



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



MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE

- Friday, October 10, 2025

MEETING ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS

MEMBER	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
Bill Connelly	Butte County	X	
Merced Corona	Colusa County	X	
Grant Carmon	Glenn County	X - Zoom	
Susan Hoek (Chairperson)	Nevada County	X	
Anthony DeMattei	Placer County	X	
Matt Plummer	Shasta County	X	
Jess Harris	Siskiyou County		X
Jeff Boone	Sutter County		X
Pati Nolen	Tehama County	X	
Jon Messick	Yuba County		X

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

MEMBER	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
John Poland	S-SV EMS Agency	X	

LEGAL COUNSEL

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
Anastasia Sullivan	S-SV EMS Agency/Placer County	X	

CLERK OF THE BOARD

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING	PRESENT	ABSENT
Amy Boryczko	S-SV EMS Agency	X	

MEETING ATTENDANCE (CONTINUED)

OTHER ATTENDEES	
ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING
Troy Falck, MD	S-SV EMS Agency
Patrick Comstock	S-SV EMS Agency
Gabe Cruz	AMR
Jennifer Johnson	S-SV EMS Agency
Timothy Reeser	AMR
James Magnuson	South Placer FD
Matthew Smith	Bi-County Ambulance
Cristina Rivera	Placer County
Michelle Moss	S-SV EMS Agency
Reggie Williams	Rocklin FD

MEETING MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Hoek (Chairperson) 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

Supervisor Carmon announced the closing of the Glenn Medical Center.

D. ACTION TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

E. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None was forthcoming.

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

Note: Supervisor Plummer joined the meeting at 1:10 pm.

1. Glenn Medical Center Emergency Services Closure Impact –

- At a previous meeting, the Board approved a letter of support to be sent by Mr. Poland, to Congressman LaMalfa as well as CMS.
- There were multiple meetings with CMS.
- Unfortunately, CMS did not change their decision on the Glenn Medical Center critical access hospital designation.
- Initially, S-SV EMS was advised that the Glenn Medical Center would close on October 30th. This eventually was moved up. They closed to EMS traffic on September 29th and closed all emergency services on September 30th.
- Included in the Board packet was a lengthy report on the impact of the closure.
- In 2024, they had 6000 emergency room patients – about 17/day.
- The next closest hospitals are Colusa medical center (about 32 miles), Enloe Medical Center (36 miles), and St. Elizabeth Hospital (45 miles).
- S-SV EMS is monitoring/producing data on a weekly basis to keep an eye on how the EMS system is functioning after the hospital closure. In the first 11 days since the closure, comparing 2024 same days of the week to 2025, the ambulance responses to 911 calls have decreased. Last year they had 85 responses, this year they had 61. Ground transports went from 65 last year to 48 this year. Of the 48 patients that have been transported, 45 went to Enloe Medical Center, one went to Saint Elizabeth, and two of those patients were transported by air ambulance. Helicopter transports was 3 for the 11-day period last year, 2 for this year. Mutual aid from outside providers stayed the same, two last year and two this year. The average ground ambulance response time for the county was 9.7 minutes last year and 9.9 minutes this year. The average transport time last year was 18 minutes, and this year is 34 minutes.
- There are two ambulance providers in Glenn County that respond to calls and transport patients, Westside Ambulance and Enloe Medical Center in Glen Enloe Ambulance in Glenn The County of Glenn and the City of Orland are jointly subsidizing an additional 12-hour ambulance which started in December.
- Supervisor Carmon commented that there will probably be a ripple effect with the EMS providers and law enforcement agencies and wanted to make the surrounding counties are aware that there may be times when Glenn County might need some help in the short term as far as law enforcement or ambulances go because of the long turnaround times they'll be experiencing. Glenn County and the cities of Orland and Willows are in the process of identifying a consultant to do an evaluation of the Glenn County EMS system and S-SV EMS is assisting with this project.

2. 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:
 - For AMR Placer County, 'Auburn City' should read 'Auburn and North Auburn'.
 - Glenn County response time compliance has increased with the addition of the extra 12-hour ambulance. This will be monitored closely given the recent hospital closure.
 - S-SV EMS is continuing to work on response times with Shasta County providers.
 - The City of Corning (Tehama County) response time compliance has increased.
 - All other areas are compliant, with no significant issues/concerns.

3. County & S-SV EMS Updates – attachment and verbal report

- Mr. Poland presented the information contained in the written report included in the meeting packet for this agenda item.
- Gabe Cruz (AMR/GMR) reported on the recent REACH helicopter accident in Sacramento.

G. NEW BUSINESS

Note: Supervisor Corona left at 2:15 pm

1. Letter of Support for the “True North” Behavioral Health Campus proposal submitted by Signature Healthcare, in partnership with Arch Collaborative and the Shasta Health Assessment and Redesign Collaborative — for approval.

- The California Department of Healthcare Services recently released the Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure program round two request for applications.
- Signature Healthcare in partnership with Arch Collaborative and the Shasta Health Assessment and Redesign Collaborative is applying to DHCS requesting funding for the True North Behavioral Health Campus project.
- If approved, this facility will provide crisis stabilization for behavioral health patients and help offload some of the impact on the EMS system. It will also help to make sure that these patients get the specialized care they need, which is usually not in an emergency department that has limited availability to meet their needs.
- Shasta County Supervisor, Matthew Plummer, requested the JPA Board to provide a letter of support for this project.
- Supervisor Plummer commented that they've been working on this for almost a year. He stated that the idea is that jails and emergency rooms have for too long bore the brunt of the individuals in the community who have mental illness and behavioral health needs.
- This campus will be in addition to a crisis stabilization unit where they can go and be stabilized as it will have a continuum of services so that they aren't just being put in one spot and then having to find placement all around the state, which is what happens now. It will be a way that they can step down into what's called a social rehab facility right in the same building or if they need to go into more intensive inpatient units, that will be available too. This will serve adults and youth concurrently.

Supervisor Connelly motioned to approve. Supervisor Corona seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=7 (Nevada, Placer, Colusa, Butte, Shasta, Tehama, and Glenn counties). Noes=0. Absent=2 (Yuba and Siskiyou counties). Motion approved.

2. AMR Placer County 2-year EOA agreement – for approval

- Mr. Poland provided the following report related to this agenda item:

I want to apologize in advance for my lengthy presentation on this agenda item. I have recently become aware of some controversy and misinformation related to this matter and would like to ensure that all the relevant facts are on the record as I believe my staff and I have done everything that has been asked of us, amid changing directions and expectations.

In December 2003, the Placer County Board of Supervisors recommended that S-SV EMS establish EOAs for qualifying ambulance providers. 4 Placer County ground ambulance EOAs, 1 private and 3 public, were subsequently established pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 1797.224.

In December 2005, S-SV EMS executed an initial EOA agreement with AMR for applicable areas of Placer County. This EOA agreement has been revised and renewed several times since its initial execution, with the most recent agreement expiring November 30, 2025.

In February 2024, S-SV EMS staff met with Placer County representatives to discuss the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement and presented several options related to this matter. Placer County representatives requested that S-SV EMS staff meet with Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association members to solicit their input related to this matter.

In March 2024, S-SV EMS staff met with Western Placer County Fire Chiefs Association members to discuss the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement.

On June 6, 2024, after multiple follow up communications with Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association leadership, I received an email response from then President, City of Roseville Fire Chief Rick Bartee stating the following:

"Thanks John, I just received information from the WPFCA EMS work group with areas of improvement or concerns we would like addressed in the next EOA! The Chiefs aren't interested in you going out to RFP but interested seeing the same improvements or some transparency in how the contract/agreement is managed. There are improvements in AMRs performance, accountability and availability to name a few that we were like to see in the EOA that are adhered too. I'll set a meeting soon for us to discuss."

On June 27, 2024, S-SV EMS staff met with Placer County representatives to inform them of the position of the Western Placer County Fire Chiefs Association members related to this AMR Placer County EOA Agreement.

A few weeks after this June 27th meeting, Placer County representatives recommended that S-SV EMS proceed with negotiating a long-term EOA agreement with AMR for applicable areas of Placer County.

On August 6, 2024, an S-SV EMS memo was distributed to Placer County EMS system stakeholders, which included background information related to the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement and included the following statement:

“Following recent communications with representatives of the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association, Placer County Board of Supervisors, Placer County Administration, Placer County OES, and Placer County Public Health, it has been determined that S-SV EMS will proceed with negotiating a replacement EOA agreement with AMR to continue to serve their current areas of emergency ground ambulance operations within Placer County.”

S-SV EMS staff scheduled and held meetings with Placer County EMS system stakeholders to obtain input related to the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement. Placer County representatives were present for all meetings related to this matter.

Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association members requested a delay in scheduling their meeting with S-SV EMS due to several wildfire incident deployments that were occurring at that time. The initial meeting between S-SV EMS staff and the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association members was subsequently held November 4, 2024. It should be noted that no additional questions or comments related to the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement were communicated to S-SV EMS by any of the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association members between the June 6, 2024 email from Chief Bartee described earlier and the November 4, 2024 in-person meeting.

On November 4, 2024 S-SV EMS staff met with the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association members related to the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement. Some of the specific items discussed during this meeting were the limited utilization of Medical Priority Dispatch System services by 911 dispatch centers in Placer County and that current AMR Placer County ambulance response time standards were inconsistent with other similar EMS systems inside and outside the S-SV EMS region. During this meeting, the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association President advised S-SV EMS staff they had agreed to a change of position related to the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement matter. They were now requesting that S-SV EMS conduct a comprehensive assessment of the Western Placer County EMS system assessment and then proceed with a subsequent competitive RFP process to replace the AMR non-competitive EOA Agreement. S-SV EMS staff requested that the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association members provide a letter indicating their position change related to this matter.

On November 8, 2024, S-SV EMS staff received approval from the S-SV EMS JPA Board to conduct a request for interest process to select an outside legal consultant to assist with the development and negotiation of a replacement AMR Placer County EOA Agreement. This board agenda item was scheduled prior to the November 4, 2024 meeting with Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association members, where S-SV EMS staff were first advised of their change in position related to this matter. This item was left on the S-SV EMS JPA Board meeting agenda for approval as it was still applicable regardless of the Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association position change. S-SV EMS would still need to negotiate/execute a short-term replacement EOA

agreement with AMR while the EMS assessment process took place and a determination was made related to future ambulance contracting matters.

On November 13, 2024, S-SV EMS staff received a letter from the Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association that formally stated their position change on the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement matter.

On November 14, 2024, S-SV EMS staff met with Placer County representatives to discuss the Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association position change related to AMR Placer County EOA Agreement. Placer County representatives indicated that they did not have sufficient information at that time to formally recommend replacement of the AMR non-competitive EOA with a competitive RFP/EOA process but did recommend that S-SV EMS proceed with a short-term replacement EOA Agreement and with conducting a Western Placer County EMS system assessment to identify other possible options.

On November 22, 2024 an S-SV EMS memo was distributed to Placer County EMS System Stakeholder to provide an update on the AMR Placer County EOA matter. This memo indicated that S-SV EMS would be identifying an outside legal consultant to assist with the development and negotiations of a replacement 24-month AMR Placer County EOA Agreement and would also be requesting the S-SV EMS JPA Board to authorize the Agency to solicit and select a consultant to perform an assessment of the Western Placer County EMS system.

I attended the November 2024 Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association meeting and provided an update related to the AMR Placer County EOA matter. I advised the Chiefs that Placer County had recommended that S-SV EMS proceed with an assessment of the Western Placer County EMS system as well as the development and negotiation of a short-term replacement AMR Placer County EOA Agreement while the system assessment was conducted to determine future contacting options.

In December 2024, S-SV EMS staff sent request for interest letters to several legal firms specializing in California EMS contracting matters. Some of the solicited legal consultants indicated that they were not interested in this project or could not perform the work due to potential conflicts of interest. S-SV EMS did receive a responsive letter of interest from a national EMS law firm (Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC) that has extensive experience in California EMS contracting matters. After consultation with S-SV EMS Agency Counsel, it was determined that Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC was qualified to conduct the requested scope of work.

On February 3, 2025, I sent an email to Placer County EMS system stakeholders indicating that S-SV EMS had identified a legal consultant to assist in developing, negotiating, and executing a 24-month replacement of the AMR Placer County non-competitive EOA Agreement. This email also contained an update on the status of the Western Placer County EMS System Assessment project.

On February 14, 2025, The S-SV EMS JPA Board approved a contract with Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC to assist with the development, negotiation and execution of a 24-month replacement Placer County EOA Agreement with AMR.

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In March 2025, a project timeline was developed and S-SV EMS staff provided extensive data and documentation to Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC related to this project. S-SV EMS staff also requested meeting availability from Placer County EMS stakeholders to obtain their input related to the replacement AMR Placer County EOA Agreement.

In April 2025, S-SV EMS staff scheduled meetings and distributed letters to Placer County EMS stakeholders related to the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement. In addition to containing background information related to this matter, this letter included the following statements:

“While a short-term ground ambulance EOA agreement replacement is not the appropriate avenue to implement substantial EMS system redesign changes, S-SV EMS agrees that there are opportunities for system improvements as part of this interim contracting process. S-SV EMS staff have identified a few items for consideration in this short-term extension, including utilization of the FirstWatch Online Compliance Utility (OCU) for response time compliance tracking/reporting purposes and the inclusion of new clinical performance measures. In addition to other items that are being considered, we would like to gather input from pertinent EMS system participants/stakeholders on this matter. Some additional items we would like to discuss related to this short-term extension are as follows:

Any anticipated changes related to the utilization of EMD/MPDS (including response prioritization) by PSAPs in Placer County during the term of this extension agreement.

Evaluation of current response time standards compared to similar EMS systems.

Consideration of tiered (ALS/BLS) ambulance response like what has been recently implemented in other S-SV EMS counties and other areas throughout California.

Other operational/clinical items of interest from EMS system participants/ stakeholders.”

These stakeholder meetings were held during the first week of May 2025, and were also attended by Placer County representatives, Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC representatives, and representatives from the consultant organization that was selected to conduct the Western Placer County EMS system assessment.

From May through August 2025, Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC, with the input of S-SV EMS staff, developed and refined a draft AMR Placer County EOA Agreement and facilitated negotiation meetings with AMR on this agreement. Placer County representatives also attended these negotiation meetings.

On August 27, 2025, The S-SV EMS Deputy Director of Operations and I met with the current Western Placer County Fire Chief’s Association President, Rocklin Fire Department Chief Reginald Williams, to provide him with an update on the status of the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement negotiations. We advised Chief Williams that negotiations on the replacement EOA agreement were nearing completion and provided him with a written draft summary of changes document related to this agreement. The draft summary of changes document provided to Chief Williams included specific details on the proposed revisions to the AMR Placer County ground ambulance response times as well as detailed information explaining the reasons for these changes. Chief Williams only request was that in addition to the draft multi-page summary of changes document,

that S-SV EMS develop a single page high level overview document related to this matter to include when we distributed the final negotiated EOA agreement.

On August 28, 2025, the S-SV EMS Deputy Director of Operations and another S-SV EMS staff member attended the monthly Western Placer County Fire Chief's Association meeting and provided a brief update on the status of the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement negotiations.

On September 17, 2025, with the assistance of Page Wolfberg & Worth LLC, S-SV EMS completed negotiations with AMR on a 24-month Placer County EOA Agreement and received a signed copy of the negotiated agreement from AMR.

On September 18, 2025, I sent an email to Placer County EMS system stakeholders that contained the following statements:

"Hello Placer County EMS system participants and stakeholders. I have attached the following documents to this email for your information:

AMR Placer County EOA Agreement Renewal Overview 1-page document.

AMR Placer County EOA Agreement Summary of Changes 5-page document.

AMR Placer County EOA Agreement document.

With the assistance of our EMS legal consultant, Page Wolfberg & Wirth LLC, S-SV EMS recently completed negotiations with AMR on the attached Placer County EOA agreement renewal. This agreement will be scheduled for consideration during the October 10, 2025, S-SV EMS Agency JPA Governing Board of Directors meeting. The agenda packet for this meeting will be posted on the S-SV EMS Agency website no later than October 7, 2025."

As of today's date, S-SV EMS has not received any formal communication from any entity or individual of concerns related to the proposed 24-month replacement AMR Placer County EOA Agreement. We have received informal communications that some of the Fire Chief's in Placer County are not supportive of the proposed response time changes, but we have also received communications from some of the Fire Chief's, including those in areas where response time changes were made, that they are fully supportive of the agreement as negotiated and proposed.

As previously distributed to all Placer County EMS system stakeholders, I would like to now provide a summary of the proposed changes included in the AMR Placer County EOA Agreement that were negotiated in good faith by all parties:

Ambulance response time requirements have been slightly extended in the cities of Rocklin and Roseville, which provide full first responder ALS services and currently charge first responder fees of \$300 - \$350 per EMS response, and slightly reduced in the City of Lincoln, which has first responder BLS services only. The purpose of these response time changes was to align with similar EMS systems inside and outside the S-SV EMS region.

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The draft Western Placer County EMS System Assessment Report that was recently provided to S-SV EMS for initial review and comment includes the following relevant statements:

“The consulting team from Healthcare Strategists (HCS) comprises EMS experts, each with a minimum of 35 years of industry experience. The team met with EMS stakeholders throughout the West County, in addition to spending considerable time in the field observing the EMS system in action. The Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS Agency (S-SV EMS) and all stakeholders were open and engaged in sharing their agencies’ demographics, strengths, and opportunities for improvement.”

“There is a lack of clinical evidence to support faster response times.”

“It should be noted that during HCS's completion of the EMS assessment, S-SV EMS and American Medical Response (AMR) were negotiating a short-term contract extension. This extension appears to address several findings and recommendations outlined in this report, which occurred independently of the assessment process. HCS developed these findings and recommendations through comprehensive, independent research. Additional information about the new contract can be found in the Conclusion Section of this report.”

2025 year to date data shows that AMR is currently responding Code 3 (red lights and siren) to 90% of Placer County 911 calls and Code 2 (no red lights or siren) to 10% of Placer County 911 calls. This percentage of Code 2 responses is significantly less than many other areas inside and outside the S-SV EMS region that utilize Medical Priority Dispatch System services as intended

Like many recent ground ambulance RFPs and EOA agreements throughout California, one of the primary considerations of the replacement AMR Placer County EOA agreement was to begin to shift towards more robust clinical performance standards accountability while maintaining adequate ambulance response time requirements and expectations at an appropriate and sustainable cost. In addition to the inclusion of several new clinical performance standards and other clinical requirements, several other sections of the agreement were added or revised to ensure that emergency ambulance response times and resources remained adequate as follows:

New language was added requiring AMR to deploy a minimum number of 2,304 weekly ALS unit hours, based on data from their June 2025 service demand analysis which resulted in an additional 168 weekly ALS unit hours being added into the Placer County system beginning in July. This results in a peak deployment of 20 ALS ambulances at a given time on the busiest days of the week and a combined deployment of 26 to 29 ambulances per 24-hour period throughout the week.

New language requiring that every emergency ALS ambulance deployed by AMR in Placer County is based out of Placer County. ‘

Allows for the optional additional use of BLS ambulances to further support the Placer County EMS system as necessary. The use of BLS ambulance resources would be in addition to and not in place of the minimum required ALS unit hour deployment.

Revisions to allowable response time exemptions for consistency with similar EMS systems and EOA agreements, and a new requirement to utilize the FirstWatch Online Compliance Utility (OCU) program for greater consistency and accuracy of response time exemption data. These changes will result in a decrease in the number of allowable response time exemptions based on data from other similar EMS systems.

In comparison to other Placer County and the surrounding area providers:

Foresthill Fire Protection District

Code 3: 15:00 minutes.

No established Code 2 response time requirements.

North Tahoe Fire Protection District

Kings Beach & Tahoe City Code 3: 10 minutes first ALS unit (can be an ALS engine) & 15:00 minutes ALS ambulance if an ALS engine is on scene within 10:00 minutes.

Remainder of North Tahoe Fire Protection District: 20:00 minutes.

No established Code 2 response time requirements.

South Placer Fire District

Code 3: 10 minutes first ALS unit (can be an ALS engine) & 15:00 minutes ALS ambulance if an ALS engine is on scene within 10 minutes.

No established Code 2 response time requirements.

West Slope of El Dorado County

80% of Dispatched Code 3 responses shall arrive in less than 11 minutes.

90% of Dispatched Code 3 responses shall arrive in less than 20 minutes.

Calls dispatched as Code 2 are exempt from response time requirements.

Sacramento County

According to the Sacramento County 2023 EMS Plan, the most recent available version: "At this time, Sacramento County does not have Ambulance Response Time standards established." I have confirmed with their current EMS Agency Administrator that this is still an accurate statement.

A September 19, 2025 memo from the Sacramento County EMS Agency to EMS stakeholders related to a new 'Declared APOT Emergency Policy' under development stated: "At times, the EMS system is reduced to only a handful of available ambulances to serve Sacramento County's population of 1.6 million residents."

The Consumnes Fire Department does not have established ambulance response time standards and ambulance response times are not published or available.

The City of Folsom Fire Department does not have established ambulance response time standards and ambulance response times are not published or available.

The Sacramento City Fire Department does not have established ambulance response time standards and ambulance response times are not published or available. A published 'Sacramento City Fire Department Standards of Coverage Document' states "The goal is for ambulances to arrive within 11 minutes for Code 3 emergencies".

The Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District does not have established ambulance response time standards and ambulance response times are not published or available. Public documents distributed by the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District related to their 2024 Measure O Ballot Initiative stated: "Currently, 4 out of 10 medical calls in Metro Fire's jurisdiction have a 20 plus minute response time."

Sonoma County – which transitioned from AMR to the Sonoma County Fire District in January 2024 following a controversial and litigated RFP process:

Code 3 Ambulance Response Time Requirements: 10 minutes 59 seconds in areas that have first responder ALS

Recent News Articles Related to this matter:

Sonoma County's contract with the Sonoma County Fire District for ambulance services is under dispute, affecting the timely release of performance data. The fire district is arguing the contract does not cover requirements for Code 2 calls and wants them thrown out of 2024 performance data.

One of the key disagreements is whether the contract holds the district accountable for low priority calls, which amount to 40% of calls for ambulance services. Such calls, referred to as "Code 2," are still considered urgent but do not require lights and sirens. The county says it has always enforced standards for Code 2 calls, the terms of which are spelled out in the contract. But the district says the contract is ambiguous and has accused the county of being unreasonable and risking breach of contract. The Code 2 disagreement boils down to a single chart in the 134-page contract.

That chart outlines the response time thresholds broken down by the severity of the emergency and by the six coverage zones that make up the district's territory. Its title includes a set of parentheses that includes only Code 3. The district says there is no Code 2 table in the contract.

The county counters that response times for Code 2 calls are clearly listed in the body of the chart. The county has acknowledged in correspondence with the fire district that the parentheses that includes only Code 3 in the title is an error but maintains the contents of the table cover requirements for all calls, including Code 2.

Additionally, the Sonoma County Fire District has recently requested a 24% increase in their ambulance base rates 18 months into their negotiated and signed EOA Agreement with Sonoma County

Yolo County recently conducted a competitive ambulance RFP process which resulted in a single proposal from their incumbent provider. Following contract negotiations, they agreed on a \$3700 ambulance base rate.

Monterey County recently conducted their 3rd competitive RFP process over the last several years because of the failure of their previous 2 RFP processes. This process also resulted in a single proposal from their incumbent provider. Following contract negotiations, they agreed on a \$5400 ambulance base rate.

As already noted, additional requirements related to Clinical Performance Standards and 'Significant Occurrences' have been added to the agreement. These additional requirements are intended to further expand the monitoring and accountability of patient care related clinical matters in addition to the operational performance requirements standard in these types of agreements.

The agreement includes expanded and additional financial penalties for failure to meet operational and/or clinical performance standards.

Agreement language has been revised and expanded to clarify expectations for collaboration with other Placer County EMS system participants related to EMS training matters.

Significant revisions and additions were made to the Management and Supervision requirements of the agreement to ensure a refocus and expansion of field supervision resources and oversight. These changes include more descriptive language related to field supervisor requirements and expectations and a requirement for an additional 12 hour per day field supervisor to ensure that the primary AMR Paramedic Field Supervisor can focus on supporting field personnel and responding to emergency incidents as necessary and appropriate.

Revisions and additions were made to the Continuous Quality Improvement Program requirements of the agreement to ensure a continued and expanded focus on quality improvement processes and activities. This includes expanded Contractor Medical Director commitment and expectations.

The agreement maintains the Placer County EMS Improvement Fund with a required AMR annual contribution of \$150,000. It should be noted that over the previous 5 years, S-SV EMS has funded over \$1 million of equipment, supply and training expenses for Placer County first responder organizations utilizing the AMR contributions to this fund.

The performance security requirements have been significantly increased from \$1 million to \$5 million dollars to more accurately reflect the size and complexity of the Placer County EMS system serviced by AMR. This increased performance security requirement, and additional modifications to the material breach and emergency takeover provisions language will provide better assurance of adequate continued emergency ambulance operations in the unlikely event that the implementation of such a default takeover process is deemed necessary.

This EOA agreement includes minimal ambulance rate increases, remaining comparable to other Placer County emergency ambulance providers and less than many other similar areas/systems throughout California. The negotiated initial ambulance base rate will be \$2650.

I will conclude my presentation on this item by noting that pursuant to previous JPA Board direction and approval, the Agency has spent \$50,000 in legal consultant fees that are intended to be recuperated through increased oversight fees included in the negotiated agreement. As a final note, we have recently identified a minor typographical error in Exhibit B (page 61) of the negotiated agreement. Based on current practice, intent, and the most recent system demand analysis completed by AMR, the response time compliance criteria table listed on the top of this page should indicate 'Auburn/North Auburn' instead of 'Auburn – City Limits'. This proposed correction has already been agreed to by AMR and failure to make this correction would result in an unintended increase in response time compliance requirements for the North Auburn areas outside the Auburn City limits. With that, staff is recommending the JPA board approve the 24-month replacement AMR Placer County EOA Agreement with the referenced correction to Exhibit B.

- Supervisor DeMattei expressed concern with the increased response times for AMR in the contract. He had initially thought that he might ask for a 30-day extension so that he could have more time to review this matter.
- Mr. Gabiel Cruz (AMR Director) responded that they have recently deployed additional ALS ambulance units in the field, beyond what is required by their current EOA Agreement.
- There was additional discussion about utilizing proper responses (Code 2 vs Code 3).
- Dr. Falck commented on the origins of the 8-minute response times. He stated that in the 1970s, when the 8-minute response time was originally established, Paramedics were the only EMS providers authorized to provide defibrillation and other EMS skills and very few people were doing bystander CPR. EMS has changed significantly since then. In more recent studies and published medical literature, for time sensitive illnesses like stroke, STEMI, trauma, etc., the difference between 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12-minute ambulance response times in a population of people doesn't make a significant difference.
- In response to questions/conversations related to current Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) matters, Mr. Poland talked about recent APOT legislation and resulting statutes meant to assist with these issues. There has been a significant improvement in APOT by all Placer County hospitals over the past 12 months and all hospitals are now compliant with the current S-SV EMS APOT standards of 30 minutes or less for 90% of 911 ambulance transported patients.
- Supervisor Carmon commented on the timing of this discussion being last minute with the timeline that Mr. Poland laid out for everyone. He wondered if the longer response times were the real concern, or whether local fire departments wanted to take over the ambulance services. Supervisor DeMattei stated that he believed it was the response times that were in fact the concern.
- Chief Williams, Rocklin Fire Department Chief and Western Placer Fire Chiefs Association (WPCFCA) President, thanked S-SV EMS and Mr. Poland and Patrick Comstock for their work on this matter and stated that the information included in Mr. Poland's presentation of this matter were accurate. He further stated that some of the WPCFCA Chief members do not like the current AMR contract. He also believes that the

extended response times are not reasonable for his City. He further expressed that it did not seem fair/appropriate to compare private ambulance provider to public providers.

- Mr. Tracy Randall, South Placer Fire District Board President, expressed his appreciation for AMR putting more units in the field. He stated he didn't see a reason for extending the response times. He stated that if the board decided to approve anything other than the existing AMR contract, that they would like S-SV EMS to formally acknowledge South Placer's Fire District's rights under the Health and Safety Code Section 1797.201 that was extended by LAFCO in March of 2025, which was something that was left out of the Director's statement, and amend the map on page 60 to reflect the South Placer Fire District's EOA to include the town of Loomis, which was merged with the South Placer Fire District in 2017.
- Mr. Poland responded that S-SV EMS has made it clear to both Placer LAFCO and the South Placer Fire District on several occasions that there is no legal mechanism for S-SV EMS to expand or alter the South Placer Fire District emergency ground ambulance EOA to include the Town of Loomis, since they did not provide ambulance service to this area in 1980 as required by Health and Safety Code Section 17907.201. This is not an S-SV EMS decision and Placer LAFCO even acknowledged in their own report that their action alone did not allow South Placer Fire District to expand their EOA areas according to the EMS Act. If S-SV EMS were to attempt to alter either the AMR or the South Placer Fire District grandfathered EOAs, there is a very good possibility that the California EMS authority, who has the legal obligation to approve EOAs, would invalidate both EOAs due to a change in manner and scope.
- Mr. Cruz commented that he calls Placer County home and comes from a lens of support. He said that once the Agreement is implemented, they will be maintaining the required ALS unit hours and will consider adding additional BLS ambulance resources to further address availability and provide a tiered response concept that's in the contract. AMR is not talking about reducing ambulance availability and is also increasing field supervisor resources. AMR is committed to working with other EMS system partners to provide appropriate care and ambulance availability to Placer County.
- Supervisor DeMattei questioned if the contract could be passed with the original response times. Mr. Poland responded that the contract had already been negotiated over many months, as previously explained in his presentation of this item, and that the AMR representatives present at the meeting did not have the authority to agree to additional contract changes. Mr. Poland further pointed out that on page 16, the parties agree that in consultation with the contractor, the agency may modify the response time performance criteria from time to time during the term of this agreement, provided that such modifications do not result in the need for additional ambulance or unit hours of 110% or more of those in place on the commencement date. So there is an ability to modify this in the future if determined necessary.
- Supervisor Plummer asked Supervisor DeMattei if the Board were to delay the vote, what work would be done during that delay and what changes would result. Supervisor DeMattei responded that he wasn't sure. He thought it would probably take much more than 30 days to review everything. He didn't think he'd get something done in 25 days.

- Mr. Poland was asked if there was any consequence to delaying the vote until the next JPA Board meeting in December. He responded that there would not be an agreement with AMR at that point because their current agreement expires November 30, 2025. At that time, there would be no obligation for AMR to provide ambulance service in Placer County and S-SV EMS would not be able to hold them accountable for response times or other performance standard.
- Supervisor DeMattei decided he'd like to move forward.
- Mr. Poland reminded the Board about the drafting error on page 61 and the requested errata to correct the applicable language on Page 61 (Exhibit B) to read 'Auburn/North Auburn'.

Supervisor DeMattei motioned to approve the Agreement with the requested Exhibit B drafting error errata correction to the Auburn response zone language. Supervisor Connelly seconded with the caveat that the contract/data will be reviewed in one year to see if the extended times are serving the public. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=6 (Nevada, Placer, Butte, Tehama, Shasta and Glenn counties). Noes=0. Absent=3 (Colusa, Yuba and Siskiyou counties). Motion approved.

3. FirstWatch Online Compliance Utility (OCU) agreement – for approval

- This is associated with the AMR EOA Agreement, which requires AMR to utilize the FirstWatch OCU for response time compliance tracking and reporting purposes.
- There's a significant expense to get it up and running, \$52,350, and subsequent annual maintenance costs. The AMR EOA Agreement requires AMR to reimburse S-SV EMS for the full cost of these FirstWatch OCU contract services.

Supervisor Nolen motioned to approve. Supervisor Plummer seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=6 (Nevada, Placer, Butte, Tehama, Shasta and Glenn counties). Noes=0. Absent=3 (Colusa, Yuba and Siskiyou counties). Motion approved.

4. Principal Financial Group Inc. Common Stock Asset Sell Request – for approval

- The Agency recently received a third-party notification of a cash offer to purchase shares and Principal Financial Group Incorporated. Staff were previously unaware that the Agency held these stock assets. Following additional investigation, it was verified that the Agency does in fact have 1265 shares of Principal Financial Group common stock. The Agency utilizes Principal Financial Group for certain employee fringe benefits.
- In 2001, what was a mutual company became a stock-based company. At that point, the Agency received the stock buyout.
- Agency staff confirmed that the company stock ownership has no effect on its ability to continue to utilize Principal Financial Group and is totally separate from that for employee benefits and it has no impact on the premiums currently.
- Agency staff reached out to the Placer County Treasurer, Tax Collector's office and the Office of Auditor-Controller because the Agency had had previous conversations with them on some financial matters a couple years ago when the Agency maintained its own separate Bank of America account. Based upon current statutes and regulation, S-SV EMS is not allowed to have financial assets other than in their account with Placer County. Accordingly, it was recommended by them to sell the stock and deposit the

proceeds as investment income into the Agency's Placer County financial account. It was further confirmed by the auditor who prepares the annual financial statements that there will be no tax implications to the Agency resulting from the selling of stock assets.

- Mr. Poland is seeking permission from the Board to sell the stock and deposit the proceeds into the Agency's Placer County financial account. A budget revision accounting for these additional assets will then be brought to the December JPA meeting for consideration.
- The current stock value is about \$104,881.00. The exact amount will differ slightly depending on when it's sold.

Supervisor DeMattei motioned to approve. Supervisor Nolen seconded. A roll call of votes was called: Ayes=6 (Nevada, Placer, Butte, Tehama, Shasta and Glenn counties). Noes=0. Absent=3 (Colusa, Yuba and Siskiyou counties). Motion approved.

H. OLD BUSINESS

None

I. LEGISLATION/REGULATIONS

- EMS Legislation Updates:
 - A list of EMS related legislation was included in the packet.
 - AB645 was passed and subsequently signed by the governor. The bill requires by January 1st, of 2027, public safety agencies that provide 911 call processing services for EMS response to provide limited pre-arrival medical instructions as approved by the LEMSA Medical Director. Most of the 911 dispatch centers in the S-SV EMS region currently provide some level of pre-arrival instructions, but there are a few that do not and will have to implement these new requirements by January 1, 2027.
- EMS Regulation Updates:
 - Chapter 1 (Developing Equitable & Person-Centered Care). This is the new chapter of regulations to address EMS system design, LEMSA responsibilities, RFP processes, EMS plans, etc. The California EMS Authority expects the formal OAL rulemaking process to begin in early 2026, with the goal to have the final regulations promulgated/implemented by January 2027.
 - Chapter 3 (Professional Standards– EMTs, AEMTs, & Paramedics). The California EMS Authority is currently reviewing regulations to identify areas that need updating.
 - Chapter 4 (EMS Personnel Discipline). The California EMS Authority is currently reviewing regulations to identify areas that need updating.
 - Chapter 6 (Specialty Systems of Care – Trauma, STEMI, Stroke, & EMS for Children). The California EMS Authority is expecting to release one final 2-week public comment period sometime soon, and the final updated regulations will likely go to the EMS Commission for review/approval around the beginning of 2026.


J. MEDICAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Dr. Falck reminded everyone that it is that time of year to get your influenza vaccination.

K. NEXT JPA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

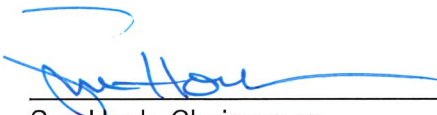
- The next JPA Board meeting will be Friday, December 12, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.
- The meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Boryczko, Clerk to the Board

12/12/2025
Date



Sue Hoek, Chairperson

12-12-2025
Date