



# County of San Diego

**NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE**  
AGENCY DIRECTOR

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
6255 MISSION GORGE ROAD, MAIL STOP S-555  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92120-3599  
(619) 285-6429 • FAX (619) 285-6531

**WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H.**  
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

## 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, September 15, 2016**

### Members Present

Adler, Fred – District 3  
Green, Katy – District 1  
Kahn, M.D. Christopher – District 4  
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – District 2  
Murphy, Mary – County Paramedics Agency Committee (Alt)  
SD/Imp Co  
Parra, Frank – SD County Fire Chiefs Association (Alt)  
Rice, Mike – Ambulance Assoc. of San Diego County

### Vacant Positions

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

### In Attendance

Greene, Brandon – AMR, City of San Diego  
Kay, R.N., Karen – AMR, CSA-17  
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air  
Peltier, Patricia - AMR  
Yates, Judith – SD Hospital Assoc.

### County Staff

Ameng, R.N., Diane  
Barry, Michael  
Eldridge, Brett  
Mahoney, R.N., Meredith  
Parr, Andy  
Ray, Leslie  
Thihalolipavan, Sayone  
Wolchko, Janet I. (Recorder)  
Yphantides, M.D., Nick

---

## 1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

EMCC Chair and Vice-Chair requested Mary Meadows-Pitt, EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Vice-Chair to officiate the EMCC meeting in their absence. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am. Attendees introduced themselves.

---

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

---

There were no public comments.

---

## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

---

**A quorum of members was not present to approve the July 28, 2016 minutes. Approval of the July 28, 2016 draft minutes will be carried over to the next EMCC meeting.**

---

## 4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

---

### A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chris Wells

Three new policies for the IT data collection system were reviewed at the subcommittee meeting. The policies will remain with the subcommittee for further review.

### B. Education/Research Subcommittee – Diane Ameng

The Education/Research Subcommittee meets on Monday. The Education/Research Subcommittee is the Advisory Committee for the Community Paramedicine (CP) pilot projects in San Diego County. The Statewide CP Symposium is on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### C. Disaster/Operations Subcommittee

The Statewide Disaster Conference for Hospitals takes place in Sacramento on September 19-21, 2016.

---

## 5. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR – Sayone Thihalolipavan

---

A. Dr. Haynes was set to retire September 16 but will stay until the end of October during the transition in hiring a Medical Director.

B. Introduction of Dr. Nick Yphantides:

1. Dr. Yphantides has been with the County as a consultant for 7½ years and will be moving into a full time role as the Agency's Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Yphantides was the Chairman of the Board of Directors for Palomar Health and has experience as the medical director of a medical health plan as the Chief Medical Officer of the Council of Community Clinics.
2. Dr. Yphantides will be leading a new division in the Agency called Medical Care Services. The Division will include Child Health and Medical Officer, Chief Nursing Officer, Chief Dental Officer, Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services, EMS Coordinator and Healthy San Diego coordinator.

---

## 6. EMS STAFF REPORT

---

A. Introduction of Michael Barry, Deputy Director

B. The AMR staffing concept plan was presented to the community last month. AMR will be going to a one (1) Paramedic on one (1) EMT staffing policy for response in the Grossmont Hospital District zone and in South Bay.

EMT's are going through training to prepare and as the plan is rolled out, information will be shared with community stakeholders, fire departments and hospitals.

1. Discussion topics:

- Impact and call involvement with Code 10 Transports. AMR is already assisting in the Code 10 Transports.
- Standard of care in the Grossmont area has been two (2) paramedics. Concern is with smaller agencies where the medic engine goes with the AMR unit.
- Summary: New staffing plan will be phased in and monitored. An update will be given at the next meeting.
- With the statewide Community Paramedic (CP) pilot programs there is expanded scope of practice, system analysis and impact of new systems.

C. AS of Monday, September 12th the EMS prehospital system webpage was open for Public Comment on the 2017/2018 BLS/ALS protocols. The website includes a letter from Dr. Haynes regarding the process, the list of protocols for comments and a form for submitting comments. Comment period ends October 27 at 5 pm.

D. Health Services Capacity Taskforce met and revisited the Capacity Taskforce Plan. There was discussion on the Public Health Officer adding direct language regarding prehospital staff and agency vaccination.

E. Offload status is at Level 2, the Operational Core group is now meeting Biweekly. Policies will be brought forward to the committee at the next meeting.

1. Due to the emergency department (ED) increased volume of patients and factors that are contributing to the increase, they are working with insurance plans, providing more education and working with primary care decreasing the need for ED over utilization.

2. The County has expanded their contract with First Watch regarding their Transfer of Care (TOC) module to obtain real time alerts and measure offload delays. A policy has been drafted and a procedure is now being drafted to be reviewed at the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee and the full EMCC for approval.

3. Discussion topics:

- Measure of time intervals – San Diego County is 30 minutes. The State is addressing and discussing time interval.
- EMS data collection at the State regarding time intervals that work within the counties, for example urban versus rural.
- First Watch TOC module has the ability to do immediate alerts and alert the Duty Officer.

F. Protocol books will no longer be sold at EMS as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Paramedic Association is looking for other purchasing mechanisms and posting information on their website.

G. Temecula Hospital has an agreement with San Diego to allow San Diego patients who meet Stoke and STEMI criteria to be transported to Temecula Valley if they are the closest most appropriate facility. Temecula Valley has Riverside EMS Stroke and STEMI designation. Discussion topics included:

1. Cross County borders discharge care plan and consideration for sharing data.
2. Continuity of Care, payment reimbursement and repatriation challenge.

H. ImageTrend data collection system – Leslie Ray

1. On September 1, 2016 ImageTrend will be the County's system for collecting and reporting data to provide comprehensive hospital resource and monitoring services.
2. As of January 1, 2017 the State through legislative action is requiring electronic medical records for paramedics to be NEMSIS 3.4 compliant. The County has signed a contract with ImageTrend for Electronic Patient Care Reporting (EPCR) The system is cloud based and accessible from any device through Internet access.
3. The EPCR will be direct real item upload into a cloud provided free of charge as the County owns the system. Third party vendors will have to meet the state regulations which are real time electronic NEMSIS 3.4 compliant and must be able to upload to the current LEMSA system which is County of San Diego LEMSIS. Two (2) programs meet NEMSIS 3.4, Water Product and AMR meds.
4. An agency personnel point of contact will need to be identified, register with a password and will have access to monitor continuing education (ED), reset password and management tools. There will also be capability to export for billing and ability to interface with the fire systems.
5. Policies are being written regarding documentation, submission process and system management.
6. The SDCountyEMS.com website page has additional information. Eventually there will be direct access to training materials, FAQ's, policies and procedures.

---

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. EMS fees will be left as a place holder for information updates.
- B. Offload Delays were discussed under the EMS Staff Report.

---

**8. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10.12 am.  
The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2016.