

MINUTES
County of Tulare
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE
January 26, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 15:06 PM.

II. ATTENDANCE

Logged

III. MINUTES

Motion made seconded and approved

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EMS Agency Report

Dale Dotson reported COVID cases in the region, impacts to system stakeholders. He noted a slow decline in new COVID cases.

He recognized the Tulare County providers for their efforts and cooperation with THSA with vaccination clinics.

Dale Dotson briefed the Committee on State APOT Teams assisting with staffing EDs.

Dale also briefed the committee on the local certification process.

B. Base Hospital Committee

Dale Dotson discussed a recurring issue of PCRs not being left at hospitals

C. Disaster Medical Response Committee

Dale Reported on various COVID related operations.

Jackie Paul discussed preparations for the World Ag Expo

Cameron Long states the planning process continues and identified resources to be committed to the event.

V. Continued Business

A. Ambulance Performance Monitoring

Dale Dotson briefed the committee on compliance monitoring. He stated that although liquidated damages are not assessed, Priority 1 and 2 calls are still monitored and appealed. He added that he was hopeful that full compliance monitoring would resume soon.

B. Policy 571 Update

Dale briefed the Committee on implementation of Policy 571. He added that it was in use in Fresno County, and that Tulare County providers have this available as needed.

Scott Scheer and Dave Byl reported that it has been implemented as needed.

C. Policy 406 Update

Dale Dotson reports that this policy was not in use at this time in Tulare County but was available if needed.

VI. AGENCY UPDATES

Imperial Ambulance – Scott Scheer reports hiring 6 additional staff, and the status of one of their ambulance being repaired following an accident. Sean Roberts briefed the committee on vaccination clinics.

TCCAD - Doug Woods reports staffing levels are good. He discussed upgrades to the 911 phone system. Doug also noted improved mutual aid response to the Tulare /Kern border in cooperation with Hall ambulance.

Tulare City Fire Dept - Cameron Long report 4 open positions, with 2 paramedic Firefighters going through background checks. Additional preparations being made for the World Ag Expo.

Kaweah Health - John Cardona relayed information from Dave Sanbongi who was unable to attend regarding:

Assistance at the World Ag Expo

Continued masking requirements at the ED

Noted some instances of lost patient belongings.

Grants being pursued to assist with ECG telemetry.

American Ambulance of Visalia – Dave Byl reports delays in offloading as the Hospitals remain at or above capacity. He discussed staff placed at hospitals to assist with ambulance availability. Dale added that Fresno County Hospitals have discontinued allowing this.

AirMethods – Lisa Epps reports a new aircraft deployed to Tulare County, briefed the committee on training.

LifeStar – Jackie Paull discussed new hires, and preparations for the World Ag Expo/

Dinuba Fire Department – Jordan Webster reports on staffing impacts, as well as new hires in process.

Visalia City Fire Dept - Nick Branch discussed PHTLS training in progress, and training staff to integrate with Policy 406 when implemented.

Tule River Ambulance – Manual Santoyo reports one staff member out with COVID, and detailed efforts to obtain Rural EMS grants for training and enhancements to service.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 15:44