



## El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority

---

### Special Joint Finance and JPA Board Workshop

Tuesday, September 18, 2012, 9:00 a.m.

Diamond Springs/El Dorado Fire Station #49 – Classroom

### Minutes

#### **Present:**

Chiefs Gill/Pioneer Fire, Roberts/El Dorado Hills, Bement/Garden Valley, Keating/Rescue Fire, Combs/Diamond Fire, Sanders/ECC, Marty Hackett/JPA Executive Director, Jannell Clanton/JPA, Tyler/CALFire, Keenan/Cameron Park, Mike Kaslin/CalFire, Jody Gossner/CalFire, Susan Johnson/Georgetown, Chris Weston/Public Health, Rich Todd/EMSA, Jake/Firefighter-Paramedic EDC, Jason Baldwin/Firefighter-Paramedic EDC, Hardy/El Dorado County Fire, Huffman/El Dorado County Fire, and Schwab/Georgetown Fire.

#### **1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 0906 hours.

#### **2. Discuss/Recommend Budget Balancing Measures**

- Special Tax Codes were provided. Previously the question arose as to if the tax codes have been correctly coded to each parcel. It was determined that parcels have been accurately identified and coded to the best of their ability to recognize first and secondary parcels coding. If there were any corrections the amount of money would be minimal and nowhere near reach the 1 mil gap the JPA is short.
- Medicaid Supplemental has not materialized yet, and the JPA does not know when it will. It could show up in FY 13/14 and could be a potential \$400,000 but we have no idea when it will, and we cannot balance our budget based on this assumption.
- Ambulance Fees are potential revenue; however, the Fire Districts need to consider that El Dorado County is a Fire Based ALS, subsidized system. The current rate structure is used based on our County Ordinance.
- AB 678 has not been collected yet. If we assume we will receive it we can prepare for less of a shortfall.
- Consider the State Budget and the possibility if they pull monies from diverted accounts i.e.: fire.
- Set bench marks for cutting costs before we cut a Medic Unit and assume we will receive the \$400,000.
- JPA spent 1 mil in the hole this year (12/13) and 1 mil last year (11/12). We must stop deficit spending now to make up for going into the red in these fiscal years. If revenues continue to be shorter than what we are expecting our reserves will be depleted. The JPA Board needs to be aggressive and be responsible with county monies before the system is threatened.
- Include the Board of Supervisors before we reduce service, so they are aware.
- Increasing Fees and additional revenue ideas are not going to happen in a timely manner as we continue to operate in the red.

- In preparation for medical shortages, fuel increases and medical insurance increases we need to account for an increase in costs.
- The Ambulance Service is not exempt from the economy and we should operate as a business and consider some medic units are only running 1-2 calls daily.
- If we are aggressive with filling positions with an extra help pool that can be a cost savings, and rotations may save in overtime.
- If we decrease service (cutting a unit) it may stress the entire system.
- The Board has been discussing this for two years and districts have not been able to decrease overtime.
- Distribute Employee Positions so no one loses their job.
- Cutting Medic 26 would immediately cut costs to our system.
- Response Times will be effected and move-ups can be expected.
- Looking at timelines for cost savings and holding another meeting in the next 2-3 weeks to cut costs.
- Recommend cutting the half-time unit out of the system because the Board has cut Class 40 Expenses. Some districts are using extra help pools for overtime already. Possibly increase ambulance fees. We have maxed out savings ideas and must make changes now.
- By stopping the spending now and re-evaluate the system if revenue and expenses change.
- Growth and Decreases will fluctuate and we can adjust for those as the need arises.
- Actual savings data needs to be seen by the reduction in service and tracked.

Director Hackett suggests this working group agree to shut down the half-time medic 26, pursue all the above revenue and cost savings measures, and spread the transfers throughout the system. Anytime we decrease or increase service to the JPA they must have written approval from the Board of Supervisors. Director Hackett and Chiefs Lacher and Roberts have offered to be a part of this meeting. In addition, the request is that each district work with their labor groups to develop an extra help pool within each district.

### 3. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Gill at 1043; seconded by Roberts and motion carries unanimously.

*Jannell Clanton, JPA Admin*