



County of San Diego

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PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP
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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) MEETING

Frank Parra, Chair/ Brian Covell, R.N., Vice-Chair
c/o Emergency Medical Services
Virtual meeting via Zoom

Minutes

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Members Present

Chote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Covell, R.N., Brian – District 2
Forney, Paul – SD County Ambulance Association
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies' Committee
George, Sgt, Richard – Law Enforcement Agencies
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses' Association
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Lyons, R.N., Laura – American Red Cross
Ma, M.D., Gene – District 3
McJannet, R.N., Catherine – District 1
Parra, Frank – SD County Fire Chiefs' Association
Rios, Matthew – Military Agencies
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses' Association
Scott, M.D., Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Sloan, M.D., Christian – District 5
Wiese, Lisha – Hospital Association of SD/Imperial Counties

In Attendance

Baudoin-Ghorashi, Madeleine – AMR
Behm, Jeff – Falck
Chandler, Craig – Stryker
Dotson, R.N., Melody – AMR
Duffy, Jennifer – SMFD
Farcas, M.D., Andra – UCSD EMS Fellow
Garibay, Albert – Barona Fire
Martin, Geoffrey – Southwestern College
Matthews, Britt – Escondido Fire
Matthews, Troy – Mercy Medical
Meick, Tyler – Reach Air
Mercer, Kevin – AMR
Murphy, Mary – North County FPD
Parker, Seth – CARE Ambulance
Pearson, Danielle – Chula Vista FD
Pearson, Nate – Carlsbad FD
Ruiz, Sal – CSA 17 EMS Coordinator
Schadegg, Rochelle – Scripps Mercy SD
Seabloom, Lynn – Oceanside FD
Stauffer, Kim – SDFD
Sullivan, Don – AMR
Sumek, Caryn – HASDIC
Wurtz, M.D., Dannie – Sharp Memorial

Not in Attendance

SD County Fire Districts' Association
SD County Paramedic Association

County Staff

Abedin, Sanaa
Cavanaugh, Adria
Christison, Brian
Collins, Jeff
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Erickson, Kirk
Gall, Jessica
Hrubovcak, Wendy
Koenig, M.D., Kristi
Martin, Adilver
McDonald, M.D., Eric
Parr, Andy

Pitner, Jaime
Rogers, Cody
Schoenheit, Paige
Smith, PhD, Josh
Tuteur, M.D., Jennifer

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

- A. Frank Parra, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- B. The group skipped the Pledge of Allegiance as the meeting was virtual.
- C. In lieu of introductions, attendance was captured online. Jeff Behm, Managing Director from Falck, introduced himself to the group.
- D. The following new members were announced: Lisha Wiese as primary representative and Monique Imroth as alternate representative for HASDIC; Paul Forney as primary representative and Doug Moriarty as alternate representative for San Diego County Ambulance Association.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Dr. Chris Scott to approve the October 28, 2021 minutes. Motion carried.

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN

The group met and was well attended. The following policies were discussed and approved for review at today's EMCC meeting: S-480, P-806, P-807, P-834. Also reviewed Policy S-010 which will be further discussed today. Dr. Christian Sloane discussed the North Zone Tiered Dispatch.

B. Education and Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

The group met and was well attended. Anne Jensen presented on the San Diego City Pilot Project and their transition with their new ambulance provider. Dr. Chris Scott and Josh Smith discussed and sought approval for a study on the cyber incident involving the Scripps facilities and how that affected the EMS/ED system. AB 1544 is on hold with no further updates.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee – Lisha Wiese, RN

The County has reached out to all the various hospitals in the county for a Disaster Medical System Workgroup, which is activated in addition to the Annex D Plan. The workgroup is focused on emergency health and operations and wants to incorporate the lessons learned from COVID-19. Scheduled to meet in early December, then on a monthly basis.

V. COUNTY REPORTS

A. Clinical Report – Kristi Koenig, MD, EMS Medical Director

For situational awareness:

- EMSA Medical Director Dr. Duncan retired as of November 12, 2021; Elizabeth Basnett is the acting Administrative Director, Dr. Hernando Garzon is the new temporary EMSA Medical Director. Dr. Duncan publicly called out San Diego LEMSA for our outstanding work, particularly for stepping up to the plate to assist during the pandemic.
- Opioid overdose deaths; more than 100k people died in the US during the 12 month period ending in April 2021; a new record high.
- Increased trauma at the border; seen a significant rise in patients meeting trauma center criteria after jumping from the border wall.
- Kaiser Labor Action; fortunately an agreement was reached early Saturday morning.

i. COVID-19 Update

Dr. Koenig provided an update of the most recent information on the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Dr. Jennifer Tuteur provided information on the monoclonal antibody regional centers: Four sites: Vista, Clairemont, Hillcrest, and Chula Vista. The Clairemont site is open on Saturdays and is providing the post exposure prophylaxis: 619-685-2500 x4. The County's [monoclonal antibody treatment webpage](#). In addition, the Nursing Team is teaching nurses at skilled nursing facilities how to deliver monoclonal antibody both treatment and post exposure prophylaxis. If your skilled nursing facility is interested in monoclonal antibody treatment, contact MCSDNursingM_MAT.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov

B. Administrative Report – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator

1. Flu: The Flu Season is upon us. The “PHO Flu Order” is evergreen and is in force through the designated influenza season (November 1 – March 31). The flu 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 the flu. Reminder, the “Jury Duty letter” has been discontinued, as any jury summons can be deferred for any reason anytime.
2. Procurements: County EMS encourages interested parties to register at the County's BuyNet webportal to receive procurement information as it is released. There are instructions posted on our website. Upcoming procurements include:
 - RFP for Evaluation of Base Station System and Trauma Catchment area designation (anticipated release is prior to the end of the calendar year)
 - RFP for Paramedic Ambulance Services for CSA 17.
3. EMSA Waivers come to a close MARCH 1, 2022 – note the update to the updated date. In March 2020 EMSA, under the authority granted by Executive Order, implemented an array of waivers and alterations to standard EMS rules. These changes included:
 - Substituting simulations or other adjustments for clinical and internship contacts for EMT and paramedic students
 - Waiving the biannual EMT skills competency verification
 - Authorizing EMTs, AEMTs, and paramedics to practice their respective scope in stationary settings
 - Approval for Local Optional Scope of Practices for COVID-19 testing and vaccination administrationAll of these emergency standards were extended from September to conclude on March 31, 2022, including for training courses that began prior to this date.
4. LEMSIS Updates: The County EMS Elite schematron and data dictionary have been finalized and distributed to specific third-party PCR vendors. LEMSA staff have been working closely with some of the larger 3rd party vendors to enable this data integration as soon as possible, hopefully before the end of the calendar year. EMS agencies may bypass the process of third-party integration by joining LEMSA and the no-cost Elite PCR.
5. Base Hospital Assignment Update: The Base Hospital Assignments are due for a refresh. County EMS is finalizing an update form that will go to each EMS Coordinator. We plan to finalize these updated assignments before Thanksgiving, so we thank agencies in advance for a quick turnaround.
6. EMSA Star of Life Awards nominations are open: The annual EMS Authority Star of Life awards are open for nomination. These awards honor special advocacy, heroic acts, innovations, or special contributions to improve EMS in the state by EMS personnel, medical providers, local officials, members of the law enforcement community, citizens, and first responders. EMS agencies may send information to the LEMSA or nominate awardees directly through the EMSA website by December 31.

i. **EMS Data Presentation – Josh Smith, PhD**

A PowerPoint presentation EMS Data – Annual Review and Look Ahead was shared with the group, which covered the following: TOC Report, Surveillance Report, COVID Hospital Census, ICU Bed Availability, Daily Bed and Ventilator Availability, Monoclonal Antibody Dashboard, Medical Operations Center Logistics PPE Request Tracker.

A second PowerPoint presentation New Data Projects to Look for in the New Year was shared with the group which covered the following: Stroke Dashboard; Sexual Assault Response Team Dashboard; Prehospital Drug and Alcohol Dashboard; Third Party Vendor Integration Status Dashboard; San Diego County Local Core Measures.

ii. **EMCC Membership – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator**

Action is needed on seats 7 & 8 from the Law Enforcement Agencies and seats 22 & 23 from the San Diego County Paramedic Association.

iii. **Recent Board Action – Andy Parr, EMS Administrator**

- County Fire Protection District returned to the Board on a request regarding community paramedicine. They presented a report called Community Health and Injury Prevention Program.
- Received approval to send CSA 69 dissolution documents to LAFCO. They will review the process and make a determination. Agreements have been largely made to remove the County as the overseer of CSA 69 and turn it over to the entities that are currently providing service.

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (EMCC Advisory Position) – Jaime Pitner

A. S-480: Viral Specimen Collection and Vaccination Administration Update

Changes have been made to this policy to include all ages.

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Kahn, seconded by Paul Forney to approve Policy S-480. Motion carried.

B. P-806: ALS First Responder Inventory

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded by Cathy McJannet to approve Policy P-806. Motion carried.

C. P-807: Wildland ALS Kit Inventory

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded by Cathy McJannet to approve Policy P-807. Motion carried.

D. P-834: BLS First Responder Inventory

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded by Cathy McJannet to approve Policy P-834. Motion carried.

There was discussion on merging all three policies P-806, P-807, & P-831 into one document.

ACTION: EMS staff will look over the draft recommendation document received from Chief Dan Froelich.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Base Hospital/Trauma Catchment Review (Andy Parr, EMS Administrator)

The Statement of Work continues.

B. AB 1544: Community Paramedicine or Triage to Alternate Destination Act (Andy Parr, EMS Administrator)

No current updates. Standing by for additional information.

- C. Brown Act requirements for Teleconferencing Meetings – AB 361: A Resolution Authorizing Teleconferenced Public Meetings Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953

This is a follow up resolution that the Chair will determine that the meetings continue virtually for the time being. Therefore, will continue the virtual meetings and review them each time with the passage of this resolution. Meeting every 30 days is no longer required. The subcommittees can also continue to meet virtually.

A motion was made by Brian Covell, seconded by Cathy McJannet to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. County EMS Strategic Plan (Jeff Collins/ Andy Parr)

A PowerPoint presentation [Framework for the Future, Emergency Medical Services Strategic Plan, EMS 2030](#) was shared with the group.

- B. S-010: ED Ambulance Diversion (Chief Frank Parra)

There was group discussion on what is the best approach to look at this policy. The group was asked to take a poll via the chat box on whether diversion was working or not. The majority of the group/attendees voted that diversion is not working.

The following questions/suggestions were made:

- A request to evaluate and manage diversion or other load leveling methods by region
- A request for EMS to continue working with health system leadership on ambulance patient offload concerns

ACTION: The group suggested that this policy be put back on the next Prehospital/Hospital agenda in January 2022.

IX. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled on Thursday, January 27, 2022, at 9:30 am via Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.