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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 | 5560 Overland Ave, Rm 172, San Diego 92123
Thursday, January 08, 2026

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cochran, Jennifer – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Covell, RN, Brian – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators' Committee
Jordan, Jonathan – District 2
Phillips, MD, Julie – SD County Medical Society

County Staff

Assof, Michael
Brein, Susan
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Gonzalez, Evelin
Meick, Tyler
Parr, Andy
Trousdale, Brad

Agency Representatives

Chandler, Craig – Stryker
Erickson, Kirk – Scripps Mercy
Graham, Valery – CSA 17
Kahn, MD, Christopher – SDFD/UCSD
Scott, Christopher – Kaiser
Sullivan, Don – AMR

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Brian Covell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.
B. There were no introductions.
C. There were no announcements.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jennifer Cochran (Alt), seconded by Brian Covell to approve the meeting minutes from September 11, 2025. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

A public comment was made by Dr. Christopher Scott with Kaiser Permanente regarding the timing of the implementation of Policies S-012 and S-013, and opinions on verbiage related to the County EMS/general acute care hospital relationship.

IV. COUNTY REPORT – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

- State Regulations Update

The Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) announced that the proposed revisions to Chapter 6 – Specialty Care Programs regulations were unanimously approved at the EMS Commission meeting in December.

The next step is for submission to the Office of Administrative Law for final approval. EMSA anticipates this process will take approximately 2-3 months before these regulations become effective.
- EMS Corps

San Diego County Fire's EMS Corps is a 5-month EMT training program for young adults between 18-26 who are justice- or child-welfare-impacted. The program provides a monthly stipend of \$1,500, along with personalized support during EMT training, including career and personal counseling, mentorship, and hands-on experience in the EMS field. Cohort 1 launched July 7, 2025 with 19 students, and the graduation date is set for December 2. Cohort 2 starts January 5, 2026. The EMS Corps application portal remains open for Cohort 2 although space is limited.

Additional grant funds were secured to start a pre-fire academy preparatory program for those EMS Corps students who want to go on to become firefighters. The preparatory program assists students prepare for the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) and the fire fighter written exam.

A North County version of program which will be held at Palomar College will begin in February 2026 and the application portal is open for this cohort also.

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

 - Southwestern College
 - Palomar College
 - American Medical Response
 - Falck
 - Premier Ambulance
 - The Children's Initiative
 - Public Works Alliance (PWA)
 - SBCS
 - San Diego Workforce Partnership
- EMS treatment Protocols

This year's proposed updates will focus on three main areas: the 2025 AHA Guidelines, obstetrical emergencies, and trauma—specifically the trauma decision algorithm. As part of these updates, magnesium sulfate will be added as a new medication for ALS providers to carry for the treatment of preeclampsia and eclampsia.

The draft protocols were developed in consultation with the new EMS Protocol Workgroup and will be presented at future EMS Medical Director's Advisory Committee meetings for review and feedback.
- Agency LEMSIS Rosters and updates

All EMS agencies have the ability to electronically update their employee lists in LEMSIS. County staff have noticed that some agencies have done a better job *adding* new staff and have been less accurate with removing staff that have left the agency. Other agencies have not updated their roster in some time. County staffers rely on these LEMSIS rosters for finding the correct agency point of contact, QA reviews, arrest notifications, and a number of other responsibilities. ALS agencies are required to update their rosters under their MOAs, and permitted ambulance providers are required to update their rosters under County code.
- County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisories

Martin Luther King – January 19, 2026

Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator, shared the following PowerPoint presentation with the group: [County Report](#) which included the following:

- A. EMSA Hospital Hub Access
- B. Implementation of System Changes (effective January 6, 2026)
- C. Data Collection on International Border Transports
- D. No-Notice Ambulance Arrival Data Collection Status Report
- E. Vaccination Local Optional Scope of Practice Status Report
- F. System Policies taking effect February 1, 2026
 - 1. S-070: Special Program Authorizations
 - 2. S-306: Emergency Medical Services Continuing Education
 - 3. S-620: LEMSA Data Use Standards
- G. AB 40 and APOT Audits (Tyler Meick, EMS Coordinator)

V. System Policy Updates (Informational / Coming soon)

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- A. S-TBD: Online Medical Direction and EMS Communication Recordings and Maintenance

A new policy will be released for public comment soon. This policy is intended to establish a statutorily required retention policy for County-maintained audio recordings.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VIII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2026, at 9:30 am at 5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 172, San Diego 92123. Meeting adjourned at 10:43am.