



County of San Diego

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC) Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Meeting Zoom Meeting

Chara Cote, R.N., Chair / Christopher Scott, M.D., Vice Chair

Minutes

Thursday, September 8, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cote, RN, Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Froelich, Dan – County Paramedic Agencies Committee
Forney, Paul – SD County Ambulance Association
Murphy, Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Scott, MD, Christopher – SD County Medical Society
Wells, RN, Chris – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators (Alt)

County Staff

Abedin, Sanaa
Assof, Michael
Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Duncan, MD, Dave
Erickson, Kirk
Gall, Jessica
Martin, Adelver
Meick, Tyler
Pacheco, Cheryl
Robbins, Christi
Smith, PhD, Josh
Stepanski, Barbara

Agency Representatives

Adams, Verne – SDFD
Behm, Jeff – Falck
Covell, Brian – Scripps Mercy
Gilmore, Christina – Carlsbad Fire
Graydon, Cheryl – ENA
Hinton, William – Mercy Air
Kahn, MD, Christopher – USCD
Levine, MD, Saul – Sharp Memorial
Lopez, Brent – Reach
Lord, Scott – Mercy Air
Mercer, Kevin – AMR
Munns, Harry – CVFD
Pearson, Danielle – CVFD
Pearson, Nate – Carlsbad FD
Rauto-Shin, Roxanne – Vista Fire
Schadegg, Rochelle – Mercy Air
Smith, Ray – CVFD
Sullivan, Don – AMR

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chara Cote, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- In lieu of introductions, attendance was captured online.
- There were no announcements.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded by Mary Murphy, to approve the June 9, 2022 EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

IV. STAFF REPORT – Brian Christison

- Health Services Capacity Plan Level: Plan Level 2 – Escalated Activation; CDC COVID-19 Community Level: Low; Southern California Fire Preparedness Level: Plan Level 3.
- Some new faces at EMS
 - Brian Christison was recently promoted to the “Number 2” in the office, position of Program Coordinator.
 - Michael Assof is a Licensed Paramedic and joined County EMS in June and serves as an EMS Specialist and is also training as an EMS Duty Officer.
 - Tyler Meick has joined County EMS as an EMS Coordinator (manager level). Tyler formerly worked in the aeromedical industry and brings with him years of experience as a Medic, an agency administrator, and an expert in his field.
 - Dr. David Duncan joined San Diego County EMS as a Temporary Expert Professional (consultant). He most recently served as the State EMS Authority Director and will assist EMS in the Community Paramedicine program, policy development, and Emergency Medical Dispatch coordination.
- County EMS is Recruiting! We will soon be accepting applications for EMS Specialists. An EMS Specialist works with EMS agencies, hospitals, training programs and others to facilitate the innovation, sustainability and health equity of EMS in our community. These professionals also serve as EMT disciplinary investigators, inspectors, disaster workers, and as EMS Duty Officer. Currently certified EMTs or licensed Paramedics with local field experience are highly desirable. The County of San Diego website has further information on how to apply.
- Procurements: County staff continues to move forward on previously announced procurements in the County. This is a huge volume of work and we are nearing the finish line. More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.
- Community Paramedicine regulations delayed: The LEMSA received notification that the state’s regulations have been delayed. Our understanding is there was a technical issue related to the state Office of Administrative Law review (a regular step in the regulation development process). The anticipated effective date is more likely to be around New Year’s.
- Updated Monkeypox & Medication Shortage Guidance Distributed: The human monkeypox outbreak continues to present a concern to the community and to healthcare providers. Updated guidance on both topics were distributed via LEMSIS to agency representatives on August 9. These, and other documents, are prominently posted on the County EMS website.
- 2023 - 2024 EMS Treatment Protocol Revision: Request for EMS Community Input: The San Diego County EMS Office invites your input on potential revisions to the EMS treatment protocols for the 2023-2024 cycle. All treatment protocols (S-101 through S-190) are available for comment. To be considered for this protocol revision cycle, we must receive your comments no later than October 7, 2022 via the link or QR code posted on the County EMS website.
- SOME County Meetings are Still Virtual (for now): County EMS holds several community meetings each month and 7 are “Brown Act” meetings that require specific notification and recordation. The California State Legislature has passed a law (AB361) allowing partial relief

- from the public meeting requirements. This relief must be reaffirmed at each regular meeting held virtually and will end at the Advisory Committee's discretion or until 2023, whichever comes first.
- EMS Office Strategic Plan is in Progress – Thank you for your participation! The San Diego County EMS Strategic Plan is underway and numerous meetings and interviews are being conducted by the vendor. This new plan will dovetail with the existing San Diego County Fire Strategic Plan and will align the strategic vision of County EMS with the strategic vision of County Fire. Representatives of selected stakeholder groups have been selected and will be joining the consultant in interviews so their voices can be heard in support of the creation of the plan. The timeline for the release of the plan will be later this Summer.
 - County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisory:
 - November 11th – Veteran's Day
 - November 24th & 25th – Thanksgiving
 - EMS has a (another) New Address! Phone numbers, emails and other contact methods remain the same.
 - County Mail: Mail Stop 302 (MS-302)
 - USPS Mail: San Diego County EMS Office, 5560 Overland Avenue, Ste. 400, San Diego, CA 92123-1204

V. POLICIES FOR REVIEW (Tyler Meick)

- S-TBD: Combined First Responder Inventory

Currently in the process of combining first responder inventory, which includes BLS and ALS first responder, wildland, fire line paramedic. The draft is taking a bit longer than anticipated. Plan to have it ready by the next Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Upcoming Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Policy – First Look

EMD is a type of handling of 9-1-1 calls, identifying the process, the QA, and the medical direction that goes on at the beginning of a 9-1-1 call. We have 5 centers in San Diego County that provide EMD services at some level. A draft EMD Policy would recognize the good work that goes on at each comm center every day and provide a framework for collaboration between the comm center. Have received comments from each com center and we are in the process of reviewing them. Looking forward to bringing this policy to EMCC this fall.

- EMSA upcoming change in Transfer of Care collection

The Ambulance Patient Offload Time (APOT) Reporting memo was shared with the group which explained there is a change in data collection. The difference is we have been collecting the TOC/APOT data through FirstWatch and delivering to the State in specific increments. CEMIS data using the signature time will be the State's way of measuring and reporting on APOT data effective January 1, 2023.

- ECPR/ECMO Centers (Dr. Saul Levine)

Dr. Levine has been tasked to assist with organizing/developing a new system of specialty hospitals that can manage ECMO/ECPR shockable cardiac arrest patients. The San Diego Resuscitation Consortium Subcommittee was formed in late Spring. Expect to arrive at a consensus agreement about what recommendations will be made.

Group discussion followed by question-and-answer.

ACTION: EMS Epidemiologist Barbara Stepanski will send the following:

- 1) Data from ECMO centers and non-ECMO centers to Chara Cote.
- 2) A list to Dr. Levine of those who participate in the CARES Registry.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- Update of Ambulance Diversion Ad hoc Committee (Brian Christison)

Tyler Meick is now in charge of this committee and will get this going soon.

VIII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2022 at 9:30 AM. Meeting adjourned at 10:18 am.