



County of San Diego

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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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, April 22, 2021

Members Present

Carlson, R.N., Sharon – HASDIC
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
Kahn, M.D., Christopher – District 4
Lyons, R.N., Laura – American Red Cross
Ma, M.D., Gene – District 3
Maxwell, Paul – SD County Paramedic Association
McJannet, R.N., Catherine – District 1
Mercer, Kevin – SD County Ambulance Association
Parra, Frank – SD County Fire Chiefs' Association
Rios, Matthew – Military Agencies
Scott, M.D., Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Wray, Lt, Shawn – Law Enforcement Agencies

In Attendance

Anderson, Marilyn – Vista Fire
Baudoin, Madeleine – AMR
Beckert, Mark – Carlsbad FD
Chandler, Craig – Stryker
Donofrio-Odmann, Joelle – UCSD/SDFRD
Allen, Francis – CACHCS
Hernandez, Daniel – Miramar Fire
Lawler, Andy – San Miguel Fire
Meick, Tyler – Reach Air
Murphy, Mary – North County FPD
Ruiz, Sal – CSA-17 EMS Coordinator
Seabloom, Lynn – Oceanside FD
Timmons, Lance – American Red Cross
Zimmerman, Stephanie – Mercy Air

Not in Attendance

District 5
SD County Fire Districts' Association

County Staff

Abedin, Sanaa
Bey, Christian
Cavanaugh, Adria
Chmielewski, R.N., Lorraine
Choe, Grace
Christison, Brian
Dama, Val
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Gall, R.N., Jessica
Goldstein, Marlene
Koenig, M.D., Kristi

Martin, Adelver
Pacheco, R.N., Cheryl
Parr, Andy
Pitner, Jaime
Rogers, Cody
Schoenheit, R.N., Candy
Smith, PhD, Josh
Stepanski, Barbara

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

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. Attendance was captured online. The following announcements were made: Lt Shawn Wray is the new alternate member representing Law Enforcement Agencies; Matthew Rios is the new primary member representing Military Agencies; Christopher Scott, Chara Cote, and Christine Wells have renewed their terms.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ PETITIONS

No public comments or petitions.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee – Chara Cote, RN

The meeting was cancelled.

B. Education/Research Subcommittee – Cheryl Graydon, RN

The group met. An update was given by Anne Jensen regarding San Diego's RAP program. Their members have been reassigned due to COVID, but are being gradually brought back in to re-establish the program. The 2019 update on the previous community paramedicine programs were reviewed and are considering doing community assessments.

C. Disaster Planning Subcommittee

Did not meet.

V. COUNTY REPORT (Reports)

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:
 - Reminder – Pediatric patient destination directives ended on March 8, 2021.
 - P-801 Assess and Refer options tentatively scheduled to end on April 30, 2021.

- Health Services Capacity Task Force Expanded Operational Group coordination calls continue throughout the pandemic.
 - The Operational Core Group recommended a de-escalation by one level; moved from Level 1 – Full Activation to Level 2 – Escalated Activation.
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. Appreciate the more than 300 San Diego County prehospital personnel that have received the vaccination training and administered the vaccines since December.
 4. County EMS Duty Officer – CoSD EMS Duty Officer contact methods have changed. The phone number is on the County EMS webpage (619-588-0397).
 5. National cot-drop Survey – Seeking information regarding the prevalence of cot drops and how agencies are dealing with prevention and response. The survey is appropriate for operations-level staff and managers. The link is available via email (or in the chat for this meeting) <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CL3Q53Z>
 6. Public Access Defibrillation registration update: Agencies and facilities with Automated External Defibrillators are now be able to register their AED with the LEMSA and update their AED location information online, through our PulsePoint AED portal. More information is posted on the County EMS website.
 7. EMS Fee Schedule – is changing again (if approved by the Board on May 5). As previously announced, as part of an annual review, our fees have been adjusted to be the true and accurate for the services provided as required by Board Policy. We will be “phasing in” our credentialing fee increase over a three-year period; the 2021/22 fiscal year is step one in this process. The current fee is \$86, and the new fee will be \$106, effective July 1, 2021. Next year, the phased in fee schedule adjustment will be \$126, and landing at \$146 in the third year. Questions on our fee schedule should be directed to the EMS Administrator.
In addition, the Ambulance Permit fees are being simplified. Instead of initial and renewal application fees, a single permit-related fee has been adopted. This Permit Application fee will be \$3,549. Inspection fees, previously divided into 3 types, will be replaced with a single inspection fee. The 20/21 inspection fee is \$392.
 8. LEMSIS updates – County EMS is finalizing data requirements to accept 3rd party data on or before November 1, 2021. An informational letter from EMS to agencies is in the works. (A pilot ePCR integration project with the WATER ePCR has been progressing since the fall of 2020).
LEMSIS is also developing patient outcome data returns from our hospitals - either through a direct connection to the hospital or from promised connections from the HIE. Any agency that would like to adopt the no-cost-to-you LEMSIS ePCR platform should contact County EMS staff to begin that conversation.
 9. Policies and Protocols – The 2019-2021 protocol review process is coming to a close. Hosting a community protocol review session this Friday, April 23 at 2:00 pm, tentatively scheduled for three hours. County staff will present and answer questions.
 10. Required monthly reporting to the LEMSA for the P-801 response mode waiver and the Assess and Refer option is still in effect. Communications Failure reporting must be reported to the assigned base within 24 hours.

i. EMS Transition to PSG (EMS Administrator Andy Parr)

The County of San Diego has decided to move the leadership of LEMSA from Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) to Public Safety Group (PSG) effective July 1, 2021. There are still a lot of moving parts and a lot of unknown, but

negotiations are currently going on with Fiscal and Human Resources. This is a 'lift and shift' type of move; the same 31 employees will move over. EMS will likely live under the umbrella of Fire Authority but not in the direct leadership of it.

VI. SYSTEM POLICY REVIEW (EMCC Advisory Position)

A. Ad hoc Committees

i. P-801: Designation of Providers of Advanced Life Support Service

A motion was made to make further changes to the P-801 draft and go back to Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee next month with all of the input.

A motion was made by Dan Froelich, seconded by Frank Parra. Motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Chairperson for Disaster Planning Subcommittee

A motion was made by Frank Parra, seconded by Cathy McJannet to nominate Sharon Carlson as the Chairperson for the Disaster Planning Subcommittee. Motion carried.

B. Review of the EMCC Subcommittees

The group reviewed the members of each subcommittee. It was suggested that anyone who is interested in sitting in on another subcommittee to speak up now. It is important to ensure there is a good balance of representatives on each subcommittee.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Base Hospital System and Trauma Catchment Area Designations Update

The County will begin their work to procure a study consultant on the Base Station Hospital System and Trauma Catchment Area Designation RFP in July.

B. AB 1544: Community Paramedicine or Triage to Alternate Destination Act

From the last EMCC meeting, there was a request to keep this on the radar. There are several local representatives that are participating in the state regulation drafting session, but there are no new updates. The draft is still in the process. We anticipate seeing a draft posted for public comments by the end of the summer.

IX. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC meeting is scheduled on Thursday, May 27, 2021 via Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.