



County of San Diego

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
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MISSION STATEMENT

“As advisors to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the Mission of the Emergency Medical Care Committee is to be an advocate for the community through the development of strategies for continuous improvement of the emergency medical services system.”

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING

Daryn Drum, Chair/ Christine Wells, R.N., Vice-Chair

Minutes

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Members Present

Abbott, Stephen – District 5
Adler, Fred – District 3
Blacksberg, David – Hospital Assoc. of SD/Imp. County (Alt)
Boudreau, Sgt., Chad – Law Enforcement
Carlson, R.N., Sharon – Hospital Assoc. of SD/Imp. County
Drum, Daryn – County Paramedic Agency Committee
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses Association
Green, Katy – District 1
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2
Parr, Andy – SD County Fire District Association
Rice, Mike – Ambulance Association of SD County
Wells, R.N., Chris – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators

Vacant Positions

League of California Cities
San Diego County Medical Society
San Diego Emergency Physicians' Society
Bi-National Emergency Care Committee

In Attendance

Foreman, R.N., Kelly – Mercy Air
Emerald, Marti – San Diego City Council
Hinton, William – Mercy Air
Johnson, Wayne – RM/AMR
Murphy, R.N., Mary – Carlsbad Fire
Osborne, Steve – Rural Metro

County Staff

Ameng, R.N., Diane
Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Mahoney, R.N., Meredith
Ray, Leslie
Smith, Josh
Smith, R.N., Susan
Thihololipavan, M.D., MPH Sayone
Wolchko, Janet I. (Recorder)

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Wells, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.
Attendees introduced themselves.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

Marti Emerald, San Diego City Council representative of the 9th District, Chair of the Public Safety Committee and Council asked to speak to EMCC regarding Citygate and Building Fire Stations – Information documents were distributed and a map of current fire stations from San Pasqual Valley to Brown Field and communities in between was shown.

1. History:
 - City Gate Associates were hired six (6) years ago by Jerry Sanders, Mayor of San Diego at that time, to review San Diego resources. Through findings and recommendations in the Citygate Report, the City of San Diego established a five (5) year implementation plan to design, construct and equip 19 fire stations throughout the City of San Diego to fill needed safety services.
2. The proposal is to build fire stations on a Multiple Award Construction Contract (MACC). Two (2) fire station design templates would be provided. Contracts would be awarded for three (3) to five (5) stations per award.
3. The goal would be to respond 90% in 7 1/2 minutes or less. Best practice is to arrive at a call within six (6) minutes after the call comes in 90% of the time.
4. Support to fund the project would come on approval of a fire house bond, a general obligation bond which would increase an owner's property tax bill by \$25 per year (based on a property assessed at \$500,000). General obligation bonds would be for land and construction. The Bond would be put on the November ballot.
5. Ms. Emerald will be at the March 29, Rules Committee at 9 am asking the committee to go to full Council in April to approve the bond issue to go on the November ballot.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mike Rice, seconded by Andy Parr to approve the minutes from January 28, 2016. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N.

Review of A-475, Air Medical Support Utilization. Suggested changes were made and will be brought back to the Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee for review on March 10th before forwarding it to the Base Station Physicians Committee (BSPC).

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Diane Ameng, R.N.

The subcommittee will be meeting on Monday, February 29th. The Community Paramedicine Pilots are moving forward. Paramedic and EMT training policies will be reviewed at the next Education/Research Subcommittee meeting.

C. Disaster/Operations Subcommittee – Sharon Carlson, R.N.

Yesterday there were two (2) day workshops with several terrorism scenarios conducted throughout the County. The workshop was to report on identifying gaps and solutions as a result of the event. Suggestion was for EMCC Disaster/Operations to discuss the group reports and identify any gaps between prehospital, the hospitals and Law Enforcement. Joint counter terrorist exercises are done with FEMA, Homeland Security and FBI. Information and discussion included how to identify terrorist in the US and overseas.

V. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR - Bruce E. Haynes M.D.

- A. Bob Metz, Marcy Metz husband is doing well.
- B. Influenza Watch/flu vaccination:
 - 1. There has been a late surge of true influenza. There have been five (5) deaths due to the flu.
 - 2. Health Department emergency room sampling shows there has been a number of respiratory Influenza like illness (ILI) with fever.
- C. The State EMS Commission meets on March 16, 2016 in Orange County.
- D. Public Health Services (PHS) is going through a new nationwide accreditation process with other Health Departments. The accreditation process is similar to the Joint Commission and other accrediting organization processes. PHS staff did a great job preparing and going through the accreditation site visit. The official report will come out in a couple of months.

VI. EMS STAFF REPORT – Susan Smith, R.N.

- A. Volume is up for certification and recertification of EMTs, Paramedics and MICNs. Suggestion is to submit your documents a minimum of 30 days before the expiration date.
- B. May 18, 2016 is *Sidewalk CPR Day*. Please submit your participation forms to Sue Dickinson.
- C. June 4, 2016 is the *Strike Out Stroke* event at Petco Park. Diane Royer is coordinating the event again this year.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. EMS Fees
There is no additional information to report on the updated EMS fee implementation. The item will stay on the agenda as a reminder of the implementation of EMS fee increase.
- B. Offload Delays – Leslie Ray
 - 1. The EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee reviewed an analysis on EMS system stress regarding hospitals, hospital beds, volume, prehospital volume, demographics and population. The report is in internal review process and will give a baseline on system offload delays.
 - 2. Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) convened a group to review offload delays and published a report with a tool kit to develop a state standard definition on how to measure offload delays.
 - 3. EMS will be sharing a research plan on reporting offload delays. Data will come from First Watch reports to determine the measurement and definition on transferring patients from prehospital care to hospital care.
 - 4. Discussion/Comments:
 - Palomar met with local providers reviewing statistics regarding volume, amount of patients that are seen, what has been done to alleviate offload delays, and discussed front end care such as triage. Palomar is partnering with the County

on a workshop for a Crisis Stabilization Unit to move people who have been assessed in the emergency room (ER) with Mental Health issues, staffing an emergency department (ED) psychiatrist during the day and Telemedicine psychiatrist in the evening. Mental Health patients may be in the ER for 24 hours, while the average patient bed turnover is 4 hours.

- In the prehospital community, offload delays lead to a 25% reduction of fire fighter resources in the area.
- The Hospital Association should be aware that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is citing hospitals if they have chairs in the hallway for patients triaged with minor problems due to the volume of patients.
- Addressing short term and long term best practices and monitoring offload timing.
- Consumer messaging for the newly insured population regarding using their insurance and information on their primary care.
- Hospital CEOs have met and agreed that the problems are multi factorial. EMS has been asked to help facilitate meetings between the hospital council and the fire service.

VIII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled on March 24, 2016.