



**INYO COUNTY**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE**



**NORTHERN INYO HOSPITAL**  
**BOARD ROOM**

**March 22, 2010**  
**QI Committee --5:00 p.m.**  
**EMCC -- 6:00 p.m.**

**A G E N D A**  
**Revised**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 25, 2010 MINUTES**
- III. ICEMA UPDATE**
  - A. Personnel Update
    - 1. Secretary to Virginia - Jacquie Martin
    - 2. Trauma Nurse – Christine Yoshida-McMath
  - B. ICEMA San Bernardino County Rate Setting Policy
  - C. San Bernardino County Air RFP
  - D. King Airway Survey
  - E. EMS MISS Status Report
- IV. EMS SYSTEM MANAGEMENT REPORTS**
  - A. ALS/BLS Reports
  - B. Base Hospital Report
  - C. ePCR Update
- V. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Annual EMCC Report
  - B. Mass Casualty trailers Items – HPP Funds (see 1/25/2010 minutes)
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. EMT-I National Registry Exam Results
  - B. Changes in Ambulance Services – Judd Symons
  - C. DOJ Background Checks for EMT-Is
  - D. 2010 EMS Provider of the Year
- VII. OTHER/PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUEST FOR TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**
- IX. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**
- X. ADJOURNMENT**

*The Inyo County Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If assistive listening devices or other auxiliary aids or services are needed in order to participate in the public meeting, requests should be made through the Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency at least three (3) business days prior to the EMCC meeting. The telephone number is (909) 388-5823, and office is located at 515 North Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino, CA*



**INYO COUNTY EMCC MEETING**  
Southern Inyo Hospital

**MINUTES**  
**January 25, 2010**

**Voting Members Present:**

|                         |                                      |  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Judd Symons, Vice Chair | Symons Emergency Specialties, Inc.   | <a href="mailto:juddsymons@aol.com">juddsymons@aol.com</a>               |
| Phil Ashworth           | Independence Fire Department         | <a href="mailto:philinyo@usamedia.tv">philinyo@usamedia.tv</a>           |
| Le Roy Kritz            | Lone Pine Fire Department, Chief     | <a href="mailto:LChief2401@lonepinetv.com">LChief2401@lonepinetv.com</a> |
| Lloyd Wilson            | Big Pine Fire Department, Chief      | <a href="mailto:dlwilson41@msn.com">dlwilson41@msn.com</a>               |
| Steven Davis            | Olancha Cartago Fire Dept., Chief    | <a href="mailto:olanchafire@aol.com">olanchafire@aol.com</a>             |
| Andrew Stevens          | Northern Inyo Hospital               | <a href="mailto:Andrew.stevens@nih.org">Andrew.stevens@nih.org</a>       |
| Joe Cappello            | Independence Fire Department         | <a href="mailto:jcappello@cebridge.net">jcappello@cebridge.net</a>       |
| Lee Barron              | Southern Inyo Hospital               | <a href="mailto:leebee40@aol.com">leebee40@aol.com</a>                   |
| Mike Patterson          | Sierra Life Flight, Program Director | <a href="mailto:mike@sierraaviation.com">mike@sierraaviation.com</a>     |

**Voting Members Absent:**

|                          |                                     |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Paul Postle, Chairperson | So. Inyo Fire Prot. District, Chief | <a href="mailto:paul2701@wildblue.net">paul2701@wildblue.net</a>   |
| Dr. Michael Dillon       | ER Physician                        | <a href="mailto:MichaelDillon@qnet.com">MichaelDillon@qnet.com</a> |
| Jean Turner              | Health & Human Services, Director   | <a href="mailto:jturner@inyocounty.us">jturner@inyocounty.us</a>   |
| Martha Reynolds          | Northern Inyo Hospital              | <a href="mailto:marthareynolds@nih.org">marthareynolds@nih.org</a> |

**Other Attendees:**

|                    |                            |  |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Diane Fisher       | ICEMA                      | <a href="mailto:DFisher@cao.sbcounty.gov">DFisher@cao.sbcounty.gov</a>     |
| Gina Ellis         | ICHHS, Recording Secretary | <a href="mailto:gellis@inyocounty.us">gellis@inyocounty.us</a>             |
| Clyde Reyburn      | ICHHS                      | <a href="mailto:creyburn@inyocounty.us">creyburn@inyocounty.us</a>         |
| Marty Fortney      | Inyo County Supervisor     | <a href="mailto:marty@aberdeenresort.com">marty@aberdeenresort.com</a>     |
| Denise Lauffer, RN | Southern Inyo Hospital     | <a href="mailto:deniselauffer@aol.com">deniselauffer@aol.com</a>           |
| Rick Johnson, MD   | ICHHS, Public Health       | <a href="mailto:drrickjohn@gmail.com">drrickjohn@gmail.com</a>             |
| Melissa Best-Baker | ICHHS, Public Health       | <a href="mailto:mbestbaker@inyocounty.us">mbestbaker@inyocounty.us</a>     |
| Tamara Cohn        | ICHHS, Public Health       | <a href="mailto:tcohn@inyocounty.us">tcohn@inyocounty.us</a>               |
| Fred Hawkins       | Liberty Ambulance          | <a href="mailto:flhawkins8@aol.com">flhawkins8@aol.com</a>                 |
| Kevin Davey        | General Devices            | <a href="mailto:kdavey@general-devices.com">kdavey@general-devices.com</a> |

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairperson, Judd Symons, called the meeting to order at 6:26 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 30, 2009 MINUTES**

Motion Le Roy Kritz, seconded by Steven Davis to approve the November 30, 2009 minutes.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Protocols

1. Reference # 1050 MICN Certification
2. Reference # 6070 STEMI Receiving Center

3. Reference # 7010 BLS/ALS Drug and Equipment List
4. Reference # 7020 EMS Air Drug and Equipment List
5. Reference # 9120 Nausea and Vomiting (Zofran)
6. Reference # 10100 12 lead ECG

Diane Fisher reviewed the protocols. It was noted that Sierra Lifeflight has some concerns with the MICN Certification for their staff. Confidentiality Statements were distributed, and will be available at the next meeting as well. There was discussion on the Stemi Receiving Centers. Andrew Stevens of Northern Inyo Hospital expressed some reticence around the idea. Motion Mike Patterson, seconded by Steve Davis to approve the protocols as listed on the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. QI Committee Report**

A QI Committee report was given and the BLS/ALS reports were distributed. A highlight from the meeting was the need for ICEMA to take into account rural areas developing destination policies and timeframes for STEMI and trauma patients.

**C. E Net Messenger Presentation – Kevin Davey, General Devices**

Kevin Davey of General Devices provided handouts and gave a brief presentation on the E-Net Messenger system. The group questioned how this system differed from ReddiNet, and whether facilities would need to have the same system in order for it to work. Mr. Davey gave pricing for the system and asked that people contact him for additional information or questions.

**D. 2010 EMS Provider of the Year**

Steve Davis, Olancho Fire Department, asked that the 2010 EMS Provider of the Year be presented during EMS week in early May 2010. In order to meet that date, the ballots need to be sent out in the next month and a vote held at the March meeting. This item should be part of the March meeting agenda. It was suggested that the vote be done by secret ballot this year, and limited to one award recipient. Steve will forward the application to Gina Ellis, and she will send it out to the EMCC members.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Annual EMCC Report**

Gina Ellis reported for Paul Postle that the EMCC Annual Report is complete, but that it needs to be distributed. This item should be part of the March meeting agenda.

**B. Lone Pine Airport**

Mike Patterson of Sierra Lifeflight reported that the condition of the Lone Pine Airport has been a non-issue. It was noted that the next Southern Airport Advisory Committee meeting is Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 7:00 a.m. at the Lone Pine Airport.

**C. Mass Casualty Trailers**

Inyo County Public Health reported that there is HPP money available in the amount of \$1,547 for the Mass Casualty Trailers. Tamara Cohn and Melissa Best-Baker need a list of trailer items so they can proceed.

**V. OTHER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

**A. Disaster Response Designated Sites - Tamara Cohn**

Tamara Cohn, Inyo County Public Health, distributed a document titled “Inyo County HHS/Public Health Division Designated Sites”. She talked about varying ways facilities could be used during a disaster. Public Health has worked to create an updated list of facilities, and plans to have a site checklist in the next few months. Tamara asked that local emergency response agencies contact her office to propose dates in February and March to assist with contacting and assessing the facilities in their communities. She noted that the fixed field treatment site column is blank because it has not been examined yet.

**B. MADDY Funds and Staff Introduction – Gina Ellis**

Gina Ellis, Health and Human Services (HHS) asked that any outstanding receipts for the 08/09 MADDY Funds be submitted to her attention by January 31, 2010. She introduced Clyde Reyburn, HHS Office Assistant and said that he may be assisting with recording secretary duties in the future.

**VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUEST FOR TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- A. 2010 EMS Provider a Year
- B. Annual EMCC Report

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**

Monday, March 22, 2010, Northern Inyo Hospital  
Q.I. 5:00 p.m.  
EMCC 6:00 p.m.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Andrew Stevens, seconded by Lee Barron to adjourn the meeting of the EMCC at 7:33 p.m.



## ICEMA AMBULANCE RATE SETTING POLICY - SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

### PURPOSE

To provide for maximum charges that San Bernardino County ambulance providers may charge for the care and transport of patients.

No ambulance service shall charge more than the following rates:

- (a) **ONE PATIENT:** The schedule of maximum rates that may be charged for ambulance service for one (1) patient shall be as initially set adjusted thereafter by ICEMA.
- (b) **RATES FOR MULTIPLE LOADS:**
  - (1) Each additional stretcher or gurney patient carried at the same time may be charged the full base rate for the response to the call and half the mileage rate.
  - (2) Each additional sit-up patient shall be charged half the base rate for response to the call and half the mileage rate.
  - (3) The provider may prorate all mileage charges between all patients transported so that all patients are charged the same fee for mileage.
  - (4) This section does not apply to contractual agreements.
- (c) **NO CHARGE TRANSPORTS:** No charge shall be made for transporting uninjured or well persons who accompany a patient.
- (d) **COMPUTATION OF RATES:** All rates are to be computed from the time the ambulance arrives for hire until the ambulance delivers the patient to the appropriate destination, and is discharged by the patient or his representative, attending physician, or emergency receiving facility.
- (e) **FEEES FOR SERVICE, SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT:**
  - (1) When a ground ambulance has been dispatched and ambulance personnel and/or equipment are directly involved with patient care in situations where an EMS aircraft transports, then the ambulance service shall be entitled to charge an appropriate fee for it service, supplies and equipment.

- (2) Under no circumstances shall ambulance personnel dispatched on a Code 3 call attempt to collect for the service prior to the delivery of the patient at an appropriate medical facility.
- (f) ANNUAL RATE ADJUSTMENT: At the direction ICEMA, the ambulance rates established under this section shall apply to all providers of ambulance services.
- (1) ICEMA shall be responsible for calculating the rate adjustments.
  - (2) The CPI adjustment shall be calculated by April 15 of each year. The CPI adjustment shall be effective as of the first day of July of each year.
  - (3) If the selected CPI is discontinued or revised, such other government index or computation with which it is replaced shall be used in order to obtain substantially the same result as would be obtained if the CPI had not been discontinued or revised.
  - (4) The current rates shall be adjusted in an amount necessary to properly compensate ambulance providers for changes in their direct and indirect costs based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as set forth herein. The adjustments shall be made on July 1 of each year based upon the change in the CPI from January 1 of the proceeding year to January 1 of the adjustment year. The first rate adjustment shall be made effective January 1, 2010 based on the change of CPI, not seasonally adjusted, from January 1, 2009 to January 1, 2010. The CPI adjustment shall be determined by multiplying the base amounts by adding five percent (5%) of the changes of the transportation index plus ninety five percent (95%) of the medical index of the CPI for All Urban Consumers, Western Region, Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange Counties, California, as compiled and reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the 12-month period up to January 1 of the adjustment year. The percentage change, (rounded to the nearest hundredth) will be multiplied by 1.5 to calculate the annual rate adjustment percentage. The rate adjustment shall then be applied to each charge category by ICEMA. Yearly CPI adjustments shall not exceed five percent (5%) or less than zero percent (0%) for any single year.
- (g) ANNUAL RATE COMPARISON STUDY: The maximum base rates shall be reviewed in accordance with the following procedures, and adjusted annually, if appropriate, effective on March 1, 2010 and on July 1 every year thereafter. After the rate adjustment has been made pursuant to Section 31.0820(e) the local EMS agency shall review the ALS and BLS ambulance base rates of counties with similar demographics. To determine the ALS and BLS average base rates in effect for these counties as of the review date. If the San Bernardino County Rates are at

the average or greater, no adjustment to the ambulance rates will be made under this provision. If the San Bernardino County rates are less than the average, an appropriate adjustment to the ambulance rates shall be made to bring them to the average. No ambulance rate comparison adjustment shall be greater than five percent (5%).

(h) **MILEAGE CHARGE RATE ADJUSTMENT:** In addition to, and not in lieu of, annual CPI adjustments, rate increases or decreases in an amount equal to the ambulance providers' fuel price extraordinary increases or decreases may also be granted. The local EMS agency shall determine the application process of such increases or decreases. The mileage charge may be reviewed quarterly effective January 1, 2010, and adjusted, if appropriate.

(i) **EXTRAORDINARY RATE ADJUSTMENTS:**

(1) In addition to, and not in lieu of, annual CPI adjustments, rate increases or decreases in an amount equal to the ambulance providers' extraordinary increases or decreases in their revenue or expenses may also be granted. ICEMA shall determine the application process of such extraordinary revenue or expenses increases or decreases. Such extraordinary costs increases or decreases shall be subject to ICEMA Governing Board approval. The ambulance provider must demonstrate actual or reasonably projected, substantial financial hardship as a result of factors beyond its reasonable control and provide records deemed necessary to verify such hardship. This procedure may also be used to obtain rate adjustments due to changes in the CPI that are greater than the five (5%) cap under the yearly CPI adjustment, above.

(2) ICEMA, at the time of any extraordinary adjustment under subsection (1), above, may request an audit of books and records of a permittee for the purpose of verifying revenue and cost data specifically associated with the extraordinary rate increase request. Such an audit shall be carried out by a person selected by the permittee and approved by ICEMA. If ICEMA and permittee cannot agree on a person to perform the audit, then the audit shall be carried out by a Certified Public Accountant selected by the ICEMA Executive Director. If there is any charge, cost or fee for such an audit, such shall be paid by the permittee. ICEMA may deny any adjustment if an audit is requested and not produced. Every audit shall be done promptly and within thirty (30) days of the time it is requested so there should be no undue delay.

APPROVED

ICEMA Medical Director

3/3/10  
Date

*Virginia Hester*  
ICEMA Executive Director

3/3/10  
Date