



NLCERA October 14, 2015 Committee Meeting Minutes

The second meeting was held on **October 14, 2015, 08:30 – 10:00**, at PFA Training Center, 3400 W. Vine Drive, FC, Classroom #2. Please review the minutes of that meeting below:

NLCERA Representatives:

Banner
CSU
FCPD
FC Dispatch
GVFD (Rep. Mtn. Depts.)
LCSO
LC Dispatch
LC Public Health
PFA
UCH
WFD

Purpose and Mission: Northern Larimer County Emergency Response Area EMS Committee

This committee, comprised of selected representatives of NLCERA EMS System, is committed to proactive facilitation and continual improvement of outcome oriented, patient centered, pre-hospital emergency care for citizens in the NLCERA.

Meeting Agenda Overview:

The following agenda items will focus on the opportunities and challenges of the four key issues expressed in the last meeting:

1. Communications
2. Training
3. Transport
4. Planning

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome and approval of meeting minutes
- 2) Agree on Purpose and Mission
- 3) Confirmation of an every other month meeting schedule
- 4) Agency updates affecting the NLCERA since last meeting
- 5) Focused discussions on Challenges and Opportunities regarding:
 - Communications
 - Training
 - Transport
 - Planning
- 6) Other or new business

Specific issues will be addressed at a subcommittee level for evaluation and resolution.

Please contact Mike Gress with any questions. mgress@poudre-fire.org (970-566-4306)



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Meeting Minutes:

The second meeting of the NLCERA EMS Committee was called to order at 08:40.

Members in attendance: Please see Appendix – B for the roster.

Bill followed up from the first meeting that the web presence was now in place for the NLCERA Committee on the Poudre-fire.org website. Bill sent out an email with directions and links to the NLCERA EMS webpage. No questions from those in attendance.

All in attendance introduced themselves and their organizations.

Bill encouraged the committee to try and stay above the weeds and discern if we have enough information to keep from churning. Bill asked that we agree to schedule working groups on any items needing further work after the meeting. All were in agreement.

Having no questions or changes to the August 12 meeting minutes, they were approved unanimously.

Mary reminded us all that the first meeting's minutes reflected the purpose of the NLCERA EMS Advisory Committee is to enhance the EMS system within the NLCERA.

Bill Confirmed with all in attendance that an every other month schedule for meetings was working well. We all agreed to continue with this format.

All in attendance signed the meeting roster, and new members were introduced.

All agencies were asked to provide a brief update of any changes that might affect the NLCERA EMS: (Members listed are clockwise based on members seating not their importance. Bill asked Steve Main to lead with a UCH update)

- * Steve Main (UCH)– Steve asked both Braden and Tom to give updates from their respective areas:



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- Braden Applegate – UCH liaison with Wellington Fire for PV240 ambulance. Braden was very positive about training and collaboration on calls with WFD, PFA and mountain departments. UCH and WFD are developing their roles and responsibilities on responses enhancing patient care. Trends are toward needing more collective training for BLS and ALS to support relationship building among departments.
- Tom Cain – UCH liaison with PFA for EMS Contract. Tom explained that there is a feedback form for ambulance crews to provide input which will be available within the UCH Intranet. There will be a similar version posted on the NOCOEMS.net site for all NLCERA responders to provide recognition, ask questions, or give recommendations (note: [this form is now in place](#)). PFA has the same form which is posted on PFA's Intranet. Bill clarified that each organization will use their specific culture verbiage, but the intent is to have similar reporting of content between all NLCERA organizations. Mary printed copies of the PFA form for all in attendance.
 - Tom described that CAD data and reporting development are progressing well with PFA. He described the staffing and other upgrades since the EMS Contract has been in place. Tom emphasized that improving the EMS response system is the goal. Tom stressed accountability and transparency, thus the feedback forms being available within the NLCERA.
 - Steve Main described how they are working with their legal department regarding HIPPA laws and patient information to provide feedback to NLCERA departments. Julie Scott is working with Mary and Steve on this project.
- * Art Flippin – (GVFD) was representing the mountain fire departments within the NLCERA for this meeting. Art advised John Stitt is the new QRT EMS training person for UCH with the rural fire departments, and they see their concerns for response times and consistent crews responding being addressed. Art expressed the need for common training and strategy sessions with the mountain departments to bring all entities together on a bigger scale for efficiency and standardized training. Art suggested training with PV240 and some of the rural and mountain fire departments would be helpful.
 - Braden advised there have been meetings with WFD Chief Green and Letitia that are focused on how PV240 can train with WFD and other



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- departments. A suggestion was for possibly Livermore as a half-way training site.
 - Mary suggested there may be RETAC grants available for these kinds of trainings.
- * Letitia Betchel - (WFD) Described how well the Wellington community is being served by PV240. They are seeing more trainings with UCH which result in better teamwork and communications on scenes. They anticipate more common trainings with UCH, as well as with other departments in the NLCERA.
- * Mike Gress (PFA) – Welcomed everyone.
- * Justin Whitesell (LCSO) - Nothing of note to update.
- * Dr. Tremblay (UCH) - Expressed concern for communications issues still being a problem that needs addressing. Quarterly meetings with the QRT's have been reinitiated. Encouraged working on improving communications, but mostly things are going well.
 - The question was posed of whether the air resources should have representative at the NLCERA EMS Advisory meetings. Dr. Tremblay to research this and invite them to have representative on this advisory committee.
- * Dave Bressler (Banner) – Described Banner has one ambulance (not 911 Ambulance) at their Fort Collins facility. This ambulance works in the Banner ER to assist with patients. Dave described they are very busy with transfers within their system. Dave described communications are an issue for Banner also, with different radio systems between Larimer and Weld Counties. Banner has the ability to communicate on all frequencies between systems. Dave advised Banner has EMS contracts with Greeley, Evans, and Weld County.
 - Dave gave an excellent overview of North East Colorado Regional EMS & Trauma Advisory Council (NECRETAC), and what the educational focused mission and resources of this group mean to the NLCERA entities. The funding for RETAC comes from license plate fees, and is intended to assist with training and resources. The NECRETAC has monthly meetings, and these are open to attendance in-person or online. Dave encouraged those interested to go to their website: www.NCRETAC.org for information (Note: This link is now posted on the NLCERA page at PFA's website). Dave described how funds remain unused and encourages anyone interested to contact him, Lori McDonald, Randy Leshner, or Jeff Schanhals (representatives). Dave encouraged all to



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tell their people about the Banner Spring Conference happening next week.

- Steve asked about PFA presence in Weld County and can they have membership, yes, but need to be a licensed ambulance service to vote. Comment/suggestion: PFA has not participated as a regular presence at the NECRETAC meetings, and there is a fire chiefs meeting after each RETAC meeting.
 - Mary asked what the next phase for Banner is in Larimer County. Dave was not sure at this point since their ER is very busy now.
- * Carol Dollard (RCFD) – Advised the group that the RCFD fire station that burned during High Park was rebuilt and dedicated this week. RCFD currently has approximately 35 responders, 7 EMTs with a number going through EMT class. They have significant challenges having EMTs on their scenes. Much discussion about the challenges of communications in RC, and possible solutions with mobile repeaters.
- * Diane Webber (LCSO Dispatch) – Described how well Carol Workman and Tom Cain are working with her on items identified as needs from the NLCERA EMS Contract.
- Tom advised that the EMS Contract requires “at patient” times, as well as “on scene” times. These changes will ensure we can clearly show when the first responder is at the patient, whether BLS or ALS. Diane will be training her staff to assist with establishing these times.

Diane continued with a discussion about possible solutions with the RC communications problems. Apparently there are technologies available to allow mobile repeaters to enhance communications in places like RC. LCSO to follow up with RC about repeaters. (See Appendix-A of these minutes for communications follow up since this meeting).

- * Carol Workman (FC Dispatch) – Began by asking about the status of UCH and the Controller position.
- Steve/Tom - All hardware is in place and testing for the Controller position. The Controller job description was changed to lessen the requirements for hiring. They anticipate November to have the position filled.

Carol described that LCSO, FC, and CSU dispatch centers working on dispatch procedures. Staffing is low at FC Dispatch resulting in dispatchers asking for crews to wait for radio communications. Carol anticipates adding staffing in the future, with FC Council approving one more full time position soon. Carol presented the code 6 as the way to tell a dispatcher that officers are needed emergent - without saying this directly on



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the radio. Dispatch is working with UCH on data development as part of the EMS Contract.

- Carol gave an update about CSU encryption, and believes the problems of having units able to hear each other are getting better. Bill asked about inviting CSU Dispatch to be at the NLCERA meetings. Carol to send an email inviting them to have a representative. Diane Webber agreed this would be a good move to have them at these meetings.
- * Mary Makris – February 20, 2016 is the PFA/UCH EMS Conference. There are many resources being brought in for this conference – contact Mary with questions. There is a pediatric training trailer that is loaned from Children’s Hospital which will be at the conference. Discussion about the possibility of this trailer being available to the mountain departments during and post conference.
 - Mary asked LCSO folks if they were aware of which officer was heading-up a four phase mental health program for the county? Justin was not aware of who this would be, but will research for next meeting.
- * Bill Salmon (PFA) – Bill lead a summation of the agenda items and observed most of the organizational updates fit directly into the four main topics – Communications, Training, Transport, and Planning. All were encouraged to follow up on items identified. No working sub-committees were formed from this meeting.
- * Next meeting – December 9, 08:30 – 10:00, PFA Training Center – 3400 West Vine Drive, Fort Collins.
- * Meeting Adjourned at 10:10



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Appendix - A:

From Diane Webber in an email: October 23, 2015

I wanted to follow up with you about a statement I made during our last NLCERA meeting, relating to a mobile repeater for some of the volunteer agencies. Dave Rowe, our Radio Tech, corrected me about the equipment we have in the Glacier View area - it's not a mobile repeater and is not a viable option to have at each department. He advised there are many "mobile repeaters" on the market, however, the volunteer department radios won't match up with them. Motorola has some equipment that could be purchased, but the volunteers would also have to upgrade all of their mobile and hand held radios.

Dave advised that the Middle Bald Mountain tower that will be ready to go at the end of third quarter next year (provided we don't have any delays) will significantly improve the 800MHz radio coverage as well as the VHF coverage - which is GREAT news for the VFDs.



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Appendix – B

14-Oct-15	NCLERA EMS Committee Meeting Roster			
In Attendance	First and Last Name	Organization	Email	Phone #
x	Braden Applegate	UCH/PVH	Braden.Applegate@uchealth.org	970-391-4962
x	Letitia Betchel	WFD	wfpd@wfpd.org	970-302-1127/970- 810-2451
x	Dave Bressler	BH	Dave.Bressler@bannerhealth.com	
x	Tom Cain	UCH/PVH	Thomas.Cain@uchealth.org	
x	Carol Dollard	RCFD	chief@rcvfd.org	970-566-2150
x	Art Flippin	GVFD	flipamedic@aol.com	
	Mike Gavin	PFA	migavin@poudre-fire.org	
x	Mike Gress	PFA	mgress@poudre-fire.org	
x	Steve Main	UCH/PVH	steve.main@uchealth.org	970-391-8927
x	Mary Makris	PFA	mmakris@poudre-fire.org	
x	James Perry	GVFD	gvfdchief02@gmail.com	970-494-4611
x	Bill Salmon	PFA	bsalmon@poudre-fire.org	970-218-9406
	Adam Smith	CSUPD	adam.s.smith@colostate.edu	
x	Darren Tremblay	UCH/PVH	darren.tremblay@uchealth.org	
x	Justin Whitesell	LCSO	whitesjl@co.larimer.co.us	
x	Diane Webber	LCSO	webberdl@co.larimer.co.us	
x	Luke Whitson	RCFD	lukewhitson13@gmail.com	970-482-3236
x	Carol Workman	FCPD/911	cworkman@fcgov.ocr	