



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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MINUTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

DATE:	May 17, 2021	TIME:	8:30 AM
PLACE:	Virtual Meeting Used for Social Distancing		

ITEM:

1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum, Review/Correct Agenda, Minutes– [8:30 am] – March minutes approved.
2. Written Correspondence Report – Two items: Rich Rubin nomination for Consumer Representative and acknowledgement by the Board of Supervisors of EMS reports.
3. Oral Communications – Next agenda – proposal to change day of week for EMCC.
4. COVID-19 Update –
 - a. Update – Dr. Ghilarducci – Projections for COVID look good – the vast majority of seniors have been vaccinated. There will likely be another surge this fall as schools open. Flu season may be worse this fall due to lower flu vaccine rates last fall and no natural immunity. Hope that people will stay home if they are ill, that masking will continue. California COVID restrictions remain in place despite CDC’s announcements. CDC does not supersede more restrictive local/State rules. Can’t require vaccination because they’re under emergency use authorization.
 - b. <https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunityDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>
5. Watsonville Hospital – Kevin Spiegel -Happy EMS week to all EMS. Watsonville Hospital is hosting an EMS week celebration BBQ on Wednesday, around noon. The EMCC is invited. Cath lab under construction. Financially the hospital has made some progress over last 60 days. Utilization of agency time has gone down.
6. Debris Flow Update – Item will now be referred to as “disaster planning”. Wildfire planning has begun by reviewing what occurred last year and what gaps will need additional attention. “Zonehaven” is the new evacuation platform for disasters.
7. EMS Administrator Report – EMS Coordinator position will be filled soon but start date is to be determined. EMS and DOC will move week of May 24th to Scotts Valley. State recently agreed to use EMS personnel with vaccine for homebound persons in County. Have a vaccine strike team with MRC and public health. As get more homebound people needing vaccine are identified, EMS personnel will be requested to help.
8. Prehospital Advisory Committee – Dave – Met in April. ET3 coming on horizon. Hopefully grant funds will be obtained for a nurse navigator program through Netcom. There will be an Active Shooter drill at Scotts Valley High. Local law and engine companies working

- together. The drill will be June 23 to June 30. If want to be an observer, let Scott know ahead of time. This is a closed drill. Refocusing on 12 different clinical indicators.
9. ET3 – Mike Esslinger – Continuing to make good progress. First joint meeting with EMS Agency and stakeholders. Next policy development, approval by state and engagement with Dignity. There are two counties in California making progress with ET3, they are Santa Cruz and San Bernardino. CMS approval will be required before implementation.
 10. Innovator Report – Kay Blackwell – much of his attention has been focused on working with Netcom for the nurse navigator part of ET3 project. Kay is continuing to follow up with C3 calls to give feedback to EMS responders. Kay is also working with system high users to find better care alternatives.
 11. HIE Grant – Presentations by all California grantees two weeks ago. Santa Cruz will complete all aspects of the grant project. The other projects were very ambitious and have had many challenges. Medics have worked very hard on this project and are the key to the project's success. Marc Yellin has seen improvements. Thanks to Paul Angelo for his work with making improvements for Dominican. Brad Cramer noted that the project will be an asset to the system and the community.
 12. Radio System Infrastructure Report – Discussion about how the EMCC can help move this project forward. County radio shop noted that some receivers and transmitters have been upgraded which will result in some small improvements for transmission/reception. Jason suggested that a group or commission be tasked by the Board of Supervisors with developing and implementing a plan to improve the radio system infrastructure. Brenda will request a response to the EMCC's letter (submitted by the EMCC to the Board on April 13, 2021) expressing concerns about radio system infrastructure. EMCC appointees will continue to communicate the need for radio system infrastructure improvements to individual Board members.
 13. EMS Chief Recruitment – Jason Hajduk – moving forward with keeping Scott Vahradian!
 14. EMS Week: May 16-22 – This week starting yesterday and through Saturday is EMS week. Brenda will speak at tomorrow's Board meeting about EMS and recognize the many contributions by providers for the past year. Both hospitals will host events.
 15. Items for August Agenda
 - a. Innovator, regular reports, COVID, Watsonville Hospital, Radio System Infrastructure Report, consider change in meeting day for EMCC, Disaster Planning, ET3
 16. Adjournment –

Commissioners in attendance:

Marcus Kwan, MD	Kent Benedict, MD	Celia Barry
Jason Hajduk	Marc Yellin, MD	Arnold Leff, MD
Kevin Spiegel	Michael McGannon	Dan Quinto
Chris Jones	Rich Rubin	

Commissioners excused:

Eric Conrad, RN

County Staff:

Brenda Brenner
Dave Ghilarducci, MD

Guests:

Paul Angelo
Brad Cramer

Jeff Horner
Mike Esslinger
Becky Shoemaker
Kay Blackwolf
Jason Vahradian
Rich Rubin
Patrick Riley
Brad Cramer
Sean Young
Freddy Sankus
Michael Beaton