



**Plumas County Emergency Medical Care Committee**



**October 6, 2021**

Start: 1000

Attendance (Zoom Meeting):

Sam Blesse- Chair

Mike Grant- Vice Chair

Becky Grant- S.O. Dispatch

Tina Venable- PCPHA

Lori Beatley – PCPHA

Darren Beatty- PDH

Elaine Frank- Eastern Plumas Fire District

Jeremy Beatley- PC SO

Matt Brown- REMSA/ CareFlight

Andrew Courtright- Peninsula Fire

**ZOOM**

Sherrie Thrall- BOS

Trenton Murrieta- SEMSA

Joe Waterman- Fire Chief Association

Jim Stockdale- Graeagle Fire

Judi Cline- Seneca

Mark Thomas- Nor Cal EMS

Jenni McGuire- Nor Cal EMS

Zoe Stancer- PDH

Lt. Chris Parent- CHP

**Roll Call of voting membership to set quorum**

Chester Fire Protection District

Peninsula Fire Protection District

Indian Valley Ambulance Services Authority

Plumas District Hospital Ambulance

Eastern Plumas Healthcare Ambulance

Seneca Healthcare District

Plumas District Hospital

Eastern Plumas Healthcare

Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association

Plumas County Sheriff's Office

Plumas County Board of Supervisors

Plumas County Public Health Officer

Andrew Courtright

Sam Blesse

Darren Beatty

Joe Waterman

Mike Grant

Sherrie Thrall

Tina Venable

Not Present

Present

Not Present

Present

Not Present

Not Present

Present

Not Present

Present

Present

Present

Present

**Approval for Agenda and Minutes**

Approval of agenda for October 6, 2021: Mike Grant motioned to approve the agenda and Darren Beatty 2<sup>nd</sup> it and all in favor.

Approval from minutes on July 7, 2021: Mike Grant motioned to approve the minutes and Matt Brown 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all in favor.

**Open for Public Comment**

No Comments.

### **Comments from the EMCC Chair**

Sam Blesse recognized everyone's effort during the Dixie Fire.

### **Update from Nor-Cal EMS**

- Hired EMS Specialist Gerald Gross
  - Paramedic/ Redding Fire Dept/ Teacher Shasta College
  - Scheduled to do ambulance inspections
- Thank you to all agencies for their response in the Dixie Fire
- Conference this Friday

### **COVID-19**

- Very busy: Numerous outbreaks
- Looking for part-time extra help contact tracers
- Encouraging vaccination
- Sam Blesse: EMS should be wearing PPE while working despite vaccination status
- Went over process for surge buildout process for SRMC: Tina Venable is primary MHOAC and Lori Beatley is alternate MHOAC: HCFs/Eds must continue to find bed for transfer before contacting MHOAC
- Clarification regarding HO face mask order: Face masks shall be worn indoor public places regardless of vaccine status. PH is working with DA's office in going to local business and provide signs and education. A violation of the order is a misdemeanor. Educating businesses and public is priority.
- Fire responders including EMS have been exempted from the vaccine mandate by the state for healthcare workers. However, if EMS is a part of the hospital then there is no exemptions. Also per federal mandate non-medical transport not under mandate (volunteer fire dept)

### **HeartSafe Community**

- Update from Central Plumas
  - PCSO/ Quincy Fire had successful rescue approximately 3-4 weeks ago
  - AED donation from Eastern Plumas Rural Fire District: two life pack: possible location GiGis in Crescent Mills; other possible location is RV park on 147 in Lkae Almanor or Canyon Dam boat launch
- Letter of Intent received from EPHC Ambulance:
  - Still working on application process
  - Donate two Lifepack AED to HeartSafe in Plumas County
  - Corina Tidwell has stepped down as EPHC ambulance manager
  - Possible AED placement at tour company off of A23
- Lake Almanor Area

- Working on location for AED
- Sporadic on CPR/AED classes

### **Health Care Coalition (Tri-HCC):**

- The Tri-HCC next meeting is on November 3, 2021 at 10:00 am
- Chempack Training on November 3: CEUs available.
- Pediatric Surge TTX changed due to Dixie Fire: Hopefully at end of January

### **PCSO- Communication Update:**

- Mike Grant provides update:
  - Did not lose emergency communications due to Dixie Fire; however, did go down a grade in ability
  - Mt Hough- lost power: red hill is still on generator; radio hill lost power
  - Possible action item: repeater on Flea Mtn is Plumas County but is in Butte County: possible release of responsibility for repeater- need to remove from licensing and move to another county possibly Butte County since they use it
  - S.O. Dispatch: very serious short staff: may need to downsize job duties and changing the way dispatch does businesses: decreasing the workload for dispatchers
  - Dispatch had over 20,000 calls during Dixie Fire
  - Hiring process and pay are some of the reasons for not able to hire and retain dispatchers
  - Sub-committee to be set-up with Sam Blesse, Mike Grant, Becky Grant, Matt Brown, Joe Waterman and Darren Beatty (possibly Zoe Stancer) to draft a document from EMCC to the BOS with suggestions for short- and long-term solutions regarding dispatch hiring and retention
  - Possible short-term solution would be educating the fire dept on traffic flow; possibly providing card/template of radio traffic. There is a lot that occurs in dispatch that is not on the radio
- I Am Responding app: re-wrote software
  - Still not working as needed
  - Can use for SAR but there are administrator issues with so many different volunteer fire depts utilizing the application
  - Good chance issue will be resolved

### **Agency Reports:**

- PDH Ambulance (REMSA/Care flight): Chaotic- lost building in Greenville for EMS; have 5<sup>th</sup> wheel now, so it is staffed 24 hours. Indian Valley medical clinic is now open couple days a week; some employees lost their home
- CHP: Nothing huge, just trying to roll-out COVID testing
- Graeagle Fire: Following original COVID protocols; relying on dispatch to inform if ILI

- SEMSA: Settling down after this “apocalyptic” summer; staffing is going well
- Fire Chief’ Association: Smattering of resources on other fires; new fire chief in IV Bob Orange- plans for new fire station. Chief’s Association meeting this month
- PDH: Two hospital evacuations power failure/fire; fiscal impact from Greenville will be profound/ 6 employees lost their homes/ IV clinic now open with PT in IV to open soon/ COVID in forefront with significant testing/ Planning for SNF continues with 35 beds (3 years away).
- Public Health: Now in recovery mode from Dixie Fire/ need assistance with Flu Vaccination clinics/ COVID response increasing
- Eastern Plumas Rural Fire District: No updates
- Search and Rescue: working with national guard on evening rescues
- Peninsula Fire: Great outpouring of support regarding Dixie Fire/ Finding trained staff is biggest issue/ need paramedics and fire full-time
- REMSA/ Flight: Annual safety day on Oct 11 from 9:00 till noon/ Hospital evacuation group in Washoe is willing to entertain Plumas County to be a part of the group
- PDH ambulance: REMSA to donate 20 portable suction due to switching brands/ flats and backboards **Sam will send e-mail to group**

**Training Opportunities:**

- Pediatric Surge TTX- January 26, 2022 10:00 am- 2:00 pm- CEUs available
- Center for Domestic Preparedness – Anniston, Alabama – <https://cdp.dhs.gov/>
- Nor-Cal EMS – <https://norcalems.org/training-and-job-opportunities/>

**Next Meeting: January 5, 2022 – 1000 to Noon**

Matt Brown motions to adjourn the meeting and Joe Waterman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

Respectively submitted by: Lori Beatley

Approved by: Sam Blesse 12/21/21