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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, September 11, 2025

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cochran, Jennifer – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Covell, RN, Brian – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Phillips, MD, Julie – SD County Medical Society
Rauto-Shin, Roxanne – County Paramedic Agencies Committee

County Staff

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

Agency Representatives

Erickson, Kirk – Scripps Mercy
Farah, MD, Jennifer – Chula Vista/UCSD
Graham, Valery – CSA 17
Kahn, MD, Christopher – SDFD/UCSD
Marquez, Amy – Oceanside FD
Porr, Liza – Stryker
Sullivan, Don – AMR

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Brian Covell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.
- B. There were no introductions.
- C. County staff provided an announcement related to meeting conduct and public comments delivered to the committee. Staff has provided a lectern for attendees to make comment. This will improve the ability of all attendees, both in-person and virtual, to include their comments for committee decisions.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to approve the meeting minutes from July 10, 2025. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

IV. COUNTY REPORT – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

- Health Services Capacity Plan Level: Plan Level 5 – Baseline Surveillance (Level 1-5 – Five is Lowest)
Southern California Fire Preparedness Level: Plan Level 4 (Level 1-5 - Five is highest)
- State Regulations Update:
 - EMSA finished reviewing public comments received from February through April 2025 regarding updates to Chapter 6, Specialty Programs, within Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.
 - Additional revisions have been made to the proposed regulation text, and a second public comment period ran from July 3 to August 17, 2025.
 - We strongly encourage everyone to review the proposed revisions, as the language will impact our specialty care programs.

- EMS Corps: Accepting Student Applications!

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 21 students, and the graduation date is set for December 2. Cohort 2 starts January 5, 2026, and the application portal will remain open until September 30. 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.

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
- American Medical Response
- Falck
- Premier Ambulance
- The Children's Initiative
- Public Works Alliance (PWA)
- SBCS
- San Diego Workforce Partnership

County Fire also recently received an additional grant to implement a pre-fire academy program to interested EMS Corps students.

- 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>

- EMS Treatment Protocol Updates:

The San Diego County EMS 2025-2026 treatment protocols are now live as of July 1, 2025. Key updates include a new medication reference, evidence-based changes, a transport level of care decision tool, and important clarifications. All protocols are available on our website (www.sandiegocountyems.com) and the EMS Mobile App – just in time to begin the review process anew. The San Diego County EMS Office is happy to announce that the 2026-2027 EMS protocol revision cycle has begun, with comments open from August 29 to

October 1, 2025. Submit suggestions anytime via the EMS Mobile App—just go to References > EMS App > Protocol & Policy Suggestions. Previously submitted comments are always considered.

Remember to close and restart the EMS Mobile App with an internet connection to download the latest updates.

- San Diego County Trauma Dashboard Published:

The San Diego County Trauma System Dashboard has been published on the County EMS website. This interactive dashboard provides tools to analyze trauma system data and features a user-friendly interface to support stakeholder projects, academic research, and policy decisions. This tool can be found on the Trauma System page.

The EMS Office thanks all six of our county's trauma centers for their help in validating this high-quality data set.

- The LEMSIS System is always improving, and third-party data integration is continuing!

The LEMSIS system improves data management and supports high-quality, patient-centered care. Agencies using LEMSIS are fully compliant with EMSA dataset standards. The data collected also feeds into various projects, including ODMAP submissions, AB40 (transfer of care) reporting, and other specialty care registries. Last month, the Hospital Hub component was upgraded to a newer, more advanced version, along with improved hospital alerts for air ambulance arrivals at local emergency departments. In addition, the final backend preparations for NERIS implementation is underway, and more information is coming soon.

- County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisories:

Veterans Day – November 11, 2025; Thanksgiving – November 27 & 28, 2025; Christmas – December 25, 2025

- EMS System Redesign Process Update:

Dr. Vithalani shared the following presentation with the group: [EMS Delivery System Redesign](#)

I. System Policy Review (Endorsement Vote)

A. S-070: Special Program Authorizations

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to endorse Policy S-070. Motion carried.

B. S-306: Emergency Medical Services Continuing Education

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to endorse Policy S-306. Motion carried.

C. S-620: LEMSA Data Use and Standards

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to endorse Policy S-620. Motion carried.

D. S-883: Emergency Medical Dispatch Enhanced Care Access

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to endorse Policy S-883. Motion carried.

E. S-883A: Emergency Medical Dispatch Enhanced Care Access Plan Template

A motion was made by Dr. Julie Phillips, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to endorse Policy S-883A. Motion carried.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A. No-Notice Ambulance Arrival Data Collection – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

The following presentation was shared with the group: [No-Notice Ambulance Arrivals](#)

- B. Stroke Witness Quality Improvement Initiative Update – Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator

The following presentation was shared with the group: [Stroke Witness QI Initiative](#)

III. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

IV. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2025 at 9:30 am at 5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 172, San Diego 92123. Meeting adjourned at 10:13am.