

Plumas County Emergency Medical Care Committee Minutes

September 4, 2013 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Plumas County Public Health Agency

Start: Noon

Attendance:

Lori Pini, Public Health/OES

Keith Mahan, PARC

Carl McDonald, Greenhorn Fire

Doug Hockinson, RACES

Steve Tolen, PCPH

Tony Balbiani, Chester Fire

Larry Trotter, American Red Cross

Jerry Sipe, OES/Environmental Health

Joe Edwards, CHP

Roy Carter, Greenhorn CSD

Mike Grant, PCSO

Becky Grant, PCSO

Denise Lauffer, PDH – via phone

Kara Davis, NorCal – via phone

Lee Brown, Sierra County OES

Bill Carlson, EPHC

Rick Gullotto, PDH

Deborah Mancebo, Country Villa

Lorraine Noble, Country Villa

Michelle Perkins, Red Cross

Robbie Cassou, Quincy Fire

Mimi Hall, Public Health

Louise Steenkamp, Public Health

Bob Nelson, ARES

Dana Anderson, Mountain Life Flight

Introductions

June Minutes - Approved as submitted.

Updated contact information - Reviewed

OES Update

- Responded to the Mt. Hough Complex Fire. Red Cross opened a shelter. Animals were set to go to the Fairgrounds. Indian Valley is very independent and moved their animals to another farm.
- Larry Trotter with Red Cross has stepped down. Larry began with Red Cross in 1996. The Board of Supervisors will be recognizing him on September 10th.
- The training and exercise schedule for 2013 & 2014 was distributed and reviewed. The 2014 Golden Guardian Exercise will be based on a Wildfire in Meadow Valley. If you would like to participate, please email loripini@countyofplumas.com to add you to the planning meeting group.

Communication/Dispatch – Narrow banding

- Fire Departments & paging – when changing response areas/paging, it is more than just a call to dispatch. There are policies and procedures that need to be followed and addressed at the Fire Chiefs meeting. If multiple departments want to be paged together, that also has a process to follow.
- Code Red – conducted a second update since we started the new Code Red System. The County website will be updated shortly. If you have already signed up under the TENS system, your information automatically transferred to Code Red. 70% of Plumas County residents are using a cell phone as their only phone. This system was utilized during the Mt. Hough Complex Fire. Landlines are becoming obsolete. System seems to be a lot faster and works really well with smartphones. Lee Brooks, OES Director from Sierra County, states that they use the Code Red System and can send texts, emails and user groups.

- Narrow Banding – We have the fire backup base station on the microwave at Mt. Hough. We are controlling repeaters on Beckwourth Peak through the microwave also. It has helped tremendously with the paging out East. Soon will be going north to Red Hill to try and get on the microwave there. Fire Departments are still not 100% narrow banded. With the changing over, we have lost a lot of coverage in Plumas County. Trying to find another spot to place a repeater, especially out East. Dispatching is having a hard time hearing responders in the field.
- Medical Dispatching – if an ambulance is transporting or unavailable and asks the neighboring ambulance to be on standby, YOU MUST CALL DISPATCH FOR NO DELAY IN RESPONSE. Please add to your ambulance protocols. Before you go to stage, contact dispatch. Post at the base radio, nurses station, emergency room, etc...

Emergency Services Number

- ESN is the system for routing a 911 call and tells you what resource to dispatch.
- Includes 21 fire departments and 2 forests to divide up the response areas.
- Currently, areas within Plumas County have been annexed into a fire department and changes when a new fire chief takes over not wanting to respond to an area that the previous chief agreed to.
- Mapping needs to be redone and databases redone. Cost is expensive. Continuously getting calls from fire departments saying that isn't their area. Just know they are working on updating the information for correct response.

NorCal EMS update

- Medical Advisory Committee – September 10, 2013 10am-2pm at NorCal EMS
 - A EMT protocols final.
 - BLS module, Limited Advanced Life Support module and ALS module.
 - 2010 regulations made us loose EMT2's so now they are A EMT Option scope which allows them to give more medications.
 - All protocols went on an App. So if you have a smartphone you can look up your protocols on your phone.
 - CQI issues – All ALS providers are on image trend. We start running reports to talk to all about some CQI.
 - Webinar or in person to the MAC meeting. If you would like to participate.
- Community Paramedic –
 - State contracted with UC Davis to do a needs assessment report. On the issue of Community Paramedicine Pilot Project.
 - For this program to work in California, we would need to change paramedic regulations.
 - State is looking at pilot programs since it takes a long time to change regulations.
 - Objectives would be: increased access to care, improved efficiency of healthcare deliver, decreased hospital readmissions, decrease in low acuity ambulance transports, decrease in low acuity emergency department visits, cost savings, healthcare service utilization patterns, patient satisfaction, primary care provider and/or health system satisfaction.
 - Since Plumas County Has limited resources, this program would be beneficial in Plumas County.
- Legislative Issues – Senate Bill 669, Maddie Fund, Mobile Field Hospitals

- SB 669 – Emergency Medical Care: EPI auto-injectors; this bill would allow first responders or a lay person to use an EPI auto-injector
- Maddy Funds – SB 191 – EMS; the existing bill is due to sunset, this bill would extend the sunset indefinitely. Maddy fund and Ritchie fund. *This has passed. Waiting for governor to sign. No changes except eliminating the sunset.*
- AB 355 – EMS: mobile field hospitals; this bill would restore the Mobile field Hospital program and restore \$1.7 million in funding to continue the program.

EPCR

- Electric Patient Care Report (EPCR) has been a good system. Agencies still need to work on closing their record they just put in so not amendments can be made. You can print reports that include a tracking audit.

Plumas County Healthcare Coalition

- 2013 Statewide Medical & Health Exercise – November 21st. This drill does not affect 1st responders, but is based in the hospital/clinic setting. All hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, long term care, schools, Greenville Rancheria, OES, Public Health, Environmental Health and Sierra County will be participating. The drill is based on an E-coli outbreak throughout Plumas & Sierra County.
- HC Coalition – we will be sending out more information (bylaws & participation) to your CEO's to formalize the HC Coalition.

Agency Reports

EMCC - EMCC is supposed to address the Emergency Medical Care concerns. There seems to be a lack of responders attending. If these people stay silent, we are not able to change an issue. We are very happy to see Country Villa here especially since they play a huge roll in a specific population.

- Steve states that ICS is an issue and is underutilized within the EMS system. The Forest Service and CalFire use ICS in everything and highly encourage you to practice it daily.
- Chester Fire reports that they use ICS pretty much on every call. They work closely with their neighboring county which uses it also.
- PDH – Deniece reports that they have been training managers and staff and will continue to do so.
- CHP – working on getting the field people to be taught, encourage and utilize. Steve would be happy to assist with this.
- Sheriff Department – works with Search and Rescue team. They have noticed that everyone conducts ICS procedures in the field differently. There is a huge need for bringing everyone together to do the same process. This will not only get everyone working together but keeping everyone safe. If we don't, it is going to get worse before better.
- Country Villa – we had an event last year that affected the entire facility and staff. They were not able to use ICS, since no one knew it.

Eastern Plumas Health Care – infrastructure changing. Stay tuned for new faces to Emergency Preparedness.

Country Villa – Just beginning in the Emergency Preparedness endeavor. Currently in place is one disaster box.

PC Amateur Radio Club – EPHC now has a permanent radio station at their facility.

Public Health – Age well drive safe – working with CHP to bring to the Senior Citizens in Plumas County.

Chester Fire – The back ramp at Seneca Healthcare District is now open. Chester Fire utilizes this ramp for ambulance deliveries.

Sheriff Department –

- At the upcoming fire chiefs meeting, the lack of participation in EMCC will be brought up.
- Search & Rescue – Dispatch will not to cancel SAR responders until an officer can tell them 100% to cancel. Not 2nd guessing anyone, their protocol is that an officer has to call them off.

RACES Drill – November 2nd – They will be participating in a drill called Hack attack. Also, the amateur radio training will be rescheduled.

Red Cross –

- Michelle is the lead for the North Eastern California from Sutter to Oregon.
- 18 Disaster trailers available throughout
- Shelter kits are being updated.
- All staff trained in ICS

Greenhorn Fire – looking for volunteers. Currently working with Long Valley for Mutual Aid.

Trainings

Haz Mat FRO DECON - Graeagle

Center for Domestic Preparedness – Anniston, Alabama – if you can send staff, it is worth it. They pay for flight, room and class. Contact Lori at Public Health for more information.

Butte County EMS Symposium – November 1, 2013

Run Review at Enloe – 9/17

Swift Water training – 9/14 in Trinity

All trainings can be posted to the NorCal calendar. Please go to: <http://www.norcalems.org/calendar/> to see if there is a training opportunity for you!

Other Reports

Business to be addressed at the next EMCC Meeting

Save the date: December 4, 2013 @9:00am

Adjourned: Signed: S. Tolen ~ Minutes drafted by: L. Pini