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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 Avenue, Rm 172, San Diego 92123
Thursday, January 9, 2025

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Cochran, Jennifer – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)
Covell, RN, Brian – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Jordan, Jonathan – District 2
Muns, Harry – SD Fire Chiefs' Association
Phillips, MD, Julie – SD County Medical Society
Rauto-Shin, Roxanne – County Paramedic Agencies Committee

County Staff

Christison, Brian
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)
Meick, Tyler
Trousdale, Brad

Agency Representatives

Gilmore, Christina – Carlsbad FD
Lopez, Brent – REACH
Ruiz, Sal – CSA 17

I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Chief Jordan called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
B. There were no introductions.
C. There were no announcements.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Some of the members who attended the September 12, 2024 meeting, the October 10, 2024 meeting, and the November 14, 2024 meeting were not in attendance for today's meeting. Therefore, the September, October, and November minutes were not approved.

Since most members' membership terms have turned over, County EMS staff will look to the Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee for recommendation to authorize the minutes as historical minutes. Then County EMS staff will work with Counsel.

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 4 – Enhanced Surveillance (Level 1-5 – Five is Lowest) (Raised Dec 30 ma)
- Southern California Fire Preparedness Level: Plan Level 2 (Level 1-5 - Five is highest) (updated 11/27/24 ma)
- Flu and System Strain: The Flu Season is here and impacting the community. The EMS Office, together with Health Services Capacity Task Force sector representatives, is engaged in health system strain monitoring and mitigation actions. As a reminder, 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 not to be vaccinated for the flu.
- Ambulance Diversion Town Hall Meeting Announcement: Many system participants are interested in ambulance diversion practices. At the EMCC's request, the County EMS Office is hosting a virtual town hall to allow for all interested parties to provide feedback. This meeting will be held on January 31 from 0930 to 1100, allowing interested parties to comment or make recommendations to make their voice heard. The link for this Town Hall is posted on the County EMS webpage.
- 2025 - 2026 EMS Treatment Protocols: We are finalizing the treatment protocol drafts to be presented at the EMS Medical Director's Advisory Committee (or BSPC) in the coming months. We look forward to showcasing the proposed revisions and receiving the community's feedback to better inform our decisions as we continue to pursue the most up-to-date and evidence-based treatments.
- New Requirement for Automated Cardiac Compression Devices on July 1, 2025: As agencies were informed at the Base Station Physicians' Committee meeting in March of last year, protocol S-103 language was revised to state that automated cardiac compression devices will become mandatory for all ALS ground ambulances on July 1, 2025. This requirement was included in the educational materials distributed to all EMS agencies with the revised protocols on May 1, 2024.

We are providing early notification of this requirement in appreciation of its substantial fiscal impact and the need for inclusion in the budgeting process for the next fiscal year.

- Job Opportunities at County EMS: The San Diego County EMS Office is currently seeking applicants for several positions. These positions may be full-time employees of the county, and others may be temporary positions. These positions are called Temporary Expert Professionals or TEPs in the County classification system. TEP work may be full or part-time.

The County is recruiting a full-time EMS Coordinator to lead one of our work teams and a TEP to support the EMS Corps program. These postings may be found on the County's job opening website.

We are also recruiting part-time staff to work on several projects. Interested persons considering County EMS employment with the following expertise are highly desirable:

- EMS quality assurance,
- emergency operations and planning,
- EMS system innovation,
- and those with experience in emergency telecommunications, data analysis, and EHR integration.

Please see the County's employment website for more information and/or share your CV with the hiring team at Nicole.DeiToro@sdcountry.ca.gov

- Welcome San Miguel Fire & Rescue to the LEMSIS System! We are excited to announce that on January 1, San Miguel Fire & Rescue officially joined the LEMSIS system for their ePCR needs. Recent adopters include the Chula Vista Fire Department, Imperial Beach Fire Department, and Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District.

The use of the LEMSIS system will streamline data management and ensure high-quality, patient-centered care. Additionally, agencies using the LEMSIS system fully comply with EMSA dataset requirements and OD Maps submittals. The LEMSIS product is always improving and adapting to the dataset and user experience adjustments. The very active user group makes suggestions to improve the product monthly. We welcome San Miguel Fire & Rescue to the LEMSIS family.

- EMT Renewals – submit early! In the spring of odd-numbered years (2025, 2027, etc.), the County EMS Credentialing Team is inundated with EMT renewal applications. The monthly credentialing average is about 300 applications, swelling to over 700 in March. Agencies are asked to work with their EMT staff to make sure their applications are submitted early to avoid the rush.

A. Draft Policies Posted for Public Comment

The group was shown how to navigate to the draft policies posted for public comment on the EMS webpage. The following policies are currently posted: P-401, B-450, B-451, S-306, S-070, S-883, S-883A, S-620. Look forward to feedback on the policies. Will close on January 31, 2025.

B. County Ambulance Ordinance Update

The group was shown how to navigate to the County Ambulance Ordinance on the EMS webpage. An engagement survey was sent to all EMS workers and went live on December 31, 2024. More information may be found at the [Engage San Diego Ambulance Ordinance project page](#)

C. County EMS Fee Sneak Peek

All County Operations are required to be in compliance with Board Policy D29, which requires county operations to have full cost recovery for their programs. Emergency Services Administration brought a fee package through the process last year. The Board elected to go to a 3-year phase in. We are in the process of validating the fee package for this year. The calculation of what amounts to true cost recovery is conducted every year.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Non-Substantive Policy Updates for 2025-26 Protocol Cycle

1. P-410 Special Assignment Paramedic
 - a. Remove references to concluded policies
2. S-411A Mandated Reporter Flowchart
 - a. Updates to flowchart graphic
3. S-412 Prehospital Treatment and Transportation of Adults – Refusal of Care or Suggested Destination, Release (7/17)
 - a. Update nomenclature to reflect Patient-Centered Care Modifications
4. S-601 Documentation Standards and Transferral of Prehospital Care Record (PCR) Information
 - a. Updates related to MCI policy
5. Regulation re-chaptering
 - a. Update references for affected policy Authority sections

Non-Substantive policies will be brought through the Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee only, without posting them for public comment.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

A motion was made by Jonathan Jordan, seconded by Dr. Julie Phillips to nominate Brian Covell as the new Chair to the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jonathan Jordan, seconded by Roxanne Rauto-Shin to nominate Dr. Julie Phillips as the new Vice Chair to the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee. Motion carried.

VII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for February 13, 9:30 am at the COC, 5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 172, San Diego 92123. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.