

Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) - 2007 Meeting Minutes

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County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

JEAN M. SHEPARD
DIRECTOR

NANCY L. BOWEN, M.D., M.P.H.
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
1700 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2417
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Community Epidemiology
Emergency & Disaster Medical Services
HIV/STD Hepatitis
Immunization
Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing/Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC)
Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair/Dan Graham, Vice-Chair
c/o Emergency Medical Services
6255 Mission Gorge Road
San Diego, CA 92120
(619) 285-6429 FAX (619) 285-6531

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 MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, January 25, 2007

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses’ Association
Bull, R.N., Pat – American Red Cross
Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Dotson, R.N., Melody – Base Hosp. Nurse Coordinators
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies Comm.
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Jobs, Chief Darrell – S.D. Co. Fire Districts’ Assoc.
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Pfohl, Chief Bob – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs’ Association
Sarro, Lt. Sherri – Law Enforcement Agencies

County Staff Present

Bonesteele, R.N., Jeri
Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Metz, R.N., Marcy
Ray, Leslie

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Members Absent

Fisher, Roger – S.D. Co. Paramedics’ Association
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Schroeder, David – Fourth District
Skoglund, R.N., Patty – Hosp. Assoc. S.D/Imperial Co.

Guests Present

Anglim, Tom – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Gay, Dana – Pacific Ambulance
Graydon, R.N., Cheryl – Palomar
Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Rainey, R.N., Susan – Tri-City
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air

Vacant

Binational EMCC
Emergency Physicians’ Society
League of California Cities
Military Agencies
S.D. Co. Medical Society

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Chair Jobs acknowledged that Dan Graham, San Diego County Ambulance Association had been re-appointed to his position on the EMCC.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Melody Dotson, R.N., to approve the Minutes of November 16, 2006 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. EMCC PREHOSPITAL/HOSPITAL SUBCOMMITTEE

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Kelly Forman, R.N., to approve the following policies brought forward from the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital subcommittee: P-303, S-001, S-002, S-005 and S-011. MOTION carried. (One abstention: Lt. Sarro)

V. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

The new STEMI Receiving system went into effect on Tuesday, January 16, 2007. Approximately one patient a day is being identified correctly and being taken to a cath lab in a timely fashion. Dr. Haynes will meet with the Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators regarding the data entry.

Off-load delays in the South County are being reviewed.

Dr. Haynes and Carmel Angelo met with the new owners of Alvarado Hospital and were impressed with their commitment to do a good job.

A hearing is scheduled this date at 1:00 p.m. in National City with the State Attorney General's Office regarding the proposed sale of Paradise Valley Hospital.

Recently Dr. Haynes sent out a note regarding Norovirus with information about exposures, clinical symptoms, personal protective equipment and decontamination. This appears to be the cause for gastroenteritis outbreaks around the country. It is imperative that providers communicate promptly with field personnel regarding infectious disease exposures and provide adequate follow-up.

The new protocols went to the Base Station Physicians' Committee for review this month and some will go back with recommended changes at the February 20th meeting.

The Hypertonic Saline Study of the Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium (ROC) continues to move along. UC San Diego does not have data sharing agreements with all the hospitals which has delayed the start-up date. Also, the medication has to be sent away for and then stocked in all the transporting units.

The other ROC Study is the Cardiac Arrest which was scheduled to begin in February, 2007, but the community consultation presentations for public input need to be conducted first, so anticipated start-up date is more likely April, or May, 2007.

County Service Area 17 (CSA-17) emergency transporting services recently went out for bid. Currently San Diego Medical Services Enterprise provides service in that region.

At the last Emergency Medical Oversight Committee (EMOC) meeting chaired by Roneet Lev, M.D., an overview was given by the psychiatric community which was well attended by numerous people from diverse groups. The use of 5150's was discussed as well as the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT), which pairs law enforcement representatives with mental health clinicians on the street.

VI. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

Nancy Bowen, M.D., County Public Health Officer, had announced her resignation last fall with an anticipated departure date of May, 2007; however, her last day with San Diego County will be February 8, 2007. A farewell reception event will be held in her honor at the County's Rosecrans Street Health Services Complex, Executive Conference Room on Friday, February 2, 2007, from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m., with a formal program beginning at 4:00 p.m. In the interim, Wilma Wooten, M.D., County Public Health Deputy Health Officer, will be assuming the role of Interim Public Health Officer until a replacement is named.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit grants to secure funding to develop education and training in terrorism-related mass casualty events for emergency medical personnel was discussed. A Letter of Support was requested from the Emergency Medical Care Committee to be included in the grant application from County EMS. The letter was read to the attending members. **ACTION: All EMCC members present were in support of the letter to be included with the grant application.**

VII. EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCH (Chief Darrell Jobes)

With discussions of regionalization of fire services, it is well known that EMS is a key component of what fire services provide and how the impact is going to be on the operating scenes for ALS transporting providers. The majority of dispatch centers do have a broad County emergency medical dispatch program. The issue is that most dispatch centers do provide instructions to the caller, but not all of them. The question raised is "is it appropriate to begin looking at future RFP's to include a requirement for Emergency Medical Dispatch?"

ACTION: Dr. Haynes suggested that County staff could do some research on who all has the dispatch and what kind, and try to clarify some of the issues. County EMS staff will bring the information back at an upcoming meeting.

The Emergency Medical Care Committee, Disaster/Operations Subcommittee will be meeting on January 31, 2007 to discuss “Multi-Casualty Incident Patient Distribution Upon Activation of Annex D.”

VIII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2007 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Executive Conference Room, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS



County of San Diego

JEAN M. SHEPARD
DIRECTOR

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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 MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, February 22, 2007

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses' Association
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies Comm.
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Jobs, Chief Darrell – S.D. Co. Fire Districts' Assoc.
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Rainey, R.N., Susan – Base Hosp. Nurse Coordinators
Sarro, Lt. Sherri – Law Enforcement Agencies
Schroeder, David – Fourth District
Skoglund, R.N., Patty – Hosp. Assoc. S.D./Imp. Co.

Members Absent

Beeson, Travis – American Red Cross
Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Fisher, Roger – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Association
Pfohl, Chief Bob – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association

Guests Present

Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Kusman, Travis – American Medical Response
Outlaw, Liz – Sharp Healthcare
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air

County Staff Present

Bonesteele, R.N., Jeri
Metz, R.N., Marcy

Vacant

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Military Agencies
S.D. Co. Medical Society

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Chief Jobs announced that the LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) report on fire re-organization for the region had just been released. He encouraged attendees to review it on the LAFCO website. This was a surprise release given to LAFCO by the Department of Planning and Land Use. LAFCO wants to take over the exclusive operating areas for transporting ambulances.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Linda Broyles, R.N., to approve the Minutes of January 25, 2007 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. EMCC PREHOSPITAL/HOSPITAL SUBCOMMITTEE

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Linda Broyles, R.N., to approve Policies K-9 and K-12 with some minor revisions on K-12. MOTION carried.

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Linda Broyles, R.N., to approve Policies S-006, S-007, S-009 and S-010 as submitted. MOTION carried.

V. EMCC DISASTER/OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

The EMCC Disaster/Operations subcommittee met on January 31, 2007. Chief Pete Lawrence, Oceanside Fire, had concerns regarding decreasing the congestion in the prehospital setting when transporting patients in an Annex D. The subcommittee approved the following wording:

“In a declared Annex D event, it is expected that all receiving hospitals will accept at least one immediate and one delayed patient. Incident Management personnel are authorized to transport up to one immediate and/or one delayed patient to each receiving facility upon initial base hospital contact. Any additional patients transported will be in accordance with bed counts from the base hospitals.”

The wording, which is expected to be put into Annex D, will also need to go to the Unified Disaster Council for their approval.

VI. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

(Marcy Metz, R.N.): The decision has not yet been finalized on the proposed sale of Paradise Valley Hospital.

The STEMI Receiving Centers were activated last month and are functioning well. The door-to-balloon times have been excellent. One concern has been over-triage. Paramedics are conducting more EKG's on patients and trying to get them to a receiving center if they suspect a cardiac problem. The next meeting of the Cardiac Advisory Committee will be in April, 2007.

County EMS is collecting data on infectious disease exposures in the field to see if paramedics and EMT's are receiving timely follow-up care.

Hospital visits for influenza are lower this year than last. During the past month, there was an increase in hospital bypasses. County EMS is working with the Emergency Medical Oversight Committee for hospitals to report twice a day on how many patients they're holding in the Quality Assurance Network Quality Collector System.

The new changes on the protocols were presented at the last Base Station Physicians' Committee meeting this past Tuesday.

VII. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

Nancy Bowen, M.D., resigned as County Public Health Officer this past month. Wilma Wooten, M.D., is currently filling in as Interim County Public Health Officer until a permanent replacement is hired.

Interviews are underway to replace Annie Marcotte, R.N. as Quality Assurance Specialist. Interviews for two other Q.A. Specialist positions are also being conducted.

The next County-wide disaster drill is scheduled for March 8-9, 2007 and the Medical Operations Center at County EMS will be fully activated for the drill.

VIII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 22, 2007 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Executive Conference Room, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego.

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Bruce Fried to adjourn the meeting. MOTION carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS



County of San Diego

JEAN M. SHEPARD
DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses Association
Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Dotson, R.N., Melody – Base Hosp. Nurse Coordinators
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies' Comm.
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Jobs, Chief Darrell – S.D. Co. Fire Districts' Assoc.
Pfohl, Chief Bob – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association
Richardson, Lt. Todd – Law Enforcement Agencies
Schroeder, Dave – Fourth District

County Staff Present

Bonesteele, R.N., Jeri
Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Metz, R.N., Marcy

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Members Absent

Beeson, Travis – American Red Cross
Fisher, Roger – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Association
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Skoglund, R.N., Patty – Hosp. Assoc. of S.D./Imperial Counties

Guests Present

Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Majerczak, R.N., Karen – Tri-City
Rainey, R.N., Susan – Tri-City
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air
Ybarra, Marcos – Pacific Ambulance

Vacant

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I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Kelly Forman, R.N., to approve the Minutes of February 22, 2007 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) Micro-Study Report on Fire Service Reorganization

Discussion ensued on the LAFCO Micro-Study Report on Fire Service Reorganization in San Diego County and alternative report from the County's Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU). The DPLU report recommends transferring management for the Exclusive Operating Areas (EOA's) from the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division, to a newly created Office of the Fire Warden with the DPLU. It appears creation of EOAs would remain with EMS.

MOTION was made by Lt. Todd Richardson, Law Enforcement Agencies, Seconded by Chief Bob Pfohl, San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association, to send a letter to Jean Shepard, Director, County HHS, expressing that the management and supervision of the ambulance providers/contractors be kept with HHS EMS. He added that it has been very efficient in the past and much more appropriate under HHS than moving it would be at this time. The letter must be received by LAFCO during the open comment period that ends on April 6, 2007. MOTION carried.

ACTION: EMCC members agreed to allow the EMCC Executive Committee to draft the letter outlining the EMCC position and send the letter forward to Ms. Shepard with a copy to LAFCO.

V. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The County Board of Supervisors approved establishing an additional two dollar penalty for every ten dollars on fines, penalties and forfeitures collected by the courts for criminal offenses to further support the Maddy Fund as allowed by Senate Bill 1773. This extra funding may be used for compensating physicians for providing uncompensated emergency care, for hospitals providing disproportionate trauma and emergency medical care services, and to provide funding for pediatric trauma care

The STEMI Receiving Center system is up and running well.

Prime Health Care is now the new owner of Paradise Valley Hospital with Dr. Reddy as the lead owner. A number of contracts have been terminated within the hospital as the new ownership strives to consolidate various services.

The County is convening some work groups to review things such as the County safety net and to study coordination between hospitals and community clinics for patient care. One group will also review the prehospital system in the South County.

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) conducted a dress rehearsal for the upcoming

graded exercise which went well.

A mock antibiotic distribution was conducted as part of a recent City Readiness Initiative with the focus being a large scale anthrax release where the entire County population might have to be prophylaxed. The focus was on emergency responders.

VI. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

County EMS recently participated in a RCS Fail Soft test last week which went well. The County EMS Duty Officer and a EMS Specialist monitored the system.

Former County EMS employee Donna Johnson has returned to work as an EMS Specialist working with Disaster Medical and Health Emergency Preparedness.

Interviews are concluding this week for the three open Quality Assurance Specialist positions and there are plans to make some offers of employment next week.

Follow-up from the hospitals on infectious disease exposures by providers in the field is continuing to be reviewed. Hospitals have been very cooperative in providing County EMS with their contact persons name and phone number for these incidents.

County EMS received a recent public records request from a Los Angeles Times reporter regarding discipline policies for EMT's and paramedics. The reporter was interested in knowing about individual cases and their outcomes. Documents, including related County policies and procedures, were released yesterday (March 21, 2007). No personal information was released.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Executive Conference Room, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS



County of San Diego

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses' Association
Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Dotson, R.N., Melody – Base Hosp. Nurse Coordinators
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies' Comm.
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Jobs, Chief Darrell – S.D. Co. Fire Districts' Assoc.
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Outlaw, Liz – Hosp. Assoc. S.D./Imperial Counties
Pfohl, Chief Bob – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association
Sarro, Lt. Sherri – Law Enforcement Agencies

Vacant

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S.D. Co. Medical Society

Members Absent

Beeson, Travis – American Red Cross
Fisher, Roger – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Association
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Schroeder, David – Fourth District

Guests Present

Eldridge, R.N., Leslie – Sharp Memorial
Majerczak, R.N., Karen - Tri-City
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air

County Staff Present

Metz, R.N., Marcy

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Chairperson Jobs announced that Wayne Johnson has been appointed to the EMCC as the alternate from the San Diego County Ambulance Association.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Kelly Forman, R.N., to approve the Minutes of March 22, 2007 as submitted. MOTION carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Prehospital/Hospital

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Melody Dotson, R.N., to approve policies S-008, S-017, S-803 and S-835 as submitted. MOTION carried.

V. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

County EMS continues to keep an eye on the developments with the sale of Paradise Valley Hospital. Dr. Haynes and Rebecca Pate, R.N., County EMS, have been meeting with staff there and the hospital is continuing to work on its' certification issues with CMMS.

The door-to-balloon times preliminary data for STEMI patients looks good and is meeting the expected door-to-balloon time of less than or equal to 90 minutes. The first full quarter of data will soon be available.

The Health Safety Net groups are continuing to meet on funding, advocacy and care coordination. Dr. Haynes is Chair of the South County Task Force and is very active and involved in the South Bay issues, including continuing to review bypass issues.

A recent SONGS (San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station) drill went well. A report will be forthcoming.

Information from hospitals on reporting infectious disease exposures from the field personnel is almost completed. County EMS is also in the process of obtaining 24-hour, seven days-a-week contact information from all the agencies. A task force will be reconvened to review the form which hasn't been updated for several years, then that information will be disseminated.

The Emergency Medical Oversight Committee (EMOC) recently sent out a letter regarding rapid evaluations of patients in custody. San Diego Police deputies will begin to take detainees needing clearance to the closest emergency department, rather than concentrating on a small number of hospitals.

The March, 2007 hospital capacity report showed 38% of possible data reported. There is some discussion about looking at different data points.

VI. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

Babatunde Jinadu, M.D., will begin employment as the new County Public Health Officer beginning June 8, 2007.

The County is recruiting for a Public Health Administrator. Anyone interested in applying for that position should have their application submitted to County Human Resources by June 1, 2007.

Recruitment continues for the three Quality Assurance Specialist positions at County EMS. Additional advertisements in the local and State Emergency Nurses Association newsletters will be conducted.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Executive Conference Room, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS



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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, June 28, 2007

Members Present

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Bull, R.N., Pat – American Red Cross
Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies’ Comm.
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Haworth, Mike – S.D. Co. Fire Districts’ Association
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Sarro, Lt., Sherri – Law Enforcement Agencies

Vacant

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Members Absent

Dotson, R.N., Melody – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Pfohl, Chief Bob – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs’ Association
Schroeder, David – Fourth District
Skoglund, R.N., Patty – Hosp. Assoc. S.D./Imperial Counties

Guests Present

Barnes, R.N., Melanie – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Howard, R.N., LuAnn – Scripps La Jolla
Kusman, Travis – American Medical Response
Majerczak, R.N., Karen – Tri-City
Rouse, Mike – Care Ambulance
Ybarra, Marcos – Pacific Ambulance

County Staff Present

Metz, R.N., Marcy

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Graham, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Linda Broyles, R.N., Scripps La Jolla, introduced LuAnn Howard, R.N., who will be Linda’s replacement at Scripps La Jolla soon. Ms. Broyles has accepted another position with American Medical Response.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Kelly Forman, R.N., to approve the Minutes of April 26, 2007 as submitted. MOTION carried. (One abstention: Bruce Fried, Fifth District)

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Prehospital/Hospital

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Katy Green, R.N., to approve policies P-805, S-836, T-708 and T-711 as submitted. MOTION carried.

V. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

The Cardiac System is up and operating well. Preliminary first quarter data shows that 81% of the STEMI patients have a door-to-balloon time of equal or less than equal to 90 minutes. That data will be compiled into a more formal format which can be presented to EMCC if so desired.

The Stroke Task Force oversight group met on June 8, 2007. They're looking at criteria for hospitals to receive stroke patients.

Preliminary results from the Polyheme Study showed no statistical data differences between the placebo and controlled groups in the study. This was from a small sample of approximately 23 patients.

The new protocols go into effect July 1, 2007.

Dr. Haynes is interested in assessing the need for an EMT-II classification in San Diego County. It is a classification that is utilized in Imperial County and in some Northern California areas. This will be discussed at the upcoming EMS Commission meeting. One of the impacts of this classification would be the "sunsetting" of combitube for EMT-I's. Dr. Haynes is very involved in these discussions as a member of the Emergency Medical Director's Association of California (EMDAC).

VI. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

Wilma Wooten, M.D., is the new County Public Health Officer. Carmel Angelo, resigned her position as Public Health Assistant Deputy Director and Interim EMS Chief and accepted the position of Director of Health and Human Services in Mendocino County, California.

Recruitment is continuing for the three Quality Assurance Specialist positions and the County has advertised in the local and state nursing newsletters.

Mr. Fried stated that he would like to call an EMCC Education and Research subcommittee meeting in the near future regarding several different training issues, but primarily to discuss the subcommittee's feeling about having a training agency representative be a member of EMCC.

Vice-Chair Dan Graham added that from a recent meeting of the San Diego County Ambulance Association and a separate conference he attended recently in Denver, many providers are experiencing difficulty with the new EMT candidates coming out of the schools with the lack of knowledge and preparation to work in ambulances.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 26, 2007 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Disaster Operations Center, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego.

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Katy Green, R.N., to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS



County of San Diego

JEAN M. SHEPARD
DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

WILMA J. WOOTEN, M.D., M.P.H. 1700 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2417
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER (619) 531-5800 FAX (619) 515-6707

Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC)
Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair/Dan Graham, Vice-Chair
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Emergency & Disaster Medical Services
HIV, STD and Hepatitis
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Maternal, Child and Family Health Services
Public Health Laboratory
PH Nursing/Border Health
TB Control & Refugee Health
Vital Records

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 MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses' Association
Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Dipretoro, Scott – American Red Cross
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies. Comm.
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Haworth, Mike – S.D. Co. Fire Districts' Association
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Outlaw, Liz – Hosp. Assoc. S.D./Imperial Counties
Pfohl, Chief Bob – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association
Sarro, Lt. Sherri – Law Enforcement Agencies
Schroeder, David – Fourth District

County Staff Present

Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Metz, R.N., Marcy
Pate, R.N., Rebecca

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

Members Absent

Dotson, R.N., Melody – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Marugg, Jim – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Association

Guests Present

Byzak, Aaron – Office of Co. Supervisor Pam Slater-Price
Henry, Chad – American Medical Response
Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Leister, Stayce – Pacific Ambulance
Ybarra, Marcos – Pacific Ambulance

Vacant

Binational EMCC
Emergency Physicians' Society
League of California Cities
Military Agencies
S.D. Co. Medical Society

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Graham, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Kelly Forman, R.N., to approve the Minutes of June 28, 2007 as submitted. MOTION carried. One abstention: Bruce Fried, Fifth District.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Prehospital/Hospital

Discussion ensued on the “Destination of Acute Stroke Patient” draft policy. This draft policy originated from the Stroke Task Force which has been meeting for more than a year and one-half. All the San Diego County hospitals were surveyed and of all the hospitals that responded, stated they can meet criteria requirements. Hospital status will be posted on the County’s Quality Assurance Network so that emergency responders will know where it is preferable to transport patients with these conditions. Five San Diego County hospitals are currently certified as Stroke Centers by the Joint Commission.

County EMS conducted a survey from January through August, 2007 in which eighty patients were recognized by paramedics as acute stroke patients in the field. The American Heart Association examined their stroke registry of patients with strokes in San Diego County during a similar time period and found over 300 stroke patients, but their findings didn’t specify whether or not they were acute stroke patients.

MOTION made by Mary Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Seconded by Linda Broyles, R.N., to approve the Destination of Acute Stroke Patient draft policy.

V. PARAMEDIC INTERFACILITY TRANSPORTS

Dr. Haynes stated that County EMS had recently received a letter from John Berger, M.D., Medical Director, Balboa Ambulance Company requesting a review of the paramedic interfacility transfer guidelines. The issue had been brought up recently at the San Diego County Ambulance Association. This issue was brought up in 1999 at EMCC but at that time, there were no State guidelines. Some discussion also occurred as to whether or not this would be affected by an Exclusive Operating Agreement (EOA).

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Katy Green, R.N., to forward this agenda item to EMCC Prehospital/Hospital for further discussion. MOTION carried.

VI. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

The Second Annual Overcrowding Summit is scheduled for Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at Sharp Spectrum. Speakers will include Dr. Haynes, Roneet Lev, M.D., Emergency Medical Oversight Committee, James Packard, Chair, EMS Fund Subcommittee, Mike Williams, President, Abaris Group and Cesar Aristeiguieta, M.D., Director, State of California EMS. Major discussions will include the hospitals explaining what they’ve done as far as overcrowding in their particular emergency departments.

of data is just now being completed. During the first quarter, the data showed that 81% of the patients from the Stemi Receiving Centers (SRC's) had door-to-balloon times of less than 90 minutes. The program will also be reviewing the outcomes of death rates within 24 hours. Another Cardiology Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting is scheduled for next week where all the cardiologists will review all of this information.

The State Legislature has passed a bill sponsored by the California Association of Fire Fighters reviewing the EMT licensure issues including background checks and discipline etc. If there are funds available in the future it would create a central registry for EMT licensure; however, discipline would be the responsibility of the agency. If the Governor signs the bill, it would take effect immediately.

There has been discussion regarding advanced EMT skills. There appears to be more interest among rural providers than urban providers.

The County has a plan for dealing with heat emergencies when the heat index reaches a certain level. Numerous conference calls were recently held and a lot of notification to the public took place for opening up cooling shelters.

There is discussion around the country about using CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure). CPAC is used when someone has congestive heart failure or shortness of breath, and keeps the oxygen level higher in the blood.

The State would like to drop the combitube from the EMT optional scope of practice unless EMT's do the advanced 80 hour training. This was discussed two days ago at the State Emergency Medical Director's meeting and with the implementation of the State EMT II regulations, that would create this change. This issue is currently on hold at the State level.

VII. EMS STAFF REPORT (Marcy Metz, R.N.)

Ms. Metz distributed an HHS Public Health Services Division organizational chart dated September 13, 2007 which had been requested at the previous EMCC meeting. Only one leadership position is vacant at this time, being the Deputy Public Health Officer. Interviews have been conducted for that position.

Chuck Matthews was recently appointed as the Public Health Administrator. Adrienne Yancey has been appointed as the Assistant Deputy Director for Programmatic Services and Debra McRae, Assistant Medical Services Administrator for Finance.

The EMS Chief position has been posted. Diane Royer, R.N., is a new Quality Assurance Specialist for EMS. Interviews continue for two other Quality Assurance Specialists. Ms. Royer will take on the base station and prehospital roles for EMS and Rebecca Pate, R.N., will take over agency responsibilities.

(Terrorism Injuries, Information, Dissemination and Exchange) Partnership. San Diego was recognized as one of five model communities in the nation for the collaboration between Public Health, EMS and the emergency services community. Ms. Marcy emphasized how it wouldn't have been possible for San Diego to receive this award without the wonderful relationships with all the agencies, hospitals, providers and constituents throughout the entire County.

VIII. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Disaster Operations Center, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego. However, that meeting will not occur as that is the Statewide Disaster date this year. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS



County of San Diego

JEAN M. SHEPARD
DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Members Present

Broyles, R.N., Linda – Emergency Nurses' Association
Bull, R.N., Pat – American Red Cross
Dotson, R.N., Melody – Base Hospital Nurse Coord.
Forman, R.N., Kelly – Co. Paramedics Agencies' Comm.
Graham, Dan – S.D. Co. Ambulance Association
Green, R.N., Katy – First District
Jobs, Chief Darrell – S.D. Co. Fire Districts' Assoc.
Marugg, Jim – S.D. Co. Paramedics' Association
Scott, Chief Mike – S.D. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association

County Staff Present

Haynes, M.D., Bruce
Pate, R.N., Rebecca

Vacant

Binational EMCC
Emergency Physicians' Society
League of California Cities
Military Agencies
S.D. Co. Medical Society

Members Absent

Cerny, Barbara – Third District
Fried, Bruce – Fifth District
Meadows-Pitt, R.N., Mary – Second District
Sarro, Lt. Sherri – Law Enforcement Agencies
Schroeder, David – Fourth District
Skoglund, R.N., Patty – Hosp. Assoc. S.D./Imperial Co.

Guests Present

Byzak, Aaron – District 3, Co. Board of Supervisors
Johnson, Wayne – S.D. Medical Services Enterprise
Kusman, Travis – American Medical Response
Miranda, Sgt. Pete – S.D. Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Musgrove, Lt. Ed – S.D. Co. Sheriff's Dept.
Steen, R.N., Pam – Mercy Air

Recorder

Rupp, Merle

I. INTRODUCTION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Darrell Jobs, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Lt. Ed Musgrove, new primary representative from the Law Enforcement Agencies, and Sgt. Pete Miranda, alternate representative from the Law Enforcement Agencies, were introduced. Lt. Sherri Sarro has been promoted to Captain and will not be attending the EMCC meetings in the future.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Linda Broyles, R.N., Seconded by Katy Green, R.N., to approve the Minutes of September 27, 2007 as submitted. MOTION carried. (Chief Jobes abstained; not present at last meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

None.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Prehospital/Hospital

MOTION made by Chief Mike Scott, Seconded by Jim Marugg, to approve policies T-714, T-716, T-718 and T-719 as submitted. MOTION carried.

V. PARAMEDIC INTERFACILITY TRANSPORTS

This issue was previously discussed at the EMCC Prehospital/Hospital subcommittee meeting. The decision was made there to investigate whether or not changes need to be made in the system regarding paramedic interfacility transports. Rebecca Pate, R.N., County EMS, will review the minutes from 1999 when the issue was addressed before to see how it was handled then and also, it was recommended from the subcommittee to review 9-1-1 calls and critical care transport (CCT) requests processed through the dispatch agencies and Kaiser Permanente. The subcommittee will meet again on January 10, 2008.

VI. EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

A report is being prepared for the first two quarters of 2007 on the STEMI system. The median door-to-balloon time for patients activated in the field is 65 minutes.

Training for the Stroke system will be developed and implemented, while working with the hospitals.

Data is still being collected on the October wild fires in San Diego County. At this time there are ten known deaths and over 100 injuries and the deaths will be reviewed. There were a record number of 9-1-1 calls of respiratory distress and asthma related symptoms. The Medical Operations Center (MOC) was opened during the fires and worked well and there was great coordination between everyone in the system. The Web EOC worked very well. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) staff helped tremendously also. The Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators worked four days in the MOC and made an enormous contribution. Travis Kusman, American Medical Response (AMR), also contributed significantly working 36 continuous hours in the MOC. Approximately fifteen skilled nursing facilities and hospitals were evacuated. The evacuation of Pomerado Hospital took just under two hours. Fallbrook Hospital and Aurora Behavioral Health in Rancho Bernardo were also evacuated. Mount Miguel Village in Spring Valley also evacuated with the majority of their patients taken to San Diego High School. GIS (Geographic Information Systems) mapping was a great help in the MOC. The Pharmacy Emergency Response team did a great job. Patients from skilled nursing facilities were evacuated as far east as El Centro and north into Orange County. The Navy opened up a ward to accept evacuated patients and Edgemoor Hospital also took patients.

State Licensing and Certification did a great job re-opening facilities. Forty-four shelters were opened throughout the County, with Red Cross assistance, and 26,000 people were in shelters at one time with public health nurses present in all of them. The San Diego County Medical Society provided a number of physician volunteers. Two federal DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Teams) were activated and responded.

VII. EMS STAFF REPORT (Bruce Haynes, M.D.)

No further report.

VIII. ELECTIONS FOR CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR FOR 2008

MOTION made by Chief Mike Scott, Seconded by Jim Marugg, to re-appoint Darrell Jobs as Chair for 2008. MOTION carried.

MOTION made by Kelly Forman, R.N., Seconded by Melody Dotson, R.N., to re-appoint Dan Graham as Vice-Chair for 2008. MOTION carried.

IX. SET NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 24, 2008 at 9:00 a.m., Health Services Complex, Disaster Operations Center, 3851 Rosecrans Street, San Diego.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merle Rupp, Board Secretary,
County EMS