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PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Meeting

Brian Covell, RN, Chair / Julie Phillips, MD, Vice Chair c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office County Operations Center | 5530 Overland Avenue, Rm 124, San Diego 92123

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cochran, Jennifer – County Paramedic Agencies Committee Covell, RN, Brian – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators Muns, Harry – SD Fire Chiefs' Association (Alt)

County Staff

Assof, Michael Christison, Brian del Toro, Nicole (recorder) Gonzalez, Evelin Kolodzik, Susan Meick, Tyler Trousdale, Brad Vithalani, MD, Veer

Agency Representatives

Chandler, Craig - Stryker Graham, Valery - CSA 17 Jackson, Ennis - AMR/RCCP Kahn, MD, Christopher - UCSD Killy, Kecia - Stryker Lopez, Brent - REACH Lord, Scott - Mercy Air Schwartz, Brad - AMR Scott, MD, Chris - Kaiser

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Brian Covell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.
- B. Susan Kolodzik was introduced as the newest EMS Coordinator with the San Diego County EMS Office
- C. There were no announcements.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Brian Covell, seconded by Harry Muns to approve the meeting minutes from April 10, 2025. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

County EMS Fees and the next Fiscal Year:

In 2024, the Board of Supervisors supported a phased three-year increase for personnel, specialty care, and permitting fees. This phased increase required annual validation that these fee stairsteps are accurate. The County's Emergency Services Administration Unit, together with the Auditor & Controller's Office, have finished the LEMSA fee review. The fee updates for the 2nd year were approved by the Board of Supervisors and are effective July 1, 2025. If you have questions or comments, please email EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov.

• Internal Disasters and Ambulance Traffic Reminder:

San Diego County hospitals may declare Internal Disaster status when a critical disruption occurs to provide medical services. These situations may include structural failures, infrastructure disruptions, or health and safety threats. When a hospital declares an Internal Disaster, all ambulance traffic must be rerouted to other destinations, including specialty care patients and those patients requesting a particular facility. Internal Disaster declarations are shared immediately with all hospitals, EMS communications centers, the County Ambulance Coordinator, County Public Health Preparedness and Response, and the California Department of Public Health. In addition, the County EMS Duty Officer will engage the affected hospital to expedite transfers or evacuation resources.

State Regulations Update:

- EMSA Notice of Intent to Submit Emergency Regulations Implementation of AB 40
 The proposed regulations will be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on June 12, 2025. The Notice of Proposed Emergency Regulations and the Proposed Regulation Text are available for review on EMSA's website at emsa.ca.gov/Public Comment
- EMSA is currently reviewing the public comments received from February through April 2025 for updates to Chapter, Specialty Programs, within the Division 9, Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. The state is expecting to make additional revisions and announce an additional public comment period in the coming months.
- Assuming the rulemaking process remains on track, the final regulations will be presented to the Commission on EMS in September with implementation of the new regulations expected the end of the calendar year (pending Commission on EMS and subsequent OAL approvals).

• EMS Corps: Accepting Student Applications:

San Diego County Fire's EMS Corps trains people aged 18-26 for careers in emergency medical services. Throughout a 5-month program, students are provided with a stipend while receiving coaching, mentorship, and EMT training provided by experienced professionals.

The program experience includes:

- A curriculum tailored to students' skills and abilities
- Support for students' success
- Help with job placement after graduation

More information and program applications are available at the San Diego EMS Corps website (SanDiegoEMSCorps.Org). In addition, we thank our partner organizations for supporting this important program.

• Broselow Tape Errors Update:

- EMSA shared a notification from Armstrong Medical indicating there were errors identified in the 2025 Broselow Tapes. The errors included a discrepancy in the concentration of sodium bicarbonate in the grey section and incorrect joules for defibrillation and cardioversion in the red section.
- As a reminder, EMS clinicians should be referring to Protocol P-117 ALS Pediatric Drug Chart for all medication administration and treatment of pediatric patients.

Ambulance Ordinance Update:

The San Diego County EMS Office is currently undertaking an update to the County's Ambulance Ordinance. This effort aims to better align the ordinance with current best practices and evolving medical transportation standards. Community members interested in tracking the progress of this project can find more information on the Engage San Diego County website.

Link: https://engage.sandiegocounty.gov/ambulance-ordinance

Kaiser San Marcos Medical Center:

We are pleased to share the exciting news that Kaiser San Marcos Medical Center has been officially designated as a County of San Diego EMS stroke receiving center. This designation is

effective on July 1, 2025.

We welcome Kaiser San Marcos Medical Center as our nineteenth designated stroke receiving center, further strengthening our specialty care system.

- 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.
- <u>County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisories:</u>
 Juneteenth June 19, 2025, Independence Day July 4, 2025
- EMS System Redesign Process Update:

The EMS Office has initiated two advisory committees to help guide the EMS System redesign process. Each of these committees have representatives from the Hospital Association, The Fire Chiefs Association and the Ambulance Association. The steering committee has also formed two Task Forces, one to focus on the redesign of the quality management plan; and one to focus on the recommendations in the Trauma Center Catchment Areas consultant's report. These advisory committees will be discussing future pilot studies, equipment trials, and proposed policy adjustments. As a reminder, the final reports and periodic updates are posted on the San Diego County Engage Page.

The EMS Office is seeking information about Online Medical Direction for EMS Providers. The EMS Office is gathering information on ambulance arrivals at emergency departments, with a specific focus on those where the receiving emergency department received no notice from any source prior to ambulance arrival or receives a notice after arrival.

A. Draft Policies Posted for Public Comment - Brian Christison - Program Coordinator

There are no current draft policies posted for public comment, however we do have a number of drafts that are going to adapt language from the continuing education authorization policy that would be reflected in the training program policies for public safety first aid, EMT, AMT, and paramedic. Also aiming to merge most of those policies into one for easy navigation.

I. System Policy Review (Endorsement Vote)

- A. S-070: Special Program Authorizations
- B. S-306: Emergency Medical Services Continuing Education
- C. S-620: LEMSA Data Use and Standards
- D. S-883: Emergency Medical Dispatch Enhanced Care Access
- E. S-883A: Emergency Medical Dispatch Enhanced Care Access Plan Template

A motion was made by Brian Covell, seconded by Harry Muns to postpone the endorsement of the five (5) policies to July. Motion carried.

II. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

III. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

IV. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2025 at 9:30 am at 5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 172, San Diego 92123. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.