



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**AD HOC EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**COUNTY OF MONO**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

90 West Granite Ave, June Lake, CA 93529

**June 4, 2015**

\*These minutes are meant as a summary only. A copy of the Audio file is available in the Clerk's office upon request\*

Flash Drive	ON PORTABLE RECORDER
Minute Orders	EMS15-01 –

1:02 PM Meeting called to Order by Supervisor Fesko.

*Members present: Chapman, Copeland, Fesko, Frievalt, Geary, Johnson, Mitchell, Robbins, Rooks, Sachs, Salcido, Stump.*

*Members absent: Lockhart (attended by telephone but not present).*

*Adjourn: 3:58 p.m.*

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Fesko.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

*No one spoke.*

2. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Approval of Minutes

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approve minutes of the EMS Ad Hoc Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2015.

**Geary moved; Copeland seconded**

**Vote: 12 yes; 0 no**

**EMS15-01**

B. [Historical Perspective](#)

Departments: EMS

Bob Rooks presented a Power Point Presentation on the History of the program, past and present. This presentation, in PDF format, is available on the County website under Additional Documents.

General discussion included the wisdom of obtaining the old report on the EMS program from Abaris from 1992.

**Supervisor Fesko:**

- He appreciates Bob's effort and research.

**Recommended Action:** None.

C. [Finances](#)

Departments: Finance

Presentation by Leslie Chapman regarding EMS Finances. The spreadsheets presented to the committee are available on the County website under Additional Documents.

**Leslie Chapman:**

- Total revenues to the program are a little over \$1 million per year. This is a 5 year average, and some things need to be smoothed out. Benchmark to see percentage of expenditures.
- Next section is salaries and benefits, which are 90% of the program costs.
- Services and supplies are about 10% of the program. Previously, contract services, professional and specialty services was Whittman, that's why we are seeing a drastic drop. The change was negotiated to save the program some money by bringing billing in-house.
- Motor pool buys the ambulances, then charge a per mile fee to the program.
- Prop 172 – 13/14 fiscal year, this is safety money to allocate at discretion of BOS. Fire districts get \$125k, paramedics get 25% of what's left.
- A87 is distribution of all county costs. Decision made in 13/14, theory was whether we have this department or not, these costs continue. It is not saving the county money by putting it away. Contributions to non-profits go to fire districts.
- Numbers are actuals. Net program contribution 2.5 m from general fund.
- The percentage of billed versus received billings is about 30%; non-reimbursed funds at about 70%.

**Supervisor Stump:**

- Prop 172 money is dedicated to public safety. Prior to 2013-14 fiscal year, all Prop 172 money went to Sheriff, DA, and Probation. During the 13-14 fiscal year, a portion was diverted to support the Paramedic program.

**Stacey Simon:**

- We've been in court twice recently on collections, lots of staff time related to Medicare billing, etc. Someone who should have been paying was fighting the bills.

**Rick Johnson:**

- It is highly unlikely that receivables will increase; they are likely to decrease in the future due to managed care and the affordable care act.

**Recommended Action:** None.

D. [Report to the EMS Ad Hoc Committee](#)

Presentation by Dr. Rick Johnson regarding an overview of Mono County EMS system structure and comparison to other counties with populations of less than 40,000.

**Rick Johnson:**

- Created a broad stroke picture of other counties with less than 40,000 people. Major points of the report:
  - Dispersed populations, large visitor problems, either visiting or driving through.
  - These systems are constantly evolving, there is no one system that fits every county. There are examples of 3-4 EMS systems that run under hospitals. Estimated that 10% of hospitals will close in California in the next few years.
  - There is no other system under law enforcement; EMS has a natural affinity with fire.
  - One thing that makes a system successful is infrastructure and passionate leadership from the top down. He stressed the importance of volunteers, passionate, local, leadership, and the ownership of the community of their local volunteer Fire Department. They all struggle with recruitment and retention.
  - EMD, trained dispatchers are labor intensive with ongoing training, and are very costly personnel wise.
  - ALS vs. BLS; paramedics have 5 times the training of an EMT. Most small departments stay with personnel at the EMT level.
  - Mono County can't sustain a day to day system; also can't sustain a system built for 20 emergency victims at a time.
  - Most of the systems are BLS systems. Based in population centers. Outside of population centers you don't find ALS care unless its by mutual aid.
  - Parcel taxes might be an option but most of our calls (60-70%) are from visitors.
  - The key to survival in rural communities has to be citizen responses, not response time from EMTs.
  - Only Trinity Co and Alpine Co have impacts to general fund.

**Bob Rooks:**

- We should establish what level of service we're comfortable with in each area, and find out what the county can contribute. We should fashion the need around what each community wants, then give the rest of the need to the community to fulfill.

**Recommended Action:** None.

E. [Performance Data](#)

Departments: EMS

(Mike Geary) - Presentation by Mike Geary regarding Performance Data. These charts are available on the County website under Additional Documents.

**Recommended Action:** None.

General Discussion:

**Supervisor Fesko:**

- Where do we go from here? What does the committee need answered?

**Frank Frievalt:**

- Wants targets on future meetings. He believes we've established that the current process is financially unacceptable.
- He thinks the decisions the Board previously made are out of the scope of this committee. The committee's deliverable is to come back with something that is actionable by meeting 12.

**Leslie Chapman:**

- She thinks the current system is broken, and needs to be redone.

**Jack Copeland:**

- The current system is unsustainable. He wants to know what, where and how are services going to be cut.

**Lynda Salcido:**

- These issues were brought to the Board, and one of the options was cutting services. The public went nuts, and the Board chose rather to subsidize services.

**Supervisor Stump:**

- He invites all to the upcoming Board budget hearings. He brought up issues the County is currently facing, including potential road fund cuts of up to \$600,000; PERS unfunded liabilities of \$550,000. In addition, the State takes 20% of gross property taxes, plus the County has other built in costs.

ADJOURN

ATTEST

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TIMOTHY E. FESKO  
CHAIRMAN

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HELEN NUNN  
SR. DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD