EMS Equipment Committee Meeting Minutes

**January 4th 2021**

**Online Meeting**

**Members present:** Jeremy Pendergraft, Leigh Overton, Kelly Andersen, Rob Davis, Andrew Ball, Ryan Beckers, David Fratus, Francisco Lerma, Blake Hendrickson, Justin Kyle, Tim Schons

* Evan Van Auken has left San Bernardino County Fire and resigned as a member of the Committee. We discussed recruiting and replacing Evan on the Committee. The consensus was to continue moving forward without immediately replacing and will replace when we feel it is necessary for our workload or succession planning.
* Ryan Beckers and Andrew Ball have begun the work of an official rearrangement of our Airway Bag contents to potentially make room for our new upcoming KingVision video laryngoscopes. Ryan presented a video of a potential layout that kept the priority being to protect the expensive airway laryngoscope devices and not overpacking the bag. The arrangement appeared to work. Ryan and Andrew will conduct a trial of the bag with this layout and potentially another that Andrew has come up with. They will both police the trial with the knowledge that the KingVision laryngoscopes are not to actually be used on medical aids as we have not been trained on their use and they are not officially implemented. Ryan and Andrew will seek input of paramedics at the stations they visit to get their opinion of the layout as well.
* We received information from multiple sources throughout the Department that the Zoll Monitor Bag that we had designed has a flaw which obstructs the door where the paper is loaded. Andrew Ball made contact with NyCanCo and made them aware. They are aware of the issue and have now corrected the design flaw. All new orders of the bags will have the new corrected design. We will ask Juan Hernandez if he is able to send current inventory at the Warehouse back to NyCanCo to have those corrected. All current monitor bags with the design flaw out in the field will be replaced by attrition.
* Pendergraft will work with Leigh Overton and Rob Davis on putting out an informational email to Department personnel about removal of the Colorimetric ETCO2 device, OTS bag availability, EZIO case availability, and the Monitor bag correction. We will also ask personnel to ensure that their equipment is stocked and placed on the Apparatus as standardized in Ops Directive 3540.
* The Apparatus Committee has agendized Pendergraft for their next meeting to present current and future projects being worked on by the EMS Equipment Committee that can affect their design specification standards. We are in hopes that this communication between the two committees can help align the associated Ops Directives so that they can incorporate needed fabrication and room for all necessary upcoming and current EMS Equipment. Tim Schons will accompany Pendergraft to the meeting to help make the presentation.
* Ryan Beckers has been working with BC Obier on instructional classes for the AutoPulse devices during the first couple weeks of January. These devices are making their way onto Engines across the Department. We, as a Committee, are now focused on an appropriate, protected, and standardized location for this expensive device on Engines and Squads.
* Tim Schons has been working with and consulting the Apparatus Committee on an appropriate location for the AutoPulse. The concentration has been in the cabinet above the medical bag compartment that now contains the C-spine bag, KED, Sager, and Peds Board as well as restock cubbies. We are considering an alteration in future Engine design that makes the second shelf longer, putting the restock cubbies along the whole bottom shelf, moving the KED, Sager, C-spine bag, Peds Board to other locations, and securing the Auto-Pulse in there. We are also researching a protective bag to go around the whole Auto-Pulse set-up that is washable/reusable to protect the unit and prevent some instances of cross-contamination. Andrew Ball will consult with NyCanCo on the feasibility of such a bag as an option. We will include this as part of the presentation to the Apparatus Committee when we participate in that meeting.
* We as a Committee revisited the Via-Valve IV Catheter. The trial we conducted went well and we all agree that we would want this as our standard IV catheter due to the many protective factors and performance in the field. However, we have a major issue fiscally when it comes to replacement/restock. We are notable to collectively approve moving forward with this catheter unless our major cooperating ambulance company (AMR) would also move to this type to facilitate restock when used on a scene. At this point we would be restocked with a different type of catheter. Pendergraft will communicate with the vendor that we have tabled this pending further marketing to our cooperating ambulances to see if they are interested in moving to this catheter. Pendergraft to advise on the status.
* David Fratus will be researching a new ring cutter that is faster, stronger, more effective. Fratus will find several options to present to the Committee at our next meeting and potentially propose moving away from our current specification.
* The Committee is considering moving to the digital IR thermometer that has been distributed to the stations through the IMT in response to the COVID pandemic. There was discussion about documented effectiveness and consideration of it’s applicability in the different dynamics we face in the field (weather, cleanliness, patient access, etc…) Rob Davis has been working through several device manufacturers in his IMT work and will consult data/information returned through that process. It is noted that for our consideration we would need to come up with several types to choose between and would work to one standard device. For the COVID application we have seen multiple manufacturers in the stations. Rob will also work on data to support the several option’s overall effectiveness in actual application in dynamic emergency fashion.
* We had our annual discussion of the Committee long term goals and large projects for this year.

The Committee long term goals are: Succession planning, an established budget for equipment trials, pushing for a financial pass-through agreement with ambulance companies, and an established pathway of communication out of the Committee through both Management (EMS BC’s or eventual EMS DC/AC) for anything that involves implementation/enforcement/purchasing or through our Nurse Educators when it involves equipment, ICEMA protocol adaptations, etc…

The goals for the year are: Completion of the MCI addendum to Ops Directive 3050 and required equipment implementation, completion of the Hub Station/Vending Machines concept that reduces financial loss through over-ordering, expiration, shrinkage, and to coordinate Ops Directive 4725 and 3540 to ensure that the Apparatus Committee is aware of our needs as they fulfill their work for the Department.

* Rob Davis, Andrew Ball, and Dave Fratus gave an update on the XBO spreadsheet and vending machine implementation plan. Fratus/Ball reported that the development of a spreadsheet is progressing it is relatively similar to the what is being used for the COVID XBO supplies sheet. The plan would be to access this spreadsheet elsewhere besides the XBO page. Rob Davis will be conducting a beta test of the vending machine in Division 3 with Fratus to work through logistical issues such as needs for space, electrical access, internet/network access, and ease of use for getting/replacing inventory. We will take what we learn so that we can communicate it out to personnel to make arrangements at stations they will go to for implementation. This will all work in tandem with a hub station concept and eventual par levels of restock standardized at the station level to minimize loss.
* The BC EMS bag is already available on the Warehouse Ordering List and will be listed as the replacement on new BLS Apparatus and just make it available as an option on the Warehouse Ordering List if somebody wants to buy it to replace their current BLS bag to create more room. Also considering removal of KEDS, Sagers, C-spine bag, etc… on Brush Engines as they are not required by ICEMA. We may need approval through the AC Group or Ops Leadership.
* Rob Davis informed the Committee that the IMT has purchased multiple ambulances for use throughout the County for CCT transfers. SBCoFD will receive 2 of these ambulances. The IMT has put together an inventory. These ambulances are not SBCoFD spec for ambulances through the Apparatus Committee. Our Committee will approach this as wait and see as these could potentially be repurposed from their COVID application to further use. At that point in time we will need to receive and coordinate the supplies needed to facilitate this Apparatus and its location so it can be added to Ops Directive 3540 and 4725.
* Pendergraft and Beckers updated that the MCI Addendum to Ops Directive 3050 is moving forward rapidly with hopes for potential training and implementation in February. Currently purchasing has been coordinated in Divisions 3,4,5,6. Divisions 1,2 are in progress. All equipment will be delivered to pre-determined stations an implemented in a coordinated fashion as the Target Solutions training is released. The Training video is nearing completion. Most editing has taken place. Sky is working with Ben Wurzell on one more component regarding documentation to finish up the video. Beckers is finalizing an accompanying PowerPoint.
* Pendergraft gave an update on the ICEBOX rollout. Bags have been purchased for 5/6 and are at 305’s. Bags for 1/2 still need to be purchased and will be coordinated to roll out with the MCI Equipment tentatively in January or February.
* PS Trax Beta testing in Div 3 update by Rob Davis. All is going well and it will now be tested in Division 4.
* Air Splint Update. Plan is to put as an option on the Warehouse Ordering List and add it to the Ops Directive (coordinate with the Apparatus Committee) so that it is ordered with new Apparatus.
* Oxygen Cylinder project. Still stalled at County Purchasing.

***Meeting adjourned at approximately***- 1145 on 01/04/2021

All personnel who would request to communicate with the Committee or present any material contact any Committee member to add it to the agenda and be invited to a meeting if needed.

***Next meeting will be on:*** The next meeting will tentatively be on 03/01/2021. Online only.