



# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM

## MINUTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>August 17, 2020</b>	<b>TIME:</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>
<b>PLACE:</b>	Teleconference Used for Social Distancing		

### ITEM:

1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum, Review/Correct Agenda, Minutes– [8:30 am] – Approved June’s minutes (corrected)
2. Written Correspondence Report – None
3. Oral Communications – Marc Yellin – Question about the Emergency Operations Center. The EOC Manager position was eliminated due to a budget cut. The responsibilities will be moved into the CAO’s office.
4. COVID-19 Update – Dr. Newel – Santa Cruz County is off the monitoring list. If the County can remain off the list for 14 days, some economic restrictions may be lifted. Data glitch at state level made tracking difficult. The CalREDIE issue (State’s system for tracking cases) has now been resolved but data at the local level is still being resolved due to the problem. Most of local cases are result of person to person contact. Death count has risen to 8 county-wide. Local indicators have gone up and down and this will probably continue. Hospitalizations have stayed below the goal. Testing capacity is growing locally. Turnaround time for symptomatic and suspect cases is reasonable (24 hours). Some testing slots at the Ramsey Park site are being reserved for high priority cases (public health case investigation). UCSC’s testing capacity will almost triple due to County’s use of CARES Act funding. Antigen saliva test is being used in SNFs. Results are not as reliable but the strategy is useful for surveillance testing. Dr. Newel was thanked by the EMCC for her excellent work to keep our community safe. The County’s website has the most current information:  
<https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>
5. EMS Administrator Report – Brenda – Working towards managing anticipated COVID surge. Alternate Care Site – looking at what other counties are doing. Have changed how reporting exposures to fire and EMS from scanning everyday to field personnel reporting when have a high risk or breach of PPE on scene. Then looking at it the specific responders. Also getting ready for PSPS – Originally was going to be October for PSPS. Celia reported about the EMS HIE (health information exchange) grant. The HIE has a single comprehensive patient healthcare record. Grant funding will make it possible for EMS responders to access patient information to improve care (allergies, current medications). EMS patient care record will be electronically integrated into the single patient record and accessible to hospitals and patient care providers. Discharge summary

and outcome data will be available to EMS. POLST – Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment – additional funds may be available to Santa Cruz to connect EMS and hospitals to POLST registries electronically.

6. Prehospital Advisory Committee –
7. ET3 – Mike – nothing to report – no update – due to COVID all on hold indefinitely. Take off agenda for now.
8. AMR/EMSIA MOU – Mike and Jason – executed and completed and can be removed from agenda.
9. Innovator – Kay - Working to reduce frequent users have moved one into assisted living and one into a SNF and has decreased using EMS. Other project -informing fire and AMR crews of outcomes for EMS patients. Finally, have successfully received grant for AMR to distribution Narcan. A policy is being developed for AMR crews for guidance. Could also expand so that EMSIA crews can also distribute Narcan.
10. Radio System Infrastructure Discussion – Brenda – There is increased concern about the radio infrastructure. Fire red is the primary dispatch channel and also becomes the command channel for incidents because of the limited capacity of other options. There is a group of fire and other system stakeholders meeting with the CAO about this. It will probably take years to solve because of expense. The group is meeting with the CAO on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Jason will let the EMCC know if there is any communication that Commissioners should make to constituents and those they represent.
11. Behavioral Health – Marc – quick update – MERT team has implemented and allows evaluation of minors for 5150 in the ED. Minors can be released through this process, avoiding transport to Telecare. There was a discussion about keeping this item on the agenda and it was decided to discuss it again in January and quarterly thereafter. Marc will send commissioners data showing issues with patients remaining in the ED. Erik Riera will also review data and share with the Commission.
12. Items for September Agenda – September 21- Revisit the day of day of week for the EMCC meetings, radio system infrastructure report.
13. Adjournment –

Commissioners in attendance:

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

Commissioners excused:

Craig Kunzler	Dan Quinto
Eric Conrad, RN	

County Staff:

Brenda Brenner  
 Dave Ghilarducci, MD  
 Gail Newel, MD  
 Mimi Hall  
 Erik Riera  
 Marcus Pimentel

Guests:

Paul Angelo, Dominican  
 Mike Esslinger,

Scott Vahradian  
Hilda Chelstowski  
Michael Baulch  
Jeff Horner  
Kayotae Blackwolf  
Patrick Winters  
Jerry Souza  
Abigail Valbuena  
Becky Shoemaker  
Brad Cramer  
Lorrie Wilson