



# Emergency Medical Care Commission

SAN BENITO COUNTY

**Rick Espino**  
*Chair*

**Virginia Jones**  
*Vice Chair*

**Kent Benedict M.D.**  
*Medical Director*

## San Benito County Emergency Medical Care Commission

### Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2015

#### I. Call to Order / Introductions:

The Meeting was called to order by Rick Espino, at 1:34 p.m.

##### **Voting Members Present:**

Air Ambulance Provider  
Aromas Tri- County Fire Protection District  
California Highway Patrol – Hollister/Gilroy Office  
CAL FIRE – San Benito/Monterey Unit  
City of San Juan Bautista  
Contracted Ambulance Provider  
Hollister/San Benito County Fire Department  
Member at Large  
National Park Service - Pinnacles National Park  
Public Safety Communications Center  
San Benito County Sheriff/Coroner  
San Benito Healthcare District-Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital

Cortney McPhee  
Baraka Carter  
Herb Kellogg  
Henry Flores  
John Fox  
Virginia Jones  
Josh Buzzetta  
Rick Espino/Nants Foley  
Kimberly McCrary  
Stephanie Zube  
Steve Van Den Heuvel  
Karen O'Connell

##### **Non – Voting Members Present:**

County EMS Coordinator  
County EMS Medical Director

Marcie Morrow  
Dave Ghilarducci, M.D.

##### **Voting Members Absent:**

American Red Cross-Local Chapter  
Bureau of Land Management-Hollister Field Office  
CAL FIRE – San Benito/Monterey Unit  
California Dept. of Parks & Rec. Hollister Hills SVRA  
Hollister Police Department  
San Benito County Board of Supervisor

Rosemary Maire  
Mike Chiodini  
Brice Muenzer  
Eric Sturm  
Dave Westrick  
Robert Rivas

##### **Non-Voting Members Absent:**

County EMS Administrator  
County Emergency Preparedness  
County Health Officer

Jim Rydingsword  
Samela Perez  
Anju Goel, M.D.

##### **Others Present:**

CALSTAR  
County EMS  
Office of Emergency Service  
County Public Health  
Hazel Hawkins Hospital

Ross Fay  
Dixie Zamzow  
Kevin O'Neil/Kris Mangano  
Efren Gomez  
Trina DeMare

**II. Approval of EMCC Minutes of November 19, 2014**

The minutes of November 19, 2014 were accepted and approved as is.

**III. Public Comment:**

None

**IV. Public Information/Education:**

Marcie Morrow announced February is Heart Month. A Proclamation by the Board of Supervisors declaring February is National Heart month and “GO RED” for women on Friday February 6. Marcie stated she is working with Hollister Fire and AMR to have a community ‘hands only’ CPR day either February 11 or 25<sup>th</sup>. She announced January 27<sup>th</sup> will be the annual Seldom Used Skills. Marcie also announced the Base Station and PAC meetings will be changing to the first Wednesday of every odd month. At the March 4<sup>th</sup> Base Station meeting there will be a special guest speaker from the California Highway Patrol. He has extensive researching information on “Street Drugs”.

Kris Mangano stated the CERTS (Community Emergency Response Teams) program training starts tonight January 21, 2015 at the sheriff conference room. It runs eight consecutive weeks.

**V. EMS Medical Director’s Report – Dr. David Ghilarducci:**

Dr. Ghilarducci is our new Medical Director and this is his first EMCC meeting, although new to San Benito County he’s not new to medical world. He comes here with a great deal of knowledge and experience. He stated the most pressing issue is the new Trauma Center in Salinas at Natividad Medical Center. In the past trauma patients would go to Santa Clara Trauma Centers, now most adult patients from San Juan Bautista south area will likely go to Salinas. Pediatric trauma patients will still go to either Valley Medical Center or Stanford. He stated there are areas where we can progress EMS here in the county to maximize the amount of care with the amount of resources available.

**VI. Old Business:**

Ad Hoc Committee-Ambulance Transport of Psych Patients

A meeting request was made to include AMR, Hazel Hawkins Hospital, Behavioral Health, Sheriff and EMS. Marcie was told the issues were already being handled, although she was not sure if all the players were involved in the decision making. She spoke with Dr. Goel, County Health Officer and Dr. Ghilarducci; it appears the hospital is making progress with interfacility type services. Karen O’Connell was unaware of any information on IFT (interfacility transfers). Marcie feels it’s real important to look at the IFT issues and to have all the stakeholders input is vital to any decisions that are made as it affects all of us. We certainly don’t want to use all the system units for transfers. Over the month of December there were a very high number of interfacility transfer calls. Marcie granted permission for several of those transfers to occur because we didn’t have any other resources. The other part of the issue is the payer part. BLS companies that provide IFT in larger systems don’t want to drive all this way and not get paid for it. Dr. Ghilarducci stated it has come to the point where he needed to set some boundaries where routine transfers were stuck in a situation with lower resources. A discussion followed and it was noted a meeting is needed to find a solution to these ITF issues and have Behavior Health included.

Ambulance Company Certificates of Operation Updates

Marcie Morrow stated several applications have been submitted for ambulance “Certificates of Operations”. She is currently working on Westmed and will soon issue the permits per vehicle soon. She reported there are five ground ambulance transports including Freedom Medical which is a gurney and wheelchair transport company and two air transport companies.

### EMCC Meeting Schedule

The EMCC meeting is being changed to the first Wednesday of every odd month. These meetings will continue to be held at the Hollister Police Department except for the month of July because of the annual Motorcycle Rally. Dixie will find a different location for the July meeting. Kimberly McCrary stated this will not work for her because she has other commitments on the first Wednesday of every month.

### Commission Members and Alternates

Dixie Zamzow reported the Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners were appointed at the County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday January 20, 2015. The Member at Large and Member at Large Alternate still need to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Still need to get names on who is the alternate for Hollister Police Department and American Red Cross. Chief O'Connor is retiring soon and a new primary member for Hollister Fire will need to be appointed. Dixie also reminded the group the Form 700 needs to be completed by all commission members and their alternates and is due by April 1, 2015.

## **VII. New Business:**

### Health & Human Services Agency Reorganization

Marcie Morrow spoke on the Health & Human Services Agency Reorganization; she reported that EMS has moved from 1111 San Felipe Road to the Public Health Department at 439 Fourth Street. We are getting settled in and doing business as usual. Dr. Ghilarducci, Marcie and Dixie now report to Dr. Goel, County Health Officer. Dr. Goel and Lynn Mello, Director of Nursing report to James Rydingsword, Director of Health & Human Services Agency.

### First Responder Tamiflu Push

Efren Gomez stated Pharmacist Mary White is in the process of collecting the Tamiflu Cache that is stored at various locations in the county. She will re-label them and redistribute them to different sites in the county.

### New Transfer of Care Document

Marcie Morrow spoke on one of our field personnel who attended our PAC (Prehospital Advisory Committee) meeting stated we needed to "Step up" our transfer of care document. Marcie presented a form that Santa Cruz uses. It is a triplicate form where Hollister Fire starts the document; they keep their copy then it gets passed on to AMR who uses it to enter information of the care they did on the patient, keeping a copy which then gets entered into their electronic PCR. The third copy of the form is then transferred to the hospital where they can see a background of care that was given to the patient. The form was changed to be San Benito County user friendly. It shows all medical information, trauma care and includes many check boxes. She stated we will need to adjust our documentation policy to include this form.

### Annual Plan

Marcie Morrow stated in the EMCC Bylaws it reads an Annual Plan is to be done. She believes this has never been done. She would like to assemble a group of a couple of people from this group to complete the annual plan to the Board of Supervisors. This is an opportunity to make changes and educate the community. It was agreed upon to give some time to look into what information is needed for this annual plan, this will be added to the next meeting agenda in March.

### Seldom Used Skills January 27, 2015

Dr. Ghilarducci stated the reason behind the seldom used skills is the ability to use BLS and ALS care skills. This is a formal day to practice the skills that are not used often. It will be held on Tuesday January 27, 2015 from 8:30 – 12:30 at the Public Works conference room. Four hours of CE's will be given.

**VIII. Roundtable**

Efren Gomez with Public Health spoke a little more on the Tamiflu push when the H1N1 pandemic broke out, how to better protect our first responders and their families became a topic of concern. With granted funding from Homeland Securities and OES the Tamiflu was purchased. There is enough Tamiflu available here for all of our Fire, Law, AMR, hospital, Public Health, OES, HHS personal and their families to keep them all safe and protected. A survey was conducted a few years ago to get a count of all first responders and their families to get an adequate supply to cover all on and off duty personnel.

Ross Fay with Calstar stated Contra Costa County has an annual plan to review. He stated once you get the regular information into the plan, it's relatively easy to update the plan thereafter.

Marcie Morrow has another possible training request for a RDMHS (Regional Disaster Medical Health Specialist) to come do some in-service training on the State Emergency Operations Manual and MOHAC program. With the changes in EMS staffing she needs to get a MOHAC backup person for when she is not available.

Karen O'Connell with Hazel Hawkins Hospital gave an update on the ER monthly cense has jumped up from 40 to 60. She also reported the contract with the physicians who provide services to the hospital will end in February 28, 2015.

Trina DeMare with Hazel Hawkins Hospital provided some trauma input. She stated the hospital is providing a more organized approach for trauma patients. The Level 4 destination is still in place with implementing their policies and procedures, with a goal to start in May 2015. Six months of data is to be used, then after a year to ask for designation status.

**IX. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2015

**X.** Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 P.M.