the S-SV EMS Agency Fee Schedule new 'Trauma Center Data System Utilization Fee', not to exceed \$8.00 per trauma patient record, for trauma centers utilizing the S-SV EMS trauma data registry system for approval.
  - S-SV EMS maintains a trauma data registry system, as required by statutes, regulations, policies, and contracts. The previous trauma data registry vendor (ESO) notified the agency last year that they would no longer support our data registry. The agency chose a different vendor and has committed a significant amount of staff time and effort on this new data registry. It has subsequently been determined that this new data registry will not meet the long-term needs of the agency or the trauma centers. An alternative vendor has been identified that appears to be a better option, based on feedback from current trauma center representatives, but their product is more expensive. All trauma centers were notified that due to the increased expenses the agency has already committed to the trauma data registry, any further additional costs would need to be funded by trauma data registry fee adjustments. All trauma centers currently utilizing the agency managed trauma data registry agreed to pay these proposed additional fees.
  - Based on the costs for this new trauma data registry, agency staff requested the board conduct a public hearing to consider adjustments to the S-SV EMS Agency Fee Schedule, specifically creating a new 'Trauma Center Data System Utilization Fee', not to exceed \$8.00 per trauma patient record, for trauma centers utilizing the S-SV EMS trauma data registry system.
  - Mr. Poland confirmed that this additional fee was solely to cover the increased costs of
    utilizing this new trauma data registry system. The agency will assess this additional fee
    on applicable trauma centers annually, based on their per patient utilization. The agency
    will not collect any additional administrative or other fees and will ensure that the fees
    assessed completely cover the agency's additional costs for these services.
  - Vice-Chair Corona opened the public hearing at 2:07 pm and invited public comment, of which none was forthcoming. Vice-Chair Corona subsequently closed the public hearing at 2:08 pm and deferred to the board members present.

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Supervisor Nolen motioned to approve the adjustment to the S-SV EMS Agency Fee Schedule, effective July 1, 2025, specifically creating a new 'Trauma Center Data System Utilization Fee', not to exceed \$8.00 per trauma patient record, for trauma centers utilizing the S-SV EMS trauma data registry system. Supervisor Gustafson seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties). Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved

# 6. Contract with National Quality Systems (NQS) for trauma data registry services – for approval

• This is the contract for the alternative trauma data registry system, as referenced in the previous public hearing agenda item. The vendor gave the agency a discount for contract year 1, which will increase in contract year 2 and stabilize for subsequent contract years. The previously approved S-SV EMS fee schedule adjustment is intended to cover these additional fees for the foreseeable future.

Supervisor Boone motioned to approve. Supervisor Connelly seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties). Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved

#### H. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Western Placer County EMS System Review Consultant RFP approval of consultant, authorization to negotiate/execute an agreement for consultant services not to exceed \$80,000.
  - Mr. Poland was given approval at the last board meeting to release an RFP to select a consultant to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Western Placer County EMS system.
  - This RFP process was conducted since the previous board meeting and 6 total proposals were received.
  - A review panel of 5 individuals, including S-SV EMS staff and representatives from Placer County, The Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association and Placer County acute care hospitals evaluated all proposals and unanimously selected Healthcare Strategists based on assigned scores. There were no issues related to the evaluation process and no protests were received from any consultant who submitted a proposal.
  - Mr. Poland initially thought he would need to request the utilization of agency reserve funds to pay for this project, but because the cost will be split between this fiscal year and next fiscal year, he believes that the agency's regular operating budget will be able to cover it. Mr. Poland advised the board that consistent with industry standard related to these matters, these expenses are expected to be reimbursed upon implementation of plans/agreements resulting from the final adopted recommendations of this EMS system assessment.

Supervisor Gustafson motioned to approve. Supervisor Nolan seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties). Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved

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# I. **LEGISLATION**

## 1. Legislative/regulation updates

 Mr. Poland presented the information contained in the legislation/regulation written update report included in the meeting packet. No additional questions were asked.

## 2. S-SV EMS Legislative Platform Annual Review – for approval

- The S-SV EMS Legislative Platform was initially approved by the Board last year.
- Mr. Poland reminded the board that he is also the current legislative-chair for the Emergency Medical Services Administrators Association of California (EMSAAC) and as such attends a lot of meetings with state legislative members and staff. Mr. Poland wants to make sure he appropriately represents the Board on legislative matters, consistent with the agency's approved legislative platform.

Supervisor Nolen motioned to approve the current S-SV EMS Agency Legislative Platform as written, without any modifications. Supervisor Boone seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=8 (Placer, Colusa, Butte, Sutter, Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties). Noes=0. Absent= (Nevada, Siskiyou and Yuba Counties). Motion approved

#### J. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Dr. Falck advised the Board that the flu season appears to be ending, which should decrease some of the burden on acute care hospitals.
- Ambulance Patient Offload Times (APOT) have improved over time across the region. Improvements continue to be made.

#### K. <u>NEXT JPA GOVERNOING BOARD MEETING</u>

- The next JPA Board meeting will be for Friday, June 13, 2025, 1:00 p.m., 535 Menlo Drive, Suite A, Rocklin, CA or via videoconference at 1255 East St., Suite 201, Redding, CA.
- The meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Boryczko, Clerk to the Board

Sue Hoek, Chairperson

Date

6-13-2025

Date

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