



EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES PROGRAM

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVE., SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962

TELEPHONE: (831) 454-4120 FAX: (831) 454-4488 TDD/TTY: Call 711

MINUTES/NOTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

DATE:	October 20, 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] – No quorum for September and October. Need to approve August minutes.
2. Written Correspondence Report – None
3. Oral Communications –AMR introduced two new employees – Jeremy Boston, Alex Aste–new Innovator. Mike Esslinger – Chris Jones retired two weeks ago, are in the process to replace her. Hope by the end of next week to announce new operations manager for Santa Cruz County. HIE – many thanks to all for patience with project. Hope for some improvements with maintenance funding may be available starting February 2022.
4. COVID-19 Update –
 - a. Update – Brenda Brenner – Case numbers are dropping. Hospitals are having staffing shortages, hospitals are more full than usual – probably due to delayed care during COVID. Dominican requested more nurse assistance from the State. Had requested 3 ICU nurses and received 1. WCH had requested assistance as well and received Med/Surge assistance. Anticipating boosters and vaccines for children coming to community soon. Dan – hospital staffing issues have increased wait times so have had to use Central Fire ambulance and Boulder Creek’s ambulance as well. Both hospitals have gone red occasionally multiple times a day having impact on EMS. Eric from DH – requested 10 med/surge and 5 ICU – some issues with indemnification for DH and issue with state not being able to provide staffing past November 30.
 - b. <https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunityDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>
5. EMS Administrator Report –End of Chris’ times she was working through late calls to request exemptions, got through end of October. EMS will be working on them.
6. EMCC Commissioner Openings – Law, Fire, Watsonville –Matko will be sending letter for Watsonville’s representative to be appointed.
7. Prehospital Advisory Committee – No report.
8. Behavioral Health Update and Impact on EDs –Brenda spoke with BH and they will send a representative to next meeting.
9. ET3 –Mike Esslinger – still moving forward. Higher level discussion with Dignity Health – formally expressed interest in the project and have executed an agreement with Doctors

on Duty for central coast. Alex will take one of lead roles in project. Project allows better match of patient to urgent care for low acuity complaint. Allow to transport to clinic. Next step is to design protocols.

10. Innovator – Introduced Alex Aste as Innovator.
11. Radio System Infrastructure -Last radio meeting was cancelled because had just gotten consultant. Next meeting in next week or so.
12. Items for December Agenda – Next meeting December 8, 2021 – Request was made to meet in person if possible. If not possible to use zoom platform instead of Teams. Dave Ghilarducci will be consulted about the potential to meet in person.
13. Adjournment –

Commissioners in attendance:

Kent Benedict, MD	Celia Barry	Dan Quinto
Eric Conrad, RN	Marcus Kwan, MD	Rich Rubin

Commissioners excused:

Arnold Leff, MD	Michael McGannon, MD
-----------------	----------------------

County Staff:

Brenda Brenner
Shelley Huxtable

Guests:

Brad Cramer
Michael Baulch
Matko Vranjes
Becky Shoemaker
Jeff Horner
Paul Angelo
David Corboy
Jeremy Boston - AMR
Alex Aste – AMR Quality Care Coordinator/Innovator
Mike Esslinger