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Board of Supervisors

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First District

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Mr. David Austin, Chairman  
LA County Ambulance Association

Mr. Frank Binch  
Public Member (4<sup>th</sup> District)

Erick H. Cheung, M.D.  
Southern CA Psychiatric Society

Mr. Gerald B. Clute  
Hospital Association of Southern CA

Robert Flashman, M.D.  
LA County Medical Association

Clayton Kazan, M.D.  
California Chapter-American College of  
Emergency Physicians (CAL-ACEP)

Raymond A. Mosack, Vice Chair  
CA State Firefighters' Association  
(VACANT)

League of Calif. Cities/LA County Division

Lt. Andres Ramirez  
Peace Officers Association of LA County

Carole A. Snyder, RN  
Emergency Nurses Association

Fire Chief Jon D. Thompson  
LA Chapter-Fire Chiefs Association

Areti Tillou, M.D.  
LA Surgical Society

Mr. Gary Washburn  
Public Member (5<sup>th</sup> District)

Mr. Bernard S. Weintraub  
Southern California Public Health Assn.

VACANT

American Heart Association  
Western States Affiliate

VACANT.

Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Assn.

VACANT

Public Member (1<sup>st</sup> District)  
Public Member (2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
Public Member (3<sup>rd</sup> District)

**Executive Director**

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Director, EMS Agency  
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# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION

10100 Pioneer Boulevard, Suite 200, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
TEL: (562) 347-1500 ~ FAX (562) 941-5835

## MINUTES January 16, 2013

COMMISSIONERS	ORGANIZATION	EMS AGENCY STAFF	POSITION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Austin	LAC Ambulance Assn	Cathy Chidester	Director, EMS Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erick H. Cheung, MD	So. CA Psychiatric Society	Marilyn Rideaux	EMSC Liaison
<input type="checkbox"/> Gerald B. Clute (Ab)	HASC	Richard Tadeo	Assistant Director, EMS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Flashman, MD	L.A. County Medical Assn	Christine Bender	Staff, EMS Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clayton Kazan, MD	CAL/ACEP	Chris Clare	Staff, EMS Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ray Mosack	CA State Firefighters' Assn.	David Wells	Staff, EMS Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> VACANT	League of California Cities	Jacqui Rifenberg	Staff, EMS Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andres Ramirez	Peace Officers Assn. of LAC	Dana Scala	Staff, EMS Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Carole Snyder (Exc)	Emergency Nurses Assn.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Thompson	LA Chapter/Fire Chiefs Assn		
<input type="checkbox"/> Areti Tillou, MD (Exc)	L.A. Surgical Society		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Washburn	Public Member, 5 <sup>th</sup> District		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Binch	Public Member, 4 <sup>th</sup> District		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bernard Weintraub	S. CA Public Health Assn.		

**GUESTS**

Daryl Parrish	League of California Cities	Brian Hudson	Torrance Fire
Samantha Verga-Gates	APCC/LBMMC	Kristine Cash	APCC/LBMMC
Jesse Vela	LACoFD	Sean English	Pasadena Fire

(Ab) = Absent; (Exc) = Excused Absence

### CALL TO ORDER:

The Emergency Medical Services Commission (EMSC) meeting was held in the EMS Commission Hearing Room, 10100 Pioneer Blvd, Santa Fe Springs, 90670. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Chairman, David Austin. A quorum was declared.

### INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Each Commissioner and audience attendee introduced him/herself.

Chairman Austin introduced a former member of the EMS Commission, Dr. Frank Pratt, who presented an award to Cathy Chidester, Director, EMS Agency, on behalf of the American Heart Association (AHA). The AHA recognized Ms. Chidester as the catalyst who brought Sidewalk CPR to Southern California which led to promoting cardiovascular health.

Ms. Chidester commented on a Disaster Recovery handbook which was distributed to each Commissioner. The handbook contains source information for pre/post disasters in obtaining recovery resources through insurance companies.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

***M/S/C: Commissioner Mosack/Flashman to approve all items on the Consent Calendar.***

## **5. BUSINESS (Old Business)**

### **5.1 Status of Policy Initiatives**

- *Physician Services for Indigent Patients (PSIP) Auditor-Controller Report*

Ms. Chidester reported that the EMSC voted at its last meeting to go forward with a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting \$2 million dollars of Measure B funds be diverted to PSIP. She felt that the EMSC should review a memo dated December 12, 2012 from Dr. Katz, Director, DHS, to participating physicians in the PSIP program in deciding whether to go forward with a letter to the Board. Ms. Chidester stated that after talking with Dr. Katz, it was evident that there would be no additional funds going to the PSIP program.

Commissioner Flashman noted that it was becoming increasingly difficult for hospitals to continue to provide care under the present reimbursement rates.

Commissioner Kazan commented that the bridge between community hospitals and county hospitals no longer exists. In the past, case managers were able to set up appointments at MLK's outpatient clinic up until two months ago. That program has been suspended. Patients are now being referred to urgent care services at MLK. Commissioner Kazan went on to say that County hospitals have no ability to serve the number of patients they were designed to handle.

Commissioner Binch stated there were three choices on the table:

- Go forward with the letter to the Board of Supervisors as agreed in November
- In light of present concerns, do nothing
- Possibly send a slightly different message

Commissioner Binch reported that he had attended a meeting at Supervisor Knabe office where the Supervisor agreed with Dr. Katz to not go forward with a motion to increase the PSIP fund. He stated that Dr. Katz strongly favors the Affordable Care Act.

Commissioner Flashman indicated that he was still in favor of going forward with a letter to request that \$9 million of the Measure B fund be transferred to the PSIP program to bring the physician reimbursement rate back up to 14 percent.

A motion by Commissioner Binch to appoint a committee to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding PSIP funds and report back to the EMSC was withdrawn due to lack of a second. The Commission agreed to stay with the previous motion introduced by Commissioner Flashman that was approved on November 21, 2012.

## **5.2 Community Paramedic**

Ms. Chidester reported that the EMS Authority requested that a white paper be written by representatives from UC Davis in conjunction with the Healthcare Foundation. A draft has been completed. The State EMS Authority will hold a meeting to discuss the concept of Community Paramedic and how it would be integrated in local systems. The next meeting will be held in Sacramento on February 13.

## **5.3 1 + 1 Paramedic Staffing Model**

Ms. Chidester reported the EMS Agency was working with the Governance Committee on a draft proposal for 1 + 1 paramedic staffing. The Committee will meet again in February to complete the draft policy. The policy will go through the committee process and the EMS Agency hopes to have the policy available for the EMS Commission's review in March.

There has been some confusion about whether or not the alternate ALS staffing program has been approved by the L.A. County EMS Agency. The program has not been approved by the EMS Agency. Interested parties will be notified by letter once the program has been approved.

## **5.4 Nominating Committee Report**

The 2013 Nominating Committee consisted of Commissioners Snyder (lead), Ramirez, and Clute. Commissioner Ramirez reported that the recommendations of the Committee were:

**Chairman: Ray Mosack**  
**Vice Chair: Carole Snyder**

The floor was opened for additional nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. There were none.

***M/S/C: Commissioner Ramirez/Flashman to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendation.***

## **5.5 Standing Committee Assignments**

A list of Standing Committee assignments for the Base Hospital Advisory Committee, Data Advisory Committee, Education Advisory Committee, and the Provider Agency Advisory Committee was presented for approval.

***M/S/C: Commissioner Austin/Kazan to approve the recommendations regarding Standing Committee appointments.***

## **5.6 Strategic Plan Update**

A worksheet update of the plan was distributed for review. Ms. Chidester briefed the Commission on the evolution of the Strategic Plan.

### **(New Business)**

None

## **6. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS/REQUESTS**

None

## **7. LEGISLATION**

None

## **8. EMS DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Jacqui Rifenberg, EMS Agency, provided an update on the flu season. Ms. Rifenberg reported that there has been approximately a 1.1 percent increase in flu cases reported.
- Ms. Chidester reported that recently an article was published in the L.A. Times regarding the Northridge earthquake which generated some interest in preparedness in the community. Two years ago the Federal government put out a survey asking how prepared hospitals were for a major earthquake. While some hospitals were not comfortable completing the survey, 88% of hospitals in the County did complete it. The State plans to put out a similar survey in the future.
- Ms. Chidester reported that the State is looking to advance data they have received but does not have a very good system for updating data regarding EMS system. Local agencies are not required to provide data to the State.
- Ms. Chidester reported that Community Hospital of Huntington Park was approved as a 9-1-1 receiving center and started receiving patients on January 14.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Mosack at 2:09 PM to the meeting of March 20, 2013.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 2013  
EMS Commission Hearing Room (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)  
EMS Agency  
10100 Pioneer Blvd.  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670**

Recorded by:  
Marilyn E. Rideaux  
Commission Liaison