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CSA-17 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tracy Martinez, Chair/ Jill MacDonald, Vice Chair
c/o Emergency Medical Services
Del Mar Heights School
13555 Boquita Dr, Del Mar, CA 92014
Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Members Present
City of Del Mar – Martinez, Tracy
City of Encinitas – San Antonio, Marco
Torrey Pines Planning Group – Rich, Dee
Citizen at Large – Twohy, Frank
Citizen at Large – Spelich, John

County Staff Present
Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Haidari, Tareq
Keane, Melissa
Parr, Andy
Trousdale, Brad

Agency Representatives Present
Davidson, Bret – Del Mar/ Solana Beach
Herren, Christopher – North Comm
McQuead, Dave – Rancho Santa Fe FPD
Pester, Ryan – Del Mar/ Solana Beach
Sanchez, Jorge – Encinitas FD
Thomas, Yanik – AMR
Valdez Acosta-Meza, Carlos – AMR

Guests
(None)

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

A. Chair Tracy Martinez called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.
B. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
C. There were no introductions.
D. The following announcements were made: Member Marco San Antonio is coming from another meeting and will be arriving late; member Jill McDonald arrived but left immediately due to not feeling well.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions submitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Frank Twohy, seconded by John Spelich to approve the May 12, 2026 CSA 17 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

IV. MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

A. Budget and Financial Report – Melissa Keane, Program Coordinator

The Financial Dashboard is updated and 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.

The Financial Dashboard is updated through June 30 and is updated on a monthly basis.

B. LEMSA Report – Brian Christison, Group Program Manager

- State Regulations Update:
  The Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) recently completed the final step to implement the proposed Chapter 6 Specialty Care regulations, which include updated language for trauma, stroke, and STEMI systems. These regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on July 20, 2026, and will become effective October 1, 2026.
  Updates to the Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) AB 40 regulations, also approved at the June EMS Commission meeting were approved by OAL on July 23, 2026, and became effective immediately.
  The request to add ondansetron to the California EMT basic scope of practice finished its 45-day public comment period in late May, was approved by the state EMS Commission and remains with OAL for its review.

  More information will be shared as implementation proceeds and additional guidance becomes available.
- EMS Fees will increase July 1, 2026:
  The fiscal arm of OES has announced that the EMS Office is entering the third year of a planned three-year staggered fee schedule. Increases to all County Fire Programs (including EMS) were approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 20, 2026. Fees are being increased for (Fire Marshal) plan reviews, (Fire) inspections, and EMS Office Fees. Fees were presented to the EMCC on March 26th, 2026, where the members of the EMCC took no action on the planned fee increases.
- EMS System Redesign:
  The EMS System Redesign is ongoing, with work continuing in quality management, prehospital notification, hospital status visibility, and other areas.

  On January 6, the new Quality Management process started, moving from a fragmented legacy system to a centralized, countywide approach with EMS agencies managing case reviews and the EMS Office overseeing the process.

  In April, the County EMS Office launched two of three Prehospital Notification Pilot platforms. Users in the pilot areas are providing feedback on the information, advice, strengths, and weaknesses of the tested products. The Core Group and Steering Committee are closely monitoring these pilots. We are pleased to announce that the final Prehospital Notification Pilot Study began on June 3 in the East and South Counties. Some adjustments are being made to the early pilots. In the Pulsara Pilot, Scripps La Jolla is now included as a receiving hospital and Trauma Center. Additionally, up to three SDFR Units in the northwest city will use the Pulsara App. In the ImageTrend pilot zone, units are now testing the AWARE radio notification template to send brief alerts about the receiving facility, replacing the ImageTrend report posted to Resource Bridge. Scripps Mercy San Diego has joined the TigerConnect pilot as a Base Station and Trauma Center. We believe these small modifications will generate more data for the Steering Committee's review. Each pilot is planned to last about 12 weeks to gather enough data for the Steering Committee's analysis and recommendations.

  County EMS held two town hall meetings on July 27 and 30 to present information about the prearrival notification pilots. Attendees could ask questions and view the workflows. Two surveys are available—one for the EMS/ED community and another for post-town hall feedback—to collect data for the EMS Office's analysis and the Steering Committee's review.

Our only concern is the need for more input from Hospital / Base Hospital. Since all three pilots appear successful, making this decision is challenging, making everyone's input, particularly hospital's, crucial.

C. Ground Ambulance Provider Report – Carlos Valdez Acosta-Meza, Operations Manager, AMR

1. CSA-17 Quarterly Performance Reports for April, May, June 2026. This performance report covered the following: Response Time Compliance, Mutual Aid Activity, and Transport Destinations. Pleased to report another solid quarter of compliance overall.
2. Paramedic Hiram Sanchez with AMR was recognized for his resilience on an ambulance call and for his great work ethic and teamwork.
   a. Community Outreach Update
      The following presentation was shared with the group: CSA 17 Update: Community Outreach & Operations Overview

ACTION: A request was made that the committee receive the Ground Ambulance Report ahead of time prior to the meeting.

D. Operations Chief's Meeting Report

Jorge Sanchez on behalf of Jim Mikelson, Deputy Chief, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District

- Staffing – two new hires
- Operations – successful drill in July

Encinitas Fire Department

- Staffing – two new hires
- Retirements – upcoming at end of year
- Fire Station 6 – services are increasing – expanding to 3-person staffing, expanding garage to host a type 1 fire engine; goal is to place a type 3 fire engine and brush rig.
- Emergency Operations Drill 8/13

Solana Beach Fire Department

- Working with Chief Pester on improving response times in Annie's Canyon area
- Image Trend – anticipate rolling out in September/October

Ryan Pester, Battalion Chief, City of Del Mar and City of Solana Beach

- There is no change in the level of service that was delivered to our communities. A lot of credit goes to Encinitas for their smooth transfer of command and ensuring the communities were still well served.
- Chief Davidson from Vista was hired as the Fire Chief
- A new Fire Marshall was hired; in the process of hiring another Fire Protection Specialist.
- Additional hires and promotions
- A lot of work continues to be done
- Annie's Canyon response plan to be improved
- Increase in public education

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Consultant's Report on CSA 17 – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator**
The Consultant's Report and Scorecard are available online at www.SanDiegoCountyEMS.com at San Dieguito EMS District/County Service Area 17.

B. **LAFCO Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator**
There was no update.

C. **Lifeguard Report**
This report will be ready in November.

D. **Procedure to hold future meetings via teleconference – Tareq Haidari, Program Coordinator**
The following Powerpoint presentation was shared with the group: Senate Bill 707 Implementation

A motion was made to continue holding the CSA 17 Advisory Committee meetings in person. All members in attendance were in favor. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. CSA 17 Advisory Committee Advice to adjust the CSA 17 Fund Balance (Excess Reserve) to be increased from 180 days operating capital to one-year operating capital as recommended by the CSA 17 Financial Consultant.

A motion was made by Marco San Antonio, seconded by Frank Twohy in support of adjusting the CSA 17 Fund Balance to be increased from 180 days operating capital to one-year operating capital as recommended by the CSA 17 Financial Consultant. Motion carried.

B. Request to remove the following "standing items" from the agenda
   i. Consultant's Report on CSA 17
   ii. LAFCO Report
   iii. Lifeguard Report to be held each November

A motion was made by John Spelich, seconded by Dee Rich to remove the standing items listed above from the agenda. Motion carried.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. EMS System Redesign
B. Lifeguard Report

VIII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next Advisory Committee meeting date conflicts with some of the members' schedules. County EMS staff will send out options. The next Advisory Committee meeting date is TBD. Meeting adjourned at 5:11 pm.