



# County of San Diego

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**CSA-17 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Kelly Hinze, Chair/ Tracy Martinez, Vice Chair  
c/o Emergency Medical Services  
**Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

**Members Present**

City of Del Mar – Martinez, Tracy  
City of Encinitas – Hinze, Kellie  
City of Solana Beach – MacDonald, Jill  
Rancho Santa Fe Protection District – Stine, Tucker  
Torrey Pines Planning Group – Rich, Dee  
Citizen at Large – Twohy, Frank

**County Staff Present**

Christison, Brian  
Collins, Jeff  
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)  
Haidari, Tareq  
Keane, Melissa  
Parr, Andy  
Trousdale, Brad

**Agency Representatives Present**

Gordon, Josh – Solana Beach, Encinitas, Del Mar FDs  
McQuead, Dave – Rancho Santa Fe FD  
Ruiz, Sal – AMR  
Sanchez, Jorge – Encinitas FD  
Slattery, Brian – Rancho Santa Fe FD

**Guests**

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

- A. Tracy Martinez, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- C. Introductions were made. A quorum was declared.
- D. There were no announcements.

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**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS**

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

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**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Frank Twohy, seconded by Tracy Martinez to approve the May 2, 2023 CSA 17 meeting minutes. The August 8, 2023 minutes were informational notes only. Motion carried.**

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**IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT**

**A. Budget and Financial Report**

The Financial Dashboard was presented by EMS Administrator Andy Parr. This dashboard is live on the County EMS CSA 17 website ([San Diego County Service Area – 17 Emergency Medical Services Financial](#))

[Dashboard](#)), and includes the following data: Transport Volume, Revenues, Total Expenses, EMS Agency Expenses, Operational and Reserve Analysis.

**ACTION: The County EMS Office will establish a budget subcommittee meeting in February 2024.**

## **B. EMS Agency Report**

### **i. EMS Agency Report – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator**

- The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant:

The County's consultant's work is ongoing. This work includes providing 6 different models for us to compare as models for the future of the EMS base hospital system in San Diego County. The Consultant will also be looking at the Trauma Center Catchment Area Map to assure that Trauma Centers receive an optimal balance of Trauma calls at each center and other demographic updates for the catchment map.

The next community engagement phase will include listening sessions on November 7-9. These sessions will be held in each of the Supervisorial Districts.

Additional information and timelines are posted on the County EMS webpage.

Community Engagement Page: [Base Station Hospital & Trauma Catchment Review | Engage San Diego County](#)

CoSD EMS Informational Page: [Comprehensive Evaluation of the Base Hospital System and Trauma Center Catchment Area Designation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

- Buprenorphine Pilot Program:

We are pleased to announce the prehospital buprenorphine pilot program went live on October 2. Escondido Fire Department and AMR (in the CSA 17) began screening opioid withdrawal and opioid use disorder patients using the COWS score.

Patients meeting criteria are enrolled in the pilot program. As part of the pilot, patients are encouraged to connect with Substance Use Navigators (SUN) within the emergency department, who will direct them to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).

San Diego County Fire is currently training personnel in preparation for coming on board soon and we anticipate additional agencies joining the pilot program.

For any questions about this program, please contact Tyler Meick [tyler.meick@sdcounty.ce.gov](mailto:tyler.meick@sdcounty.ce.gov)

- County EMS Fees and the next Fiscal Year: The EMS Office is currently working closely with the County's Emergency Services Administration Unit to review LEMSA fees. The fees being reviewed are personnel fees, specialty care fees and EMS permit fees. More information will be forthcoming as the analysis and calculations take shape. If you have questions or comments, please reach out via email [EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov)

- Health Officer Order for Annual Influenza Season:

The annual influenza season is upon us. The health officer order is evergreen and in force through the designated influenza season (November 1-March 31). The influenza letter requires, among other things, that healthcare personnel (including EMS credentialed personnel) wear a mask in patient care areas if they choose to not be vaccinated for influenza. As a reminder, the "Jury Duty letter" has been discontinued, as any jury summons can be deferred for any reason anytime.

You can view the health order here: [Health Officer Order \(HOO\) - Annual Influenza Season](#)

- Public Comment Process:

The Draft Policy Public Comment page was recently updated to reflect multiple policies that will be posted for public comment soon. As a reminder, you can subscribe to receive email notifications on when draft policies are posted for public comment at the top of the Draft Policy Public Comment page.

Public Comment Page: [Online Public and Stakeholder Comment Submission \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

## **C. Ground Ambulance Provider Report – Paul Forney, AMR Ops Manager/CSA-17 Program Manager**

1. [CSA-17 Quarterly Performance Reports for July, August, September 2023](#) were included in the Board packets and were presented to the group which covered: Response Compliance, Mutual Aid, Transport by Community, and Transport Destination by Unit. Pleased to report another solid quarter of compliance overall.
2. [Community Service and Public Education](#) – A total of 129 hours with 22 events were provided. The following events were held: Hands-only CPR, Car Seat Safety, Blood pressure checks, and First on the Scene classes.
3. The new service contract includes a patient experience survey component. This survey is distributed to patients transported by CSA 17 ambulances. The initial results are positive, however results are not ready for publication. Will report out at the next meeting in February with the results.

#### D. Operations Chief's Meeting Report – Brian Slattery, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department

- First on the Scene class – 11/18/23. Open to the public.
- Escondido onboarding with North Comm was approved. Dispatchers will be the same for RSF and the three coastal cities.
- Starting drone program; grant received; 12 pilots. Will implement in February or March 2024. Will be used for search and rescue, hazmat, structure fires, wildland; has night vision, laser range finder, thermal imaging, speakers.
- Internal quality assurance and quality improvement projects are in progress. Paramedic training will now be quarterly.
- Utilizing Leave Behind Narcan program.
- Opioid overdose kits will be attached to all CSA 17 AEDs.
- Storage for controlled substances is completed.
- New UTVs (vehicles for trail rescues) received and staff are in training. Will put into place in mid-November.

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#### V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Consultant's Report on CSA 17 Update – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator  
The [Consultant's Report](#) is available online at [www.SanDiegoCountyEMS.com](http://www.SanDiegoCountyEMS.com).
- B. LAFCO Update – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator  
There is no update.
- C. Lifeguard Report:  
The following presentations were shared:
  - City of Encinitas, Sgt Sydney Hammerness – [Encinitas Lifeguard](#)
  - City of Solana Beach, Sgt Robert McGee – [Solana Beach Marine Safety](#)
  - City of Del Mar, Sgt Scott Hansen – [City of Del Mar Community Services](#)

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#### VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 24 Hour Ambulance Request in Encinitas – Chief Josh Gordon, Encinitas Fire Department

A request for additional ambulance coverage was made by the City of Encinitas. They would like to add an additional 12 hours to medic 232; turn a 12-hour shift into a 24-hour shift. The following presentation was shared: [Ambulance Proposal](#).

**ACTION:**

**A request was made to establish a subcommittee on how to resolve this and report back on the status at the February 2024 meeting.**

**A motion was made by Kellie Hinze, seconded by Jill MacDonald to accept the report, give direction to County EMS staff to move forward, and to establish a subcommittee. Motion carried.**

- B. Possible Fee Escalation – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

For 40+ years, the Emergency Medical Services Office was housed under the County's Health and Human Services Agency. The EMS Office is responsible for the administration of County Service Area 17. Recently the

EMS Office was moved from the Public Health Department to the Public Safety Group, and we are now a division of San Diego County Fire. San Diego County Fire is establishing fees for their ambulance service, which just started, and will include fees associated with CSA 17. A fee escalation will likely be developed.

**ACTION:**

- 1) **A request was made to show a draft fee schedule on a spreadsheet of the projected costs (5-year escalator chart)**
- 2) **The EMS Office will schedule a special meeting if the rate is greater than 4%.**

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**VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There are no future agenda items.

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**VIII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2024 at 4:00 pm and will be held in person at Solana Beach City Hall, 635 Hwy 101, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm.