



EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES PROGRAM

# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION**

#### **MINUTES – March 20, 2023, 9:00am – 10:50am**

#### **ITEM:**

1. Call to Order at 9:00am and a Quorum was established.
2. Review/Correct Agenda – All OK.
3. Minutes for February 13, 2022 – Item 6 Commissioners are concerned that proposed radio system appears to be inadequate and are seeking more information regarding the RFP. Would like Tammie Weigl to present again on status of RFP.  
Flood Response After Action Report to be on next month's agenda.  
Minutes approved by Commission Nee making the motion and Commission McGannon seconded, vote agreed.
4. Written Correspondence – None.
5. Oral Communications –
  - a. County employee Laurel Gazza discussed Brown Act Agendas and how the EMCC will be moving to agenda packets which include presentations and documents that will be included with the agenda. Suggested Agenda Planning Meetings with EMCC for the following month's agenda items. AB2449 states Commissioners must attend in person to vote and establish quorum.
  - b. Dr. Ghilarducci brought up meeting cadence suggesting monthly may be too much. Laurel said a lot of public meetings are held quarterly. Will add to the April agenda.
  - c. Greg Benson would like to add Field Care and AMR Commissioner nominations to the April Agenda.
  - d. Need another co-chair to replace Dan Quinto. Commissioner Nee volunteered, Commissioner Schambach made the motion, Commissioner Benedict seconded, vote agreed.
  - e. EMS Week is May 21-27. Add to the April agenda.
6. Pediatric Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Program – Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Director County Behavioral Health and James Russell, Director Access and Crisis Services. CSP is phasing out youth effective 3/27/23. There is a hail-Mary meeting next week to keep CSP open to youth through

- June. Depends on staffing/patient ratios. Long term fix is new facility by the Sheriff's office, however, will not be completed until end of 2024. See the attached presentation. Would like an update at the next EMCC meeting – will add to the April Agenda.
7. Stroke Care Information, Carly Newbold, Dominican Hospital – Please see the attached presentation.
  8. Program Updates
    - a. Covid and Flu Updates and Prehospital Advisory Committee, Dr. Ghilarducci – Cases are stable. April 3 will see mask requirements lifted. ImageTrend 3.5 scheduled for October 1. Training for all staff will be done and testing is currently being done on the Central Coast only. Ketamine use as an analgesic alternative will be added this summer. Critical care transport paramedic for the County, Dr. Ghilarducci and Greg to talk more about this. Hazel Hawkins update 8 parties possibly interested in purchasing the hospital. If it closes, that will add 12 miles to transport patients and will need 2 additional ambulances. 25 hospitals are in the same position as Hazel Hawkins due to staffing and medi-cal payments. Hazel Hawkins does not qualify for emergency help and the help would just be temporary.
    - b. EMS Administrator Report, Greg Benson – AMR's numbers & compliance caught up through 2022. On schedule for 2023. Storm challenges with EOC communication that went out telling everyone to stay home unless absolutely necessary made for huge staffing issues for the hospitals and AMR. There was no Hwy 1 road closure information sent out prior to closing Hwy 1 in South County. The National Guard pre-positioned a Blackhawk helicopter in Monterey County in case Hwy 17 closed.
    - c. ET3 and Innovator Report – No report.
  9. Radio Communications Concerns Discussion – Current upgrades to communication system did help LEO but not much help to ambulances. No clear solution study done, need more input. Projected options can't handle system, trunk system limited in emergencies, number of available options presented were not helpful, need more repeater sites. Fire has concerns about how the County is handling this. Would like to see the RFP presented to the EMCC.
  10. Proposed Agenda Items for next EMCC meeting on April 17, 2023 –
    - a. Nominations to replace Dan Quinto, Greg Benson and Rich Rubin.
    - b. Radio Communications talking points for BOS representatives.
    - c. Flood Response After Action Report.
    - d. EMCC Meeting Cadence – bi-monthly or quarterly.
    - e. EMS Week Discussion.
    - f. Pediatric Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Program Update.
  11. Adjournment: Motion made by Commissioner Rubin and seconded by Commissioner Yellin to adjourn at 10:50am.

**Commissioners in attendance:**

Dr. Marc Yellin	Dr. Kent Benedict, MD	Celia Barry
Jason Nee, EMSIA	Dr. Marcus Kwan, MD	Rich Rubin
Dr. Arnold Leff, MD	Dr. Michael McGannon, MD	
Robert Schambach		

**Commissioners Excused:**

Chris Clark  
Eric Conrad  
Dr. Arnold Leff

**Guests:**

Brad Cramer	Michael Baulch, RN,	Paul Angelo, RN
Scott Vahradian	Carly Newbold	Becky Shoemaker
Jennifer McGuire	Adam (??)	

**County Staff:**

Dr. David Ghilarducci, MD  
Greg Benson  
Claudia Garza  
Shelley Huxtable  
Laurel Gazza  
Tiffany Cantrell-Warren  
James Russell