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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING

Jonathan Jordan, Chair/ Paul Forney, Vice Chair
c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office
County Operations Center
5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 171, San Diego, CA 92123

Minutes

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Members Present

Cochran, Jennifer – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Covell, RN, Brian – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators'
Forney, Paul – SD County Ambulance Association
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses' Association
Hanks, Sgt, Michael – Law Enforcement Agencies
Hudnet, Ron – Hospital Association of SD/Imperial Counties
Kahn, MD, Christopher – SDFD/UCSD
Jordan, Jonathan – District 2
Phillips, MD, Julie – SD County Medical Society
Rauto-Shin, Roxanne – County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Riley, Tobin – SD County Fire Districts' Association (Alt)
Sloane, MD, Christian – District 5
Walters, Sean – SD County Paramedic Association (Alt)

Not in Attendance

District 1
District 3
American Red Cross
Military Agencies
San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association

In Attendance

Caplan, Gregg – Ambu Inc
Chandler, Craig – Stryker
Clyons, Jeff – SDFD
Jackson, Ennis – AMR/ RCCP
Jagielinski, Jakub – County Fire/CAL FIRE
Judge, Alisa – Documenters
Ruiz, Sal – CSA 17
Russo, Joe – SDFD
Sullivan, Don – AMR

County Staff

Assof, Michael
Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Haidari, Tareq
Parr, Andy
Trousdale, Brad
Vithalani, MD, Veer

I. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Jonathan Jordan, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. A quorum was declared.
- B. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. There were no introductions or announcements.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Cheryl Graydon to approve the January 23, 2025 minutes, with the correction to add Dr. Julie Phillips' name to the attendance section. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Brian Covell, RN

- Substantive Policies P-401, B-450, and B-451 were endorsed.

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

Did not meet.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – Ron Hudnet

- Did not meet.
- Emergency response surge exercise drill on April 17.

V. COUNTY REPORT

A. Administrative Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

- Health Services Capacity Plan Level: Plan Level 4 – Enhanced Surveillance (Level 1-5 – Five is Lowest)
- Flu and System Strain:
The flu season is here and impacting the community. The EMS Office, together with Health Services Capacity Task Force sector representatives, is engaged in health system strain monitoring and mitigation actions. As a reminder, the “PHO Flu Order” is evergreen and is in force through the designated influenza season (November 1 – March 31). The flu letter requires, among other things, that healthcare personnel (including EMS Credentialed Personnel) wear a mask in patient care areas if they choose not to be vaccinated for the flu.
- 2025 - 2026 EMS Treatment Protocols:
We are finalizing the treatment protocol drafts to be presented at the EMS Medical Director’s Advisory Committee (or BSPC) in the coming months. We look forward to showcasing the proposed revisions and receiving the community’s feedback to better inform our decisions as we continue to pursue the most up-to-date and evidence-based treatments.
- New Requirement for Automated Cardiac Compression Devices on July 1, 2025:
As agencies were informed beginning in March of last year, protocol S-103 language was revised to state that automated cardiac compression devices will become **mandatory for all ALS ground ambulances on July 1, 2025**. This requirement was included in the educational materials distributed to all EMS agencies with the revised protocols on May 1, 2024.

We are providing early notification of this requirement in appreciation of its substantial fiscal impact and the need for inclusion in the budgeting process for the next fiscal year.

- EMT Renewals – submit early!
In the spring of odd-numbered years (2025, 2027, etc.), the County EMS Credentialing Team is inundated with EMT renewal applications. The monthly credentialing average is about 300 applications, swelling to over 700 in March. Agencies are asked to work with their EMT staff to make sure their applications are submitted early to avoid the rush.
- Public Comment Process:
There are multiple policies that are in development and drafts will be posted on the County EMS webpage for community review and feedback. Please subscribe to our mailing list to receive updates and notifications on when policies are posted for public comment.

A link is also available on the EMS Mobile App.

[Online Public and Stakeholder Comment Submission Page](#)

B. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

i. Steering Committee formation

There is a lot of coordination work underway. Each EMS stakeholder group (the Hospital Association, Ambulance Association, and the Fire Chiefs Association) has been asked to provide representatives for the Steering Committee and for the Core Group. Meetings will be scheduled soon. In addition, a current pilot program at Palomar Escondido and San Marcos

Fire Department is ongoing. This pilot represents some of the pilot or demonstration projects we intend to implement as we move forward. Look forward to discussing the details and roll out ideas with the steering committee.

ii. Task-focused groups upcoming

- Task-force style committees are likely to be formed to study and make recommendations to the Steering Committee regarding the trauma catchment areas in the county's northwest corner and the international border area to support the optimal distribution of trauma patients.

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (Endorsement Vote)

A. Non-Substantive Policy Updates – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

The following PowerPoint presentation was shared with the group [Non-Substantive Policy Updates for 2025](#)

B. Substantive Policy Updates – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

1. P-401 Paramedic Scope of Practice
2. B-450 EMT Scope of Practice
3. B-451 Advanced EMT Scope of Practice

ACTION: The substantive policies will be pushed to next month for vote.

VII. REPORTS

A. San Diego County EMS Delivery System Statistics and Projects – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

The following PowerPoint was shared with the group [EMS Delivery System Stats & Projects](#).

B. San Diego County ePCR Data Submission Compliance Update – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

The ePCR Data Submission rate is increasing. Current pilot integration project with the City of San Diego and the City of Carlsbad has been seeing improvements. Appreciate the work put in by both those agencies as well as our internal staff.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ambulance Diversion Town Hall Summary – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

Those who participated in the Ambulance Diversion Town Hall meeting on January 31, 2025, were thanked. Comments, concerns, and recommendations on ambulance diversion practices and policy adjustment will be turned over to the Steering Committee.

B. Goals for 2025 – Feedback from EMCC Members – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

The committee was asked for their input. The committee can email their input to Andy Parr at Andrew.Parr@sdcounty.ca.gov

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. EMS Office Anticipated Fees – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

The EMS Office is currently working closely with the County's Emergency Services Administration Unit to review LEMSA fees. In 2024, the Board of Supervisors supported a phased three-year

increase for personnel, specialty care, and permitting fees. More information will be forthcoming as the analysis and calculations take shape to validate the planned approach.

ACTION: A PowerPoint presentation will be provided at the next EMCC meeting with the upcoming fees.

B. Ambulance Ordinance Update – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

This item will remain on the agenda to ensure EMCC is tracking the progress of the Ambulance Ordinance update. A stakeholder/ interested party feedback session concluded. Received close to 300 responses. The draft of the ordinance language is undergoing last counsel review. Anticipate draft ordinance language being posted for a public comment process in the near future. Notification will be provided when updated.

X. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 2025, 9:30 am at the County Operations Center, 5560 Overland Ave, Rm 171, San Diego 92123. The Education Research Subcommittee Meeting will immediately follow. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 am.