



County of Santa Cruz



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY Public Health Division Emergency Medical Services

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

AGENDA

DATE & TIME	Monday, February 24, 2025, 9:00am – 10:30am
LOCATION-In-Person	County of Santa Cruz, 1400 Emeline Ave., Rooms 206/207
LOCATION-Online	<p>Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 266 588 384 140 Passcode: kj6uc6a4 Dial in by phone +1 831-454-2222,,317315848# United States, Santa Cruz Find a local number Phone conference ID: 317 315 848# For organizers: Meeting options Reset dial-in PIN</p>

COMMISSIONERS:

Ron Prince, M. Koenig, District 1 – Co Chair	Chris Clark, Law Enforcement
Jerry Souza, K. De Serpa, District 2	Jason Nee, Fire Chief’s Assoc. – Co Chair
Celia Barry, J. Cummings, District 3	Eric Conrad, Dominican Hospital Rep.
Michael Baulch, F. Hernandez, District 4	Phyllis Stark, Watsonville Hospital Rep.
Open Position, M. Martinez, District 5	Jeremy Boston, AMR
Dr. Marc Yellin, Medical Society	Chris Jones, Consumer Representative
Open Position, Field Representative	

COUNTY STAFF:

Greg Benson, EMS Director	Monica Morales, HSA Director
Emily Chung, Public Health Director	Dr. Lisa Hernandez, Medical Services Director - Health Officer
Claudia Garza, Sr. Dept. Admin. Analyst	Shelley Huxtable, EMS Office Assistant

ITEM:

- 1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum.**
- 2. Review/Correct Agenda & Approve Minutes from December 2024 meeting.**

3. Written Correspondence Listing:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole but, may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners. Upon completion of any actions deemed necessary (i.e., acknowledgment, referral, etc.), these items are included in the Written Correspondence Listing. While these items are not part of the official record of meetings of the Emergency Medical Care Commission, they will be maintained by the Santa Cruz County Emergency Medical Services Agency for a period of two years.

4. Oral Communications:

Oral Communications for items not on the agenda will be presented for discussion purposes only and may be brought to the Commission by Commissioners or members of the public. Comments are limited to 3 minutes.

5. Welcome New Commissioners (Jason Nee)

Chris Jones is the new Consumer Representative Commissioner, Phyllis Stark is the new Watsonville Hospital Representative Commissioner, Celia Barry has moved to the District 3 Representative Commissioner.

6. Medical Director Recruitment Update (Greg Benson).

7. Ad-Hoc Committee Update and Consideration of Approval on Action Plan (Ron Prince)

8. Program Updates:

A. Covid-19/Flu/RSV Update and Prehospital Advisory Committee Update, (Greg Benson).

The Commission will receive updates on Covid-19/Flu/RSV and an update of actions taken by the Prehospital Advisory Committee.

Impact to the hospitals Information link:

<https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>

B. EMS Administrator Report (Greg Benson).

The Administrator will report on issues of interest, challenges, progress, concerns for the Commission to consider for action, if necessary.

C. Innovator Report (Jeremy Boston).

The Commission will receive an update from AMR about the EMS Innovator programs.

9. Proposed Agenda Items for next EMCC meeting on April 21, 2025.

10. Adjournment.

ITEM 5

Welcome New Commissioners

Chris Jones is the new Consumer Representative
Commissioner.

Phyllis Stark is the new Watsonville Hospital
Representative Commissioner.

Celia Barry has moved to the District 3 Representative
Commissioner.

ITEM 6
Medical Director Recruitment
Update

Report on the status of the Medical Director recruitment.

ITEM 7
**Ad-Hoc Committee Update and
Consideration of Approval on
Action Plan**

Status report and approval/vote on the 12-month action plan.

EMCC 12 Month Action Plan
02/20/2025 Draft

Problem Statement	Related/Specific Task	Desired Outcome
<p>1. The current EMS transport system may not be economically sustainable as it is 100% funded by collected fees. Increasing numbers of the aging population in the County are covered by government payors (currently 85%). These funding sources do not fully cover the cost of transport the majority of the time.</p>	<p>Research adjunctive funding sources for EMS transport services.</p>	<p>Ensure the long term fiscal solvency of the EMS transport system.</p>
<p>2. Current Fire/EMS responses are not data driven and, as a result, unneeded apparatus are sent to many calls, leading to artificial scarcity of response resources.</p>	<p>Continue developing reports to evaluate the entire clinical continuum of all calls. This evaluation includes call inception, subsequent EMD classification, Fire/EMS response, field evaluation, and finally, hospital outcomes. This will allow the system to safely right size the Fire/EMS response matrix.</p>	<p>Modify response matrix, achieving operational efficiencies. Align the clinical delivery level with the actual needs of the patient. Reduce Red Lights and Sirens responses in the County to reduce community risk and increase response efficiencies.</p>
<p>3. The County Board of Supervisors should be better informed about all elements of the EMS system, including its current strengths and threats. This will help to insure that the system is maintained and improved over time.</p>	<p>Dedicate time to educate/inform County Board of Supervisors regarding current risks and possible solutions aimed at improved and sustainable pre-hospital care.</p>	<p>Policy makers will be in a better position to fiscally and politically support efforts to maintain and improve EMS delivery in the County.</p>
<p>4. The LEMSA lacks sufficient staff to fulfill its current statutory reporting requirements and to effectively conduct futures planning. The LEMSA Director is tasked with many responsibilities that lie outside of EMS.</p>	<p>Explore/identify methods to increase funding and resources to the LEMSA. Conversely, if additional funding is not available, advocate for reducing the EMS Director's responsibilities outside of mission critical EMS activities.</p>	<p>Ensure that the LEMSA has proper resources to maintain and improve the health of the EMS system while improving oversight and the quality of services being provided. Reduce the EMS Director's workload on projects outside of the EMS core mission.</p>