



# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES PROGRAM

## MINUTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

<b><u>DATE:</u></b>	<b>June 15, 2020</b>	<b><u>TIME:</u></b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>
<b><u>PLACE:</u></b>	Teleconference Used for Social Distancing		

### **ITEM:**

1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum, Review/Correct Agenda, Minutes– [8:30 am] – February’s minutes will be sent out with June’s minutes. Chair Dan Quinto recognized the outstanding Health Services Agency leadership during the pandemic. He also noted the terrible loss of County Sheriff’s Sergeant Gutzwiller.
2. Written Correspondence Report – None
3. Oral Communications – Marc Yellin– behavioral health concern– No medical backup for Crisis Stabilization Unit. Lack of adequate mental health management. Arnold Leff noted that this issue has come up before. Should be discussed at a meeting entirely dedicated to behavioral health in Santa Cruz County.
4. EMS Administrator Report – Brenda noted that COVID has consumed a lot of time and effort and thanked everyone for their patience. HIE grant to Board of Supervisors for acceptance on 6/30 and after that work will begin. County is going to be financially strapped for minimum of a year – discussion about savings and positions are frozen. EMS coordinator was frozen but in recognition of the workload in EMS especially with MHOAC, the County – agreed to hire an extra-help person. Still moving forward with an EMS coordinator position but will likely be a Senior Administrator Analyst classification.
5. Prehospital Advisory Committee – Nothing to report
6. ET3 – Nothing to report
7. AMR/EMSIA MOU – Honoring terms of agreement but still have an edit to finalize.
8. COVID-19 Update – Dave Ghilarducci – santacruzhealth.org has current information– now 260 cases, 60 or so are active cases. Relatively steady but a few more cases due to reopening. Ramsey park site not getting much in way of positives. More businesses opening such as salons, etc. Still won’t be “normal” until vaccine. Have reserve capacity in hospitals but concerned. Worried about agricultural community. Are offering drive up testing for public safety at Emeline Clinic. Number of people 1 person will infect – our number is around 1 so each person positive will infect about 1 other person. Would like to see a decline in this number through social distancing, face coverings, handwashing, shelter in place. Impact on EMS is mild. Anticipate second wave October (based on 1918), likely to be more severe. A bit more activity by contract tracing – after Memorial Day Weekend – and social upheaval now may result in more positives. Marc – how “actively infected” and “recovered” defined? “Recovered” is two negative tests 24 hours at

least 10 days since becoming symptomatic and last 3 days asymptomatic. Marc – concerned about test reliability. Dave- trying to build lab capacity. UCSC has developed own test. Public Health is testing SNFs. Scott Vahradian -EMS should have a discussion in anticipation of second surge – how much is enough PPE, etc. County has about 30 days' worth of PPE at warehouse. Hospitals also have PPE. SNFs have 2 weeks. Kent – the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave will coincide with influenza season, should all EMS responders get influenza vaccine because of confusion of symptoms between the two. Scott – will push heavily vaccines. Dave – most of the testing platforms do not do influenza and COVID-19 with same test.

Concern was expressed about the number of healthcare leaders leaving their posts due to threats of violence. The EMCC unanimously agreed that a letter in support of the Santa Cruz County Health Officer is appropriate and deserved. Celia will do draft letter for comments. Individuals should also be encouraged to write letters to the editor in support of Dr. Newel and Public Health leadership.

9. Innovator – Chris Jones –Kay has been working with County – is working on Image Trend and systems that identify patients. Thinking about scope such as going into camps to assist with wound care, etc. Dan B met with Kay and is impressed and looking forward to working with him and is optimistic about successfully assisting frequent users. Brenda – Kay identified a frequent user and worked with mental health to implement a mitigation plan.
10. Items for August Agenda - Radio system infrastructure upgrade (disparity in coverage, lack of redundancy, aging infrastructure), behavioral health
11. Adjournment – Next meeting in August – Will poll commissioners regarding best day of week to meet, use of zoom platform.

Commissioners in attendance:

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

Commissioners excused:

Craig Kunzler  
Eric Conrad, RN

County Staff:

Brenda Brenner  
Dave Ghilarducci

Guests:

Paul Angelo, Dominican  
Mike Esslinger,  
Scott Vahradian  
Marcus Pimentel  
Hilda Chelstowski  
Michael Baulch