



EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES PROGRAM

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

July 29, 2016 *Extra Meeting*

Commissioners Present: Celia Barry, Lisa Angell, Jeff Maxwell, Marc Yellin, Suzan Rowan, Priscilla Leighton, Markus Kwan, Robyn McIntyre, Dan Quinto, Kent Benedict

County Staff: Brenda Brenner, Dave Ghilarducci

Commissioners Excused: Juana Castillo, Paul Vincent

Guests: Paul Angelo, Doug Petrick, John Chelstowski, Brian Stevens, Brad Cramer, Chris Jones, Eric Conrad

ITEM:

1. Approved minutes of April; no quorum for May, June or regular meeting in July. Meeting called to order by Dan Quinto at 8:30 am at 1080 Emeline Ave, Large Auditorium.
2. Written Correspondence: None.
3. Oral Communications:
 - 3.1. Celia Barry recognized that a new EMS Administrator was selected and began on May 6, 2016: Brenda Brenner
 - 3.2. Dan Quinto asked for additional information about the plans and potential impact to the EMS system of Kaiser increasing their presence in Santa Cruz, and suggested they be invited to a future EMCC.
 - 3.3. Robyn McIntyre shared information about the "People in Crisis" conference, noting that Atlanta PD has a good program to de-escalate these situations.
 - 3.4. Marc Yellin noted in follow up to the last meeting regarding mental health patient situations that while it was noted that there are only 8-12 patients who fall into a challenging category, the small numbers do not reflect the actual impact of the care needed, and requests this item be added to future agendas.
4. EMS Administrator report
 - 4.1. TAG/Ambulance Contract Implementation: current
 - 4.2. Hospital Run Data: will be distributed via email
 - 4.3. Hospital Diversion: an update was requested by the Board of Supervisors to review the impact of the new diversion policy on implemented March 1, which will be on the Sept. 13 agenda. Review of the data showed the uptick in diversion hours in 2015 appeared to be due primarily to a large increase in January and March of 2015. The data was not conclusive yet about the impact of the new policy.

5. RFP Process-Report and Poss. Action:
 - 5.1. The Initial Findings report from the stakeholder meetings in June provided by the RFP consultant was distributed. Brenda Brenner reported the initial results showed the Stakeholders had requested a more innovative EMS system. This would require an amendment to the current RFP consultant contract along with an increase in funding due to increased work by the consultant, which requires the approval of the Board of Supervisors. The group was also advised that the final system design would need to be financially sustainable and would need to be approved by the State EMSA. Timing of the amendment to come before the Board would be Sept. 13, 2016.
 - 5.1.1. The group shared their desire to assure that: city representatives be included in the process, newer funding sources be explored which may prompt public-private partnerships, the new system must be financially sustainable, the current timeline be evaluated to determine continued feasibility with new steps, possible partnerships with large payor groups like Kaiser and others be explored, and meeting to prioritize ideas for the new system begin as soon as possible.
 - 5.1.2. Celia Barry motioned that the EMCC write a letter supporting moving forward with a contract amendment to enable the consultant to explore the concept of a more innovative EMS system, and to use the ambulance trust fund to finance the amendment. The move was seconded by Jeff Maxwell, and passed unanimously.
6. New EMCC Meeting Schedule: Dr. Ghilarducci requested the EMCC consider changing the regular meeting dates, consolidating them with the PAC and CQI meetings so that all are one day. The third and the fourth Mondays of each month was discussed.
 - 6.1. Robyn McIntyre moved that the EMCC meeting be moved to the third Monday of every month (08:30-10:00), Markus Kwan seconded. The motion passed unanimously, with the effective date being August 15, 2016.
7. Branciforte Fire: Brenda Brenner advised the group that Branciforte Fire ended its Type II Paramedic program effective July 1, 2016, and intends to begin the EMT Expanded Scope Program.
8. Vacancies on the Commission, New Commissioners: Dr. Kent Benedict was approved as a new commissioner, and the appointment of Chris Jones is pending the August 3, 2016 BOS meeting.
9. Prehospital Advisory Committee: approved the date change to the third Monday of each month starting at 10:15-11:00, and adding a CQI meeting from 11:00-1200.
10. Proposed agenda for Next Meeting: Kaiser, keep RFP Update. Remove Branciforte Fire, New EMCC Schedule, and Vacancies on the EMCC. Next meeting August 15, 2016 at 8:30 AM, location TBD.
 - 10.1. The passing of Dr. Ira Lubell was recognized by the group. Dr. Lubell was a a complex and wonderful person. He made many contributions to the Santa Cruz County EMS system and the EMCC over the years. He will be greatly missed.
11. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:30.