



# County of San Diego

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**  
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## MISSION STATEMENT

**“As advisors to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the Mission of the Emergency Medical Care Committee is to be an advocate for the community through the development of strategies for continuous improvement of the emergency medical services system.”**

## 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, March 25, 2021**

#### Members Present

Cote, R.N., Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators  
Covell, R.N., Brian – District 2  
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies’ Committee  
George, Sgt, Richard – Law Enforcement Agencies  
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Emergency Nurses’ Association  
Lyons, R.N., Laura – American Red Cross  
Ma, MD, Gene – District 3  
McJannet, R.N., Catherine – District 1  
Mercer, Kevin – SD County Ambulance Association  
Molloy, Bernie – SD County Fire Districts’ Association  
Parra, Frank – SD County Fire Chiefs’ Association  
Rosenberg, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses’ Association  
Sloan, M.D., Christian – District 5

#### In Attendance

Abbott, Stephen – North County FPD  
Adler, Fred  
Baudoin, Madeleine – AMR  
Beckert, Mark – Carlsbad FD  
Chandler, Craig – Stryker  
Donofrio-Odmann, Joelle – UCSD/SDFRD  
Duffy, Jennifer – SMFD  
Martin, Geoffrey – Southwestern College  
Meick, Tyler – Reach Air  
Pierce, RN, Jodi – SDFRD  
Rios, Matt – Navy Region SW Fire & Emerg Svcs  
Ruiz, Sal – CSA-17 EMS Coordinator  
Seabloom, Lynn – Oceanside FD  
Sumek, Caryn – HASDIC  
Timmons, Lance – American Red Cross  
Vilke, Gary – UCSD/North Zone  
Wray, Lt. Shawn – SD County Sheriff’s Dept  
Zimmerman, Stephanie – Mercy Air

#### Not in Attendance

District 4  
Hospital Association of SD & Imperial Counties  
Military Agencies  
SD County Medical Society  
SD County Paramedic Association

#### County Staff

Abedin, Sanaa  
Beam, Jaime  
Bey, Christian  
Cavanaugh, Adria  
Chmielewski, R.N., Lorraine  
Choe, Grace  
Christison, Brian  
Dama, Val  
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)

Endoso, Max  
Gall, R.N., Jessica  
Goldstein, Marlene  
Koenig, M.D., Kristi  
Lee, Chris  
Lewis, Brian  
Martin, Adelver  
Pacheco, R.N., Cheryl  
Parr, Andy  
Pitner, Jaime  
Rogers, Cody  
Schoenheit, R.N., Candy  
Smith, PhD, Josh  
Tuteur, MD, Jenn

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

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Frank Parra, EMCC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Due to the meeting being held virtually, the group skipped the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions. No announcements were made. Attendance was captured online.

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## **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS**

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Chief Abbott thanked the committee and the subcommittee for all the work that has been done on Policy P-801. There is additional work to be done. Asked the committee to consider postponing a month to have time to finalize comments.

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## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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**A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Cathy McJannet to approve the February 25, 2021 minutes. Motion carried.**

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## **IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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### **A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN**

The group met and discussed Policy P-305. The County requested it be put on hold until after the protocol updates. Also discussed policies P-401, P-801 and S-010 which will be discussed today.

### **B. Education/Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN**

Did not meet. On hold, waiting to see what happens with the subcommittee AB1544.

### **C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee**

Did not meet. David Blacksberg was the Chair of this subcommittee and has recently resigned.

**ACTION: Will discuss the vacant Chair position and the members at the next EMCC meeting.**

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## **V. COUNTY REPORT (Reports)**

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### **A. Clinical Report – Kristi Koenig, MD**

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.

## **B. Administrative Report – Brian Christison**

1. Actions taken during COVID-19: The following categories have been updated since the last EMCC meeting, which are also posted at [www.sandiegocountyems.com](http://www.sandiegocountyems.com):
  - Pediatric destination directives ended on March 8, 2021
  - Health Services Capacity Task Force Expanded Operational Group coordination calls continue
2. EMT Renewals – reminded to submit early.  
In the spring of odd-numbered years, the County EMS Credentialing Team is inundated with EMT renewal applications. The monthly credentialing average is about 300 applications, swelling to over 900 in April, 2021. Agencies are asked to work with their EMT staff to make sure their applications are submitted early to avoid the rush. As a reminder, the EMSA waiver for the Skills Competency Verification is still in effect and will remain in effect through the end of the Governor’s Emergency Declaration.
3. County EMS Duty Officer – CoSD EMS Duty Officer contact methods have changed. The phone number is on the County EMS webpage (619-588-0397)..
4. Annual protocol updates are well underway. Appreciated the feedback from the agencies. Anticipate will be ready in early April.
5. Waiver reporting – a reminder to the agencies exercising the temporary waivers for particular elements of P-801 and Assess and Refer for low acuity/low risk potential COVID patients, to submit those monthly reports in a timely manner.
6. Communications Failure reporting – County staff have heard scattered reports about an increase in Communications Failure incidents recently. As a reminder, under P-405, all Communications Failures must be reported to the assigned base immediately, but no more than 24 hours after the incident. County staff, including the medical director, track Communications Failure very closely.
7. Ebola – is back on the radar and a CAHAN was distributed by Public Health. CAHAN offers up to date information and guidance on many medical topics, and medical professionals can sign up for CAHAN updates via the [PHS CAHAN webpage](#).
8. Ketamine Local Optional Scope Of Practice is up for renewal in the summer. Working with EMSA to make a small adjustment to permit paramedics to deliver ketamine in conjunction with other analgesics, to help provide adequate and a diverse array of options to our patients in the field.
9. County registration for AEDs for public access defibrillation is moving to PulsePoint, and registrations can be done via online portal instead of faxing in. More info to come.

EMS Administrator Andy Parr reported on the following:

1. HHSAs’s Chief Operating Officer Dean Arabatzis recently retired.
2. LEMSA’s ongoing collaboration with San Diego Health Connect to obtain patient outcome data. LEMSA is currently working on implementing third party integration with our third party vendors.
3. Budget Update: a PowerPoint presentation was shared: [HHSAs Cost Recovery Proposed Fee Changes](#)  
HHSAs will present a comprehensive fee package to the Board of Supervisors on April 6, 2021.

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## **VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (EMCC Advisory Position)**

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### **A. Ad hoc Committees**

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- i. P-801: Designation of Providers of Advanced Life Support Service – Ad hoc Committee Status Report

**A motion was made by Frank Parra, seconded by Bernie Molloy to postpone the discussion and vote to move it a month, to clear up items and bring this item back in April. Motion carried.**

- ii. S-010: Guidelines for Hospitals Requesting Ambulance Diversion – Ad hoc Committee Status Report (Dr. Chris Scott)

**A motion was made by Brian Covell, seconded by Christian Sloan to approve Policy S-010. Motion carried.**

#### **B. Policy Review**

- i. P-401: Paramedic Scope of Practice – Brian Christison

**A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Kevin Mercer to approve Policy P-401. Motion carried.**

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### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. AB1544 – Brian Christison

A PowerPoint presentation was shared of the [Legislation Overview](#). Group discussion. It will be up to the LEMSA to decide what kind of community paramedicine programs they want in their own communities.

**ACTION: Keep as a standing agenda item. Will move to Old Business.**

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### **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Comprehensive Evaluation of the Base Hospital System and Trauma Catchment Area Designations

Ongoing work by the LEMSA. Currently doing procurement for CSA-17. As soon as that work concludes, will work on creating Statement of Work for the consultant to do a large component of this evaluation, which will include a review of the Trauma Catchment Area Designations. Will largely use the elements of T-705 to look at the Trauma Catchment Area Designations.

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### **IX. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled on Thursday, April 22, 2021 via Zoom.  
Meeting adjourned at 10:43 AM.