

# County of Santa Cruz



## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Tel: (831) 454-2166

Meeting: January 6, 2022

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Teams Meeting

Meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams

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### Minutes

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- 1.0 Call to Order/Instructions for participation
- 2.0 Roll Call (*Emergency Management Council Appointed Members*)
  - 2.1 Attendees: 17 members
  - 2.2 Absent:
    - 2.2.1 Andrew Dally
    - 2.2.2 Michael Bennett
    - 2.2.3 County Human Services Department
    - 2.2.4 Donna Odryna
  - 2.3 Absent with Notice:
    - 2.3.1 Eric Conrad
    - 2.3.2 Martin Heaney
  - 2.4 Vacant position: At Large Community Member
  - 2.5 Quorum achieved: Yes
- 3.0 Additions and Deletions to the Agenda
  - 3.1 Brenda Brenner will give a brief update on the COVID surge
  - 3.2 Reminder: At-Large Community Member position for the EMC is now open. David Reid, as the Director of the Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience, will make a nomination to the Board of Supervisors for this position.  
Please contact Dave if you are interested in being considered, or would like to put someone forward for consideration.
- 4.0 Approval of Minutes:
  - 4.1 Draft minutes of November 2021 meeting were sent for review prior to meeting
  - 4.2 Motion to approve: Tom Avila; Second: Mike Dean  
Minutes approved unanimously
- 5.0 Correspondence (*All*)
  - 5.1 EMC Meeting restructure proposal 12.15.21 (attached to meeting invitation)
- 6.0 Oral Communications: *Regarding items not on the agenda*
- 7.0 Presentations:

- 7.1 Update on COVID/Omicron Surge  
Presented by Brenda Brenner, Senior Health Services Manager and Emergency Medical Services Administrator for the County
  - Number of positive cases rose rising sharply starting last week
  - Department Operations Center (DOC) activated at Level 1 (highest level); support requested from County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
  - Hospitals full; staffing crisis; seeking help from State and other agencies
  - Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) has provided vital response throughout the pandemic; stepping up again now; vaccinations, skilled nursing, etc.
  - Updates on messaging and data on santacruzhealth.org
  - Other areas have seen fairly rapid decline in Omicron surge, hoping that will be the case here
  
- 8.0 Unfinished Business:
  - 8.1 Nomination and Election of a new Chair for the Council
    - 8.1.1 No action taken.
  - 8.2 Nomination and approval of John Gerhardt as the new representative of Amateur Radio (ARES); (approved by Board of Supervisors 11.09.21)
  - 8.3 EMC Restructure Proposal.....Nancy Yellin
    - 8.3.1 Next steps:
      - OR3 and Nancy Yellin will work on revised proposal, considering suggestions and feedback from group discussion
      - Updated version to be presented and reviewed at the next meeting
  - 8.4 Addition of position of Vice-Chair to the EMC
    - 8.4.1 Motion to add position of Vice-Chair to the EMC: Nancy Yellin; Second: Liz Taylor-Selling; motion passed unanimously
    - 8.4.2 Nancy Yellin expressed interest in being nominated for Vice-Chair
  
- 9.0 New Business
  
- 10.0 Informational Reports
  - 10.1 County Office of Response, Recovery, and Resilience.....Lisa Ehret
    - 10.1.1 EOC providing support to Public Health for logistics and other efforts during demands of the COVID surge
    - 10.1.2 Working to build debris flow resources
      - December debris flow damaged residences and roads; County issued a Disaster Declaration
      - Continuing to refine the lists of addresses for evacuations and notifications
      - Updating an incident action plan for debris flow response
    - 10.1.3 State group is coming to assess sea level rise/tsunami risk
  - 10.2 City Reports
    - 10.2.1 Capitola.....Chief Andy Dally
    - 10.2.2 Santa Cruz.....Paul Horvat
      - Returning to monthly COVID incident action plans
      - Developing training plan for the year
      - Closing out 2017 Storm Damage Disaster
      - Working with FEMA to resolve issues of reimbursements not paid for CZU Lightning Complex Fires or COVID-19; significant expenses
      - Working on plan for disaster exercise, including collaboration with other agencies
    - 10.2.3 Scotts Valley.....Captain Mike Dean

- Dealing with COVID surge; putting precautions in place, adjusting schedules
- 10.2.4 Watsonville.....Tom Avila
  - Dealing with COVID surge
  - Tamara Vides has been appointed Interim City Manager
  - City had been managing Bridge Street homeless encampment until people were offered vouchers and encampment was removed; now another encampment is developing nearby, outside of city limits
- 10.3 County Office of Education.....Jennifer Buesing
  - 10.3.1 COVID big topic and hurdle currently
    - State made it clear not to close schools; distance learning not an option at this time
    - State provided tests; not everyone tested timely
    - Seeing many cases and struggling with staffing
    - Focusing on excluding positive cases, testing, and vaccination; about 7,000 of eligible children are vaccinated
    - Working with Public Health for contact tracing
    - Inspire Diagnostics has locations at school sites and other county sites for testing and vaccination; also open to general community
- 10.4 Grant Updates: Homeland Security/Emergency Management Performance
  - 10.4.1 FY 2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.2022 award of \$359,856).  
Completed projects: Mobile X-Ray Machine (ID Hazardous/Explosive Devices) for the Sheriff's Office; Mobile Bomb Containment Vessel for the Sheriff's Office; Equipment for CERT training graduates; Ballistic Shields for Scotts Valley PD; Personal Body Armor for Santa Cruz PD
  - 10.4.2 FY 2020 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.2023) award of \$356,972. New final application package was submitted on 1.28.2021 to align with 4 new National Priority Investment Justifications required by DHS/FEMA. Final approval now granted; Scheduled for Board of Supervisors agenda for acceptance and appropriations 01.11.21.
  - 10.4.3 FY 2021 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.2024) award of \$341,759. Projects submitted in the CalOES has reviewed and provided feedback for amendment for project with required Investment Priority; Amended and complete application to be submitted by 12.31.21.
  - 10.4.4 FY2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.2024) award to be announced. Further guidance from DHS/FEMA and Cal OES pending; initial application due January 31, 2022. Initial meeting of Authorized Body of 5 to review and make decisions about projects was convened 12.13.21.
  - 10.4.5 FY2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) award (2-year grant through 6.30.2022) award of \$180,306. Grant requires 50% match (dollar-for-dollar)  
Completed project: Mountain Community Resources citizen preparedness activities.
  - 10.4.6 FY2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG-S) COVID-19 Supplemental award of \$95,979. (No County match required: match provided by CalOES).  
Performance period ended 10.26.21; grant is closed out.
  - 10.4.7 FY2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) award (2-year grant through 6.30.2023) award of \$179,770. Grant requires 50%

match (dollar-for-dollar)

Completed application due on 12.31.21.

- 10.4.8 FY2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant-American Rescue Plan Act (EMPG-ARPA) (2-year grant through 6.30.2023) award of \$62,042. Grant requires 50% match (dollar-for-dollar). Completed application due on 12.31.21.

11.0 Non-Governmental Organizations

- 11.1 CERT Council.....Robert Gray
- 11.2 CERT Auxiliary.....Mary Edmund
  - In process of developing educational program beyond basic training
  - Moved to Incident Command System (ICS) structure; using daily, helping to make CERT better organized and responsive
- 11.3 Medical Reserve Corp .....Kathleen Conley
- 11.4 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).....John Gerhardt
  - Amateur radio is most useful if telephones, and/or other communications stop operating
  - Conducting weekly exercises and regular training
- 11.5 Equine Evacuation.....Cally Haber
  - Seeking to locate an enclosed cargo and box trailer to store their materials in; expect it to cost \$6,000 – \$7,000
  - Exploring grant opportunities and fund-raising
- 11.6 American Red Cross.....Michele Averill
  - Opened Bridge Funding for 2020 fire survivors

12.0 Announcements (All)

13.0 Items for future meetings

14.0 Adjourn

- 14.1 Motion to adjourn: Liz Taylor-Selling; second: Nancy Yellin; motion passed unanimously
- 14.2 Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm

15.0 Next meeting: March 3, 2022; 2:00 – 4:00 pm

The Emergency Management Council generally meets the first Thursday of every odd month, excluding July.