

SOLANO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COOPERATIVE

Board of Directors

SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

9:30am – 13:30pm

Hearing Room; Solano County Government Building
675 Texas St., Fairfield, CA

Board of Directors

Michael D. Johnson
County Administrator
Solano County

Hector De La Rosa
City Manager
City of Rio Vista

Michael J. O'Brien
Fire Chief
Suisun City Fire Department

Erika Bauer, R.N., M.S.N.
Continuing Care Leader
Kaiser Foundation

William D. Melton, M.D.
Medical Director,
Emergency Department
Sutter Solano Med. Center

Caesar Djavaherian, M.D.
Emergency Physician
Physicians' Forum Rep.

(vacant)
Consumer Representative

EMS Agency Staff

Richard Lotsch, D.O.
EMS Agency
Medical Director

Ted Selby
Agency Administrator

Counsel

Azniv Darbinian
Assistant County Counsel

Daniel Wolk
Deputy County Counsel

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call E. Bauer for M. Johnson
2. Approve Agenda E. Bauer for M. Johnson
3. Authorize the termination of the contract with California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR); Approve updated Policy 5800, "Use of EMS Aircraft" E. Bauer for M. Johnson
4. Interview of Health Care Consumer Representative Applicants E. Bauer for M. Johnson
5. Adjourn E. Bauer for M. Johnson
To the next regular meeting of October 14, 2010.

Agenda materials will be available at the EMS Office
after 2PM Monday, September 13, 2010.

Solano EMS Cooperative

275 Beck Ave., MS 5-240, Fairfield, CA 94533 / PH: 707-784-8155 / Fax 707-421-6682 / Web Site: www.solanocounty.com

SEMSC Board of Directors Special Meeting

9/15/2010

Call to Order/Roll Call

SEMSC Board of Directors Special Meeting

9/15/2010

**3. Authorize the termination of the contract
with California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR)
and
Approve updated Policy 5800, "Use of EMS Aircraft"**

Solano Emergency Medical Services Cooperative

Board of Directors Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 9/15/2010

Agenda Item: 3. Authorize the termination of the contract with California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR); Approve updated Policy 5800, "Use of EMS Aircraft".

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Board should authorize termination of the contract with California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR) and approve updated Policy 5800, "Use of EMS Aircraft" (Refer to Exhibit 1).

DISCUSSION:

It has recently come to light that the Air Ambulance contract, awarded to California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR) in 2007 is invalid because the Air Ambulance Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) for Solano County was not approved by the California EMS Authority. Further, Policy 5800, "Use of EMS Aircraft" must be updated to reflect appropriate aircraft utilization and rotation.

ALTERNATIVE(S):

The Board could choose not to terminate the contract and revise Solano County Policy 5800. This action is not recommended as the contract was awarded inappropriately and non-termination would allow legal action against Solano County. Non-approval of the updated Policy 5800 (Use of EMS Aircraft) would create confusion in the management and utilization of EMS Aircraft in Solano County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item has no fiscal impact for the Board.

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

This item has been reviewed and accepted by counsel on behalf of the Board.

MEDICAL SUFFICIENCY:

This item has been reviewed by and is acceptable to the EMS Agency Medical Director.

BOARD ACTION:

Solano County Health & Social Services Department

Mental Health Services
Public Health Services
Substance Abuse Services
Older & Disabled Adult Services



Eligibility Services
Employment Services
Children's Services
Administrative Services

Patrick O. Duterte, Director

Richard C. Lotsch, D.O.
EMS Agency Medical Director


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Ted Selby
EMS Agency Administrator

POLICY MEMORANDUM 5800

DATE: September 9, 2010

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:



RICHARD C. LOTSCH, D.O., EMS AGENCY MEDICAL DIRECTOR



TED SELBY, EMS AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: USE OF EMS AIRCRAFT

AUTHORITY: CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, TITLE 22, CHAPTER 6, SECTIONS
100206 – 100228.

PURPOSE/POLICY:

This policy outlines indications for the use of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) aircraft, methods and procedures for dispatch, and assigns responsibility for EMS aircraft destination decisions and for communication with the receiving facility. EMS aircraft are intended to be used in circumstances when patients with traumatic injuries require rapid transport to a trauma center, in accordance with the Solano County Trauma Triage Protocol.

I. DISPATCH

- A. Dispatch of EMS Aircraft (911 calls) within Solano County shall be initiated by the County's EMS Aircraft "Designated Dispatch Center" (currently Solano County Sheriff's Dispatch Center). The closest available aircraft will be dispatched to the scene. During call scenarios where there is more than one aircraft provider available, a daily dispatch rotation will be applied. This aircraft rotation will occur in Air Response Zone 3, also referred to as the South County. Requests for dispatch of an EMS Aircraft will originate with the incident commander following an assessment which takes into consideration the patient's medical condition along with logistical factors:
 1. Scene safety, which requires a landing zone (LZ) which is located within reasonable proximity and is safe for both air and ground crews.

- 2. Patient weight within aircraft limits, non-combative, free of hazardous materials or fumes.
 - 3. EMS aircraft availability within a time frame which would be estimated to result in a marginally shorter arrival time at the trauma center Emergency Department (ED) of at least 10 minutes over ground response and transport.
 - 4. Medical needs which are either particularly time sensitive or requiring the specialized skills of a flight nurse:
 - a. Deteriorating mental status;
 - b. Unstable vital signs;
 - c. Potential for unstable airway;
 - d. Amputations, excluding digits, with potential for reattachment.
- B. The Dispatcher’s decision regarding which aircraft to send shall be in accordance with the rotational protocol established by the EMS Agency (Attachment A).
- C. Solano County Dispatch will provide the following to the aircraft dispatch:
- 1. Location;
 - 2. Requesting Agency;
 - 3. Nature of Request.
- D. Aircraft dispatch should contact the Requesting Dispatch Agency to obtain additional information which may include:
- 1. Number of patients, type and extent of injuries or illness, estimated weight;
 - 2. Landing site information (if possible);
 - 3. Coordinates;
 - 4. Landmarks identifiable from the air;
 - 5. Terrain and obstacles (e.g., wires & poles in the immediate area);
 - 6. On-scene Unit Designator;
 - 7. Significant on-scene weather conditions.

II. CRITERIA FOR SIMULTANEOUS DISPATCH

- A. No ALS Ground Ambulance immediately available such as in some of the remote locations in Solano County.
- B. The Dispatcher at the designated EMS Aircraft Dispatch Center should consider the following criteria in making the decision to simultaneously dispatch EMS aircraft.

<p>INJURY CRITERIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ground ambulance response >20 min; ➤ Victim is unconscious, due to trauma; ➤ Penetrating injury chest/abdomen/head/neck/groin/buttock; ➤ Falls of ≥15 feet; ➤ Explosion or blast injuries; ➤ Partial/full amputation, excluding digits; ➤ Major Electrocutation (lightning strike, high voltage) 	<p>Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) CRITERIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ALS Ground ambulance response >20 min. ➤ Unrestrained, crash speed >35mph; ➤ Vehicle rollover; ➤ Victim entrapment; ➤ Victim ejection; ➤ Motorcycle victim ejected speed >20mph; ➤ Pedestrian struck by vehicle speed >20mph ➤ Multiple victims.
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III. LANDING SITES

- A. There are three (3) types of landing sites to be utilized by EMS aircraft:
1. Sites chosen at or near the scene of an incident;
 2. Pre-designated landing sites.
 3. Heliports and/or airports.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Equipment:
All EMS aircraft will be equipped, at a minimum, with radio equipment approved by the EMS Medical Director upon recommendation of the Director of Solano County Communications Department. At a minimum, EMS Aircraft must have the capability of communicating with Solano County Central Dispatch and ground units using Fire I, CALCORD 1 and CALCORD 2.
- B. Channels:
EMS Aircraft Providers shall utilize and maintain medical communications with local EMS first responders, EMS providers, and Base Hospitals as specified by the EMS Agency.
- C. Protocol:
1. Requests for EMS Aircraft will be made from responding units to their respective Dispatch Center.
 2. Dispatch centers will notify Solano Dispatch of the need for service and include:
 - a. Location of call;
 - b. Nature of call;
 - c. On-scene unit designator.
 3. Once enroute, EMS Aircraft Dispatch will notify the requesting agency dispatch (not Solano Sheriff's Office).
 4. As soon as possible, responding aircraft will utilize the following communications:
 - a. FIRE 1 for radio communications while enroute;
 - b. CALCORD for on-scene communication;
 - c. FIRE 2 if CALCORD is unavailable.

V. CANCELLATION OF RESPONSE

EMS Aircraft Response may be cancelled by the most medically qualified on-scene EMS personnel in conjunction with the scene commander when it is determined that:

- A. The patient does not meet trauma triage criteria and/or their clinical condition doesn't warrant EMS Aircraft transport;
- B. Ground ambulance transportation is more appropriate (e.g. because of delay in air ambulance response, proximity of a receiving hospital, etc.);
- C. A patient refuses to be transported by air ambulance;
- D. A patient refuses medical aid and/or transportation;
- E. Transport of the patient presents a danger to the flight crew;
- F. Pilot determination based on flight operations and/or environmental conditions.

VI. EMS AIRCRAFT OPERATIONAL DISPATCH

- A. Each authorized EMS air ambulance/rescue service shall maintain an operational dispatch center 24 hours/day; 7days/week. The dispatch center shall be able to immediately confirm the provider’s ability to respond to an EMS incident upon notification by Solano County Dispatch Center. The EMS aircraft operational dispatch center will monitor the status of area receiving trauma facilities. The dispatch center and the responding aircraft will jointly determine the closest (as measured by flying time) available trauma facility, and will communicate patient information to the destination facility.

- B. Operational Log
The EMS aircraft service shall maintain a log and/or records of all EMS aircraft requests from all requests for EMS aircraft originating in Solano County. The minimum data to be recorded and submitted to the Agency on a monthly basis and shall include:
 - 1. Date;
 - 2. Time of notification by the Solano County Dispatch Center;
 - 3. Time the EMS aircraft is enroute;
 - 4. Time of arrival at scene;
 - 5. Time of departure from scene;
 - 6. Time of arrival at receiving facility;
 - 7. Time available and/or time call was terminated when services were not needed;
 - 8. Entity requesting the service and/or cancelling the service;
 - 9. Pertinent factors associated with terminated requests.

- C. EMS Aircraft shall comply with all requirements specified in applicable agreements, contracts, policies, and procedures issued by the EMS Agency.

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DATE: September 9, 2010

HELICOPTER ROTATION SCHEDULE

ZONE 1	Fire districts include:
Ryer Island,	Isleton FD Isleton Fire Protection District
AIR AMBULANCE CALL ORDER	
CALSTAR 8 – Vacaville, Closest Air Ship	
CALSTAR 1 – Concord	
REACH 3 – Concord	
REACH 2 – Stockton	
CALSTAR 3 – Auburn	
CHP – H30	

ZONE 2	Fire Districts include:
Dixon Fire District	City of Vacaville Vacaville Fire District
City of Dixon	Fairfield Montezuma
Rio Vista	Suisun District City of Suisun
Cordelia	CDF west of Cordelia
AIR AMBULANCE CALL ORDER	
CALSTAR 8 – Vacaville, Closest Air Ship	
CALSTAR 1 – Concord	
REACH 3 – Concord	
REACH 2 – Stockton	
Reach 1 – Santa Rosa	
CHP – H30	

ZONE 3	Fire districts include:
Vallejo	Benicia Delta
AIR AMBULANCE CALL ORDER	
CALSTAR 1 – Concord, Rotation	
REACH 3 – Concord, Rotation	
CALSTAR 8 – Vacaville	
REACH 1 – Santa Rosa	
REACH 2 – Stockton	
CHP – H30	

Solano Emergency Medical Services Cooperative

Board of Directors Agenda Item Summary

SEMSC Board of Directors Special Meeting

9/15/2010

**4. Interview of Health Care Consumer
Representative Applicants**

Solano Emergency Medical Services Cooperative

Board of Directors Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 9/15/2010

Agenda Item 4: Interview of Health Care Consumer Representative Applicants

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Board should interview the applicants for the position of Health Care Consumer Representative who appear for their scheduled interview and then select the most qualified applicant from this pool to be the Health Care Consumer Representative Board Member in accordance with the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) by-laws.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to direction from the Board at the July 8, 2010 meeting of the Board of Directors, the position of Health Care Consumer Representative was advertised. A total of six (6) application submissions were received by the EMS Agency prior to the cut-off date of August 12, 2010. All applications have been reviewed and found to meet minimum qualifications.

ALTERNATIVE(S):

The Board could choose not to accept the applications submitted and require the application period to be reopened. This action is not recommended as the applications received meet the minimum qualifications.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item has no fiscal impact for the Board.

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

This item has been reviewed and accepted by counsel on behalf of the Board.

MEDICAL SUFFICIENCY:

This item has been reviewed by and is acceptable to the EMS Agency Medical Director.

BOARD ACTION: