



## El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority

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### Special Joint Systems and Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2012 – 8:30 a.m.

Diamond Springs/El Dorado Fire Station #49, Conference Room  
501 Main Street, Diamond Springs

### MINUTES

**Present:** Jody Gossner/CAL FIRE; Chief Tom Keating/Rescue; Battalion Chief Mike Webb/CAL FIRE - CPFD; Assistant Chief Mike Hardy/EDC Fire; Chief Dave Roberts/EDH; Chief Bruce Lacher/EDC Fire; Battalion Chief Justin Sanders/CALFIRE- ECC; Battalion Chief Joe Tyler/CALFIRE - CPFD; and Brian Veerkamp

Chairman Hardy called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

#### **1. Approval of the Agenda**

Battalion Chief Webb motioned to approve the agenda. Chief Keating seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

#### **2. Review cost savings and generate more money**

Executive Director discussed a targeted amount of \$900,000.00

##### *Discussion Items*

- ALS engine companies receive a stipend from the JPA
- ALS is \$7500 (non-provider)
- BLS is \$5000
- Statistics on ALS & BLS Transports needed.
- Core mission is ALS transport.
- Chief Hardy says we've been tracking data on ALS for over a year; however, response times reveal the needs for areas in 2 locations - Pioneer and Cool.
- Each year EMS Agency, Rich Todd conducts annual survey on ambulance fees.
- County absorbs non-insured costs / Outsource collections to private agencies are more successful at collecting than the county.
- Important to maintain lower ambulance rates.
- Cannot cut services until we look at all potential cost savings.
- Chief Roberts asked if we've ever audited the special tax to see if we have missing fees.
- Chief Combs mentioned when TRA merged - we should audit to see exactly what we're receiving.
- Director Hackett explained that with the passing of AB 678 Wittman stated that we can potentially see \$400,000 per year.

*Ideas to increase Revenue*

- Examine collections for improvements.
- \$25 ambulance fee – public fees – how much are we really getting?
- Estimated property tax/fees and fines are taken off the assessed amount before they are given to Fire Districts.
- Departments have decreased in number - open pay scales at 30% less for entry level firefighters. This is more cost effective.
- Expenditures need to be explored regarding costs before we cut services ie: raising fees and assessments shouldn't happen until we re-evaluate our costs.
- Are we getting 100% of transfers of Marshall Transfers?
- 911 calls originate in our county – assembling an ordinance with IFT EMS to enter discussion to transport outgoing calls.
- Convert 26 to BLS car or turn back to ALS.
- Leave ALS unit but utilize as BLS which would only require policy change, but would pick up more calls at 100% paid. ALS can go on all calls including BLS – better customer service and revenue guaranteed.
- 2 paramedics are on each unit – one ALS, one BLS / Can JPA pay for one paramedic and one EMT on each unit?
- Change master contract with Marshall without bringing on an added Unit. Explore handling more calls instead of shutting units down.
- Explore Responses.

*Director Notes:*

- \$25 Parcel fee Examination
- Tiered Benefits for New District Employees
- Ordinance change and enforced by EMSA
- Master Contract change
- Contract with SNFs and Marshall
- BLS rate/Market our service
- 1 Medic and 1 EMT (use existing staff)
- Greater Market Share Roll-out through media and public
- Master contract change ALS and BLS
- Expanded EMSA Role
- Marketing
- Existing level with dynamic ability to up-staff

*Systems Management Committee to follow-up*

- Agenda item for next meeting
- Get agreement from all Fire Districts
- Take to systems and create sub-committee to address all points

*Cost Savings*

- \$17,000 savings on disposable towels
- Medic Units are huge expenditures that only have a 5 year life span / chassis and remounts are being performed to keep life of unit and cut costs
- Reduce Memberships costs
- Setting a standard for all FPD
- Cost controls should come out of the JPA – track costs and set control caps / standardization

- JPA could look at Class 40 and Class 30 for cost savings

### **Adjournment**

Director Keating motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. Deputy Chief O’Camb seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*Special Announcement Chief Cunningham has retired and appointed Rob Combs as Interim Chief.*

*Minutes Prepared by Jannell Clanton, JPA Admin*