



Rick Espino
Chair

Virginia Jones
Vice Chair

Emergency Medical Care Commission

SAN BENITO COUNTY

DAVID GHILARDUCCI, M.D.
Medical Director

San Benito County Emergency Medical Care Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2015

I. Call to Order / Introductions:

The Meeting was called to order by Rick Espino, at 1:35 p.m.

Voting Members Present:

Air Ambulance Provider
CAL FIRE – San Benito/Monterey Unit
California Dept. of Parks & Rec. Hollister Hills SVRA
City of San Juan Bautista
Contracted Ambulance Provider
Hollister/San Benito County Fire Department
Hollister Police Department
Member at Large
Public Safety Communications Center
San Benito County Sheriff/Coroner
San Benito County Board of Supervisor
San Benito Healthcare District-Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital

Cortney McPhee
Henry Flores
Eric Sturm
John Fox
Virginia Jones
Josh Buzzetta
Dave Westrick
Rick Espino
Dennis Kidd
Steve Van Den Heuvel
Robert Rivas
Karen O’Connell, RN/Rebecca Jones, RN

Non – Voting Members Present:

County EMS Coordinator
County EMS Medical Director
County Health Officer

Marcie Morrow
Dave Ghilarducci, M.D.
Anju Goel, M.D.

Voting Members Absent:

American Red Cross-Local Chapter
Aromas Tri- County Fire Protection District
Bureau of Land Management-Hollister Field Office
California Highway Patrol – Hollister/Gilroy Office
National Park Service - Pinnacles National Park

Rosemary Maire
Baraka Carter
Mike Chiodini
Herb Kellogg
Kimberly McCrary

Non-Voting Members Absent:

County EMS Administrator
County Emergency Preparedness

Jim Rydingsword
Samela Perez

Others Present:

California Highway Patrol
County EMS
Office of Emergency Service
Hazel Hawkins Hospital
CAL FIRE

Amy Tritenbach
Dixie Zamzow
Kris Manganò
Trina DeMare
Steve Torres/Kevin Guerra

II. Approval of EMCC Minutes of January 21, 2015

The minutes of January 21, 2015 were accepted and approved.

III. Public Comment:

None

IV. Public Information/Education:

Marcie Morrow announced on March 20, 2015 she will offer a BLS Refresher Healthcare Provider CPR course. If there are more than six students she will schedule another class.

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

Dr. Ghilarducci spoke on the Base Station meeting held this morning, a great presentation from Travis Herbert, CHP Special Enforcement Unit on Street Drugs.

Dr. Ghilarducci reported on a few policy revisions, one was on trauma calls and transporting patients on Hwy 101 south of Hwy 129 will go to Natividad Medical Center in Salinas. Trauma calls on HWY 101 north of HWY 129 will continue to go to Valley Medical Center or Stanford. Distance is one of the many factors on how to get the patient to a trauma center. He also spoke on forming a policy review committee to review on an annual timeframe EMS policy and procedures. Annually updating policies and procedures would be less destructive to the system. This will allow time for agencies to budget new equipment as needed and allow time for training.

VI. Old Business:

Ambulance Provider Certificates of Operation

Marcie Morrow continues to review "Continuance of Operation" documents submitted by AMR and WESTMED. She has not yet heard from Rural Metro. Silicon Valley has expressed an interest, but has not submitted anything yet. She stated the whole idea is to get more resources in our county to help with interfacility transfers.

Ad Hoc Committee – Ambulance Transport of Psych Patients

Rick Espino asks if we were to keep this committee. It was reported Medical Director, Dr. Ghilarducci, AMR and Hazel Hawkins are in negotiations on interfacility transport contract for twelve (12) hours a day. A special unit will be used for this. The whole purpose is to lessen the impact on the system. Behavioral Health does send screeners to the ER to screen patients and determine if they need hospitalization. Rebecca Jones explained how a patient can sit for up to 72 hours at the hospital; the hospital needs help to get the patient to the proper place. Chief Westrick stated the police officers are not comfortable leaving the patient at the hospital without an officer there. There just is not enough staff for both police department and the hospital. The Ad Hoc committee members are Rebecca Jones with Hazel Hawkins Hospital, Steve Van Den Heuvel with Sheriff Office, Virginia Jones and Brenda Brenner with AMR, Alan Yamamoto with Behavioral Health and EMS Medical Director, Dr. David Ghilarducci.

EMCC Annual Plan

Marcie Morrow reported Ross Fay with Calstar provided a copy of Contra Costa EMCC annual plan. Marcie stated this might be the format needed to provide our EMCC Annual Report. It list accomplishments, with bullet points to give a snap shot of what we have done and what to expect in the future.

VII. New Business:

Hollister Fire Chief

As of March 3, 2015 Retired Chief Bill Garringer has been hired as interim Fire Chief. The city has hired a head hunter team to hire a new Fire Chief. Josh Buzzetta reported it is business as usual, nothing has changed operational.

Motorcycle Rally

It is confirmed this year's Motorcycle Rally is set for Friday – Sunday, July 3, 4 and 5th. L.V. Trade Shows will handle the rally this year. It is to be the same foot print as last year. Mobile Hospital-AMR will be in the same place. The only difference this year will be the beer gardens on 7th Street will be indoors. It was reported the EMT Angels will not be there this year. Planning meetings have been scheduled for every month.

Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital – Emergency Physicians Contract & Base Station Medical Director

Rebecca Jones reported on Sunday March 1, 2015 a new Emergency Physician Group started. Dr. Steve Scherr is the Medical Director and CEO. She stated they were awarded the contract in January 2015. The ER doctors are the same and will be reassessed.

EMS Week

Marcie Morrow stated she will be forwarding a list of heroes to present at the Board of Supervisors meeting on May 19, 2015 and receive a proclamation for EMS Week of May 18-22, 2015. A reception will follow at Fire Station 1; Certificates and pins will be handed out. Cake will be served. She is looking for new ideas, if you have any let her know. She loves EMS Week, it's a time to recognize and thank the people who don't get it every day.

AMR Contract & Response Time Performance: Update for 2014

Marcie Morrow explained that during the negotiations of AMR's contract 2014-2019, concerns were brought up in regards to the QRV (Quick Response Vehicle). This vehicle is under-utilized and could be an alternate 3rd vehicle. She explained that on any given day the two regular responding ambulances could be busy and we still have this third ALS unit in the system until mutual aide shows up. After speaking with our Medical Director, David Ghilarducci and Health & Human Services Director James Rydingsword, it was decided to give it a try. Response times will continue to be monitored closely. Marcie handed out drafts on AMR response times since 2012. It showed that in 2014 showed a huge increase in interfacility transfers and regular calls for service. AMR response time required compliance is 90% to the exclusive operating area – San Benito County. AMR has stayed consistently above this percentage for all calls including Urban, Rural, Wilderness and Wilderness Remote areas. Questions were asked about the Aromas and San Juan Bautista areas. Marcie will provide response data from those areas at the next meeting.

VIII. Roundtable

CALFIRE stated Henry Flores will now be at the Monterey/Aromas Fire Station and Steve Torres will be at the Hollister/San Benito Station.

Dr. Goel, Health Officer stated her concerns on the number of Public Health representatives attending this commission meeting. She asked to remove Samela Perez from Emergency Preparedness, herself as Health Officer and James Rydingsword, Director, Health and Human Services Agency, EMS Administrator.

Dr. Ghilarducci has a conflict with our next EMCC meeting date of May 6, 2015. The next meeting will be held on May 13, 2015 at 1:30.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2015

X. Meeting was adjourned at 2:44 P.M.