Mountain Counties Emergency Medical Services Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2025

Location:	Copperopolis Fire Station / Training Room 370 Main Street, Copperopolis, CA. 95228 Zoom Option
Time:	9:00 AM
Board Members Present:	Miles Menetrey (Chairperson) – Mariposa County; Terry Woodrow (Vice Chairperson) - Alpine County; Gary Tofanelli – Calaveras County
Board Members Absent:	Jeff Brown – Amador County
Guests:	Chief Johnson – Ebbetts Pass Fire District; Rodney Hendrix – Ebbetts Pass Fire District; Johnathan Knauf – Mercy Medical Transportation; Michelle Tyer – American Legion Ambulance.
Staff:	Cindy Murdaugh – Executive Director; Thomas Morton – Acting Executive Director; Mark Ferreira – QI Coordinator; Dr. Kimberly Freeman – Agency Medical Director; Derek Cole – Agency Counsel, Christopher Edgerly– Disaster Preparedness Coordinator; Andrea Ramirez – Executive Secretary/Financial Services Assistant.

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairperson Menetrey with a quorum of three members present.

B. Welcome and Introductions

All meeting attendees provided self-introductions. Chairperson Menetrey called on each meeting attendee on Zoom for self-introduction

C. Correspondence

None

D. Additions, Deletions, Corrections to Agenda

M/S/C (Woodrow/ Tofanelli) To approve the agenda as submitted.
Roll Call Vote:
Alpine County Aye
Amador County Absent
Calaveras County Aye
Mariposa County Aye
Motion Passed 3-0-1

E. Public Forum

F. Approval of Consent Calendar

M/S/C (Woodrow/ Tofanelli) To approve the consent calendar.
Roll Call Vote:
Alpine County Aye
Amador County Absent
Calaveras County Aye
Mariposa County Aye
Motion Passed 3-0-1

G. Agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation

Ms. Murdaugh stated the amendment is to change all references to the committee name throughout the contract from EMCC to the EMMACC (Emergency Management Multi-Agency Care Committee).

Chairperson Menetrey explained Mariposa County's EMCC (Emergency Medical Care Committee) was disbanded and reformed as the EMMACC (Emergency Multi-Agency Care Committee). The Mercy Medical Transportation contract states if renewed or amended to a five-year extension, the contract will be presented to that committee. So, we changed the name of the committee in the contract with this amendment.

Mr. Knauf stated this committee change was to streamline and make it easier for us to hold meetings and make progress.

M/S/C (Woodrow/ Tofanelli) To approve amendment to the agreement with Mercy Medical Transportation
Roll Call Vote:
Alpine County Aye
Amador County Absent
Calaveras County Aye
Mariposa County Aye
Motion Passed 3-0-1

H. Board Resolution Required AB 716

Mr. Morton presented to the Board the resolution that included ambulance rate increases for two providers, American Legion Ambulance and Ebbetts Pass Fire District. The resolution also states no further rate increases for this year. This law was implemented in 2023; the purpose of this bill was to eliminate balance billing. AB 716 is still under review from EMSA with little guidance on how the LEMSA'S should be handling this bill. The original responsibilities from AB 716 were that EMSA was to collect all ambulance provider rates and post to their website for insurance companies to abide by what the published rates are for that ground ambulance. If the ambulance rates are not posted where insurances can visually see the rates, this could potentially lead to ground ambulance providers not receiving the

correct rate. Mountain Counties EMS Agency contracts state that the Executive Director can approve rate increases up to ten percent, if the rate increase is ten percent and above the governing body must approve the rate increase. Typical rate increases have been handled between the ambulance providers and the Executive Director. Due to the language in the legislation, it states it must be approved by the governing body. The Agency is taking a proactive stance on this matter and adding a folder on the website to state the ambulance rates for insurance companies to have readily available, if rates change, we will update accordingly.

Mr. Cole stated there are some ambiguities in the statue, but the way the Agency is handling this is exactly what they need to do. He wants to make sure the ambulance providers can simply point the insurance companies to our website for that information to eliminate any billing disputes.

Supervisor Tofanelli asked if Mrs. Tyer agreed with the rates set forth.

Mrs. Tyer assured him American Legion Ambulance purposed them and are pleased with the rates that they have before them.

M/S/C (Tofanelli/Woodrow) To approve Board Resolution AB716
Roll Call Vote:
Alpine County Aye
Amador County Absent
Calaveras County Aye
Mariposa County Aye
Motion Passed 3-0-1

I. Agency Fee Schedule

Ms. Murdaugh presented to the Board that the Agency Fee schedule has been brought back for approval because there has been some interest in an Advanced EMT Training Program within one of our member counties. In 2015 Mr. Murdock, through the Agency, sponsored an AEMT course taught in Calaveras County. Unfortunately, none of those individuals obtained certification because it was during fire season and they never finished their clinicals. The provider that is interested in the Advanced EMT Program currently has an EMT Training program with us. We are expecting to receive an application for that shortly. While looking at the Agency fee schedule we recognized that we did not have a fee established for Advanced EMT Training Program. The Advanced EMT Program fee would be set at $2,500.00, Advanced EMT Program applicants with a current EMT Training Program, the Agency has reduced the cost to $1,500.00. The entity that is interested in the Advanced EMT Training Program just paid their EMT Training Program fee of $2,500.00 last year and the Agency is trying to accommodate with a lower cost. This would be effective August 15, 2025.

M/S/C (Tofanelli /Woodrow) To approve the Agency fee schedule
Roll Call Vote:
Alpine County Aye
Amador County Absent
Calaveras County Aye
Mariposa County Aye
Motion Passed 3-0-1

J. Agency and County Reports

Mr. Morton Reported the Agency hired Christopher Edgerly on August 4th, 2025, for the Disaster Preparedness Coordinator. Mr. Ferreira and Mr. Morton have been sharing responsibilities for the Disaster Preparedness Coordinator position since the prior coordinator left the Agency on January 31, 2025. During the recruitment process the Agency received multiple candidates through Indeed, some had a lot of qualifications, and some had zero experience in EMS or Disaster Preparedness. The Agency held interviews for two candidates on June 13, 2025. Both interviews went well. Chris Edgerly had more experience in Disaster Preparedness from both the EMS side and the County Health Department side as the MHOAC Designee for Calaveras County; he has also been an EMT in L.A.

The Agency has been looking to switch the software used to print certifications, accreditations and authorizations. The Agency received a quote from Capture Technologies and Image Trend. Image Trend would be $60,000.00 up front and an annual amount of $50,000.00. Capture Technologies is the most cost-effective upgrade the Agency has found. This software will be able to meet the Agency's needs for reporting and tracking purposes. The Agency currently uses three different databases that do not integrate with each other. We must manually input certifications in three different databases so there is room for typo errors. The software that the Agency is currently using will be obsolete soon and will not have support and maintenance if problems arise. The database that the Agency is switching to will be able to upload all our current data and the support and maintenance fee we will be able to switch to the new software.

Ms. Murdaugh stated that the reason the Agency needs to move to the new database is because we are unable to pull reports from the old database. The Agency uses the reporting functionality within the database to give to the state quarterly and annually reports for how many certifications, accreditations, and authorizations the Agency has granted.

Supervisor Tofanelli asked; will the new database handle the amount of data we have and for what we are paying now? Will the historical data be imported to the new database? What is the difference in software from Image Trend and Capture Technologies other than the price?

Mr. Morton assured him the new database will withstand all the data we currently have. Capture Technologies database is not vaporware and Merced County EMS Agency is currently using it, and they swear by it. It has all the reports that the Agency needs and is scalable, user friendly, and easy to update any reports that may be needed. The main difference that Image Trend shows is that it will keep track of individuals CPR certification and send a six-month, three-month, two-month intervals to remind the individual of their expiration date is approaching. The Agency does not need all the bells and whistles that Image Trend offers. The Agency just needs the data, and the data is obtainable through Capture Technologies. Mr. Morton explained this is new software supported by the same company. The Agency will be saving money on the annual cost also.

Ms. Murdaugh stated it will do away with the third data entry because Data Pro will go away. The Agency cannot access Data Pro to do data entry or reporting currently. Which will inevitably cut down on any data entry errors.

Mr. Ferreira reported that the Agency has had a couple paramedic orientations, there will be a five-call on the simulation manikin on Tuesday August 18, 2025. August 14, 2025, was a meeting for the northern California LEMSA Coordinators group. Extremely busy with clinical issues that are resolving with time.

Dr. Freeman reported that EMDAC and EMSAAC has a quarterly meeting where she will be advocating for an increased local optional scope of practice for inter-facility transfers to transport calcium channel blockers and norepinephrine. Some providers have been asking for that. They were able to get data submitted to her to get the application in. Mariposa County asked for Flu vaccines, so she is working on that getting covered by the state.

Alpine County- No Report
Amador County- Absent
Calaveras County- No Report
Mariposa County – No Report

K. <u>Closed Session</u>

The Board entered closed session at 9:34 A.M

L. <u>Results of Closed Session</u>

The Board returned from closed session at 10:02 A.M

Mr. Cole Reported there was a closed session for performance evaluation of the general counsel, and he is happy to report he is still employed, other than that there is no reportable action.

M. Next Scheduled Regular Meeting
Friday, October 17, 2025 at 9:00 AM in person at Copperopolis Fire Station. A Zoom option will be offered as well.

N. Adjournment Chairperson Menetrey adjourned the meeting at 10:06 AM.