



# County of Santa Cruz

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Tel: (831) 454-2166 Fax: (831) 454-2350

Meeting: May 6, 2021  
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Location: Teams Meeting

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### Minutes

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- 1.0 Call to Order/Instructions for participation
  - 1.1 Meeting convened at 2:00 pm by Chair Robert Ritchey
- 2.0 Roll Call (*Emergency Management Council Appointed Members*)
  - 2.1 Attendees: 15 voting members; numerous non-voting attendees
  - 2.2 Absent:
    - 2.2.1 Scott Cullen
    - 2.2.2 Bob Wiser
    - 2.2.3 Andrew Dally
    - 2.2.4 Mitch Medina
    - 2.2.5 Eric Conrad
    - 2.2.6 Donna Odryna
    - 2.2.7 Mike Dean
  - 2.3 Absent with Notice:
    - 2.3.1 Paul Horvat
  - 2.4 Quorum achieved: Yes
- 2.0 Additions and Deletions to the Agenda  
None
- 4.0 Approval of Minutes:
  - 4.1 Draft minutes of March 2021 meeting were sent for review prior to this meeting
  - 4.2 Motion to approve: Patsy Gasca; Second: Joe Christy  
Approved with 1 abstention
- 5.0 Correspondence (*All*)
  - 5.1 Notice of appointment of Nancy Yellin on April 13, 2021 to the EMC as First District Representative; term to expire April 1, 2025
  - 5.2 Notice of re-appointment of Scott Cullen on March 23, 2021 to the EMC as Second District Representative; term to expire April 1, 2025
  - 5.3 Notice of re-appointment of Liz Taylor-Selling to the EMC on March 23, 2021 as Fifth District Representative; term to expire April 1, 2025

- 6.0 Oral Communications: *Regarding items not on the Agenda*  
None
- 7.0 Presentations:  
Fire Season Outlook: Santa Cruz County Fire Chief Ian Larkin
  - Looking at a very dry season. Fuel moistures already low, what we normally see in July.
  - Ramping up staffing early; at level 2 staffing, about a month ahead of time, and moving level 3 staffing in May.
- 8.0 New Business:  
8.1 Announcing Mark Bisbee as new Director (interim) of the Office of Response, Recovery, and Resilience (OR3)
- 9.0 Informational Reports  
9.1 County Office of Emergency Services/Office of Response, Recovery, and Resilience \_\_\_ Michael Beaton and Elissa Benson
  - 9.1.1 OES now transitioning to OR3; welcoming Mark Bisbee as new Interim Director, with Elissa Benson guiding the transition.
  - 9.1.2 Working on After Action Review (AAR) for CZU Lightning Complex Fire Response  
Learning about things that went well and things that needed improvement; documenting recommendations to incorporate into updated plans and use to strengthen response.  
Good opportunity to be prepared and effective for future events.
  - 9.1.3 Updated Emergency Management Plan (EMP) was approved by the EMC January 2021  
Updates now being incorporated based on AAR; new version will be presented to the EMC for review later in the year
  - 9.1.4 Working to clarify and plan training for response and recovery roles moving forward for County staff and partners.
- 9.2 City Reports
  - 9.2.1 Capitola\_\_\_ Captain Andy Dally
  - 9.2.2 Santa Cruz\_\_\_ Paul Horvat
  - 9.2.3 Scotts Valley\_\_\_ Captain Mike Dean
  - 9.2.4 Watsonville\_\_\_ Tom Avila  
-Continuing priority to assist with county vaccination at Fairgrounds and old City Council chambers  
-Received and reviewed Zonehaven evac zones draft map; looks good.  
-Working on airport standard operating guidelines with airport and Netcom.
- 9.3 County Office of Education\_\_\_ Jennifer Buesing
  - 9.3.1 All schools, public and private, are now open (hybrid in-person/online). Planning for all schools to open in the fall.
  - 9.3.2 Vaccines:  
Holding clinics for eligible students (now 16-year-old and up); a lot of vaccine hesitancy with students.  
Working on town halls and outreach to encourage vaccination.
- 9.4 Grant Updates  
9.4.1 FY2018 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.21; award of \$349,660); closing out all projects except the EMS HearNet Radio System, which required an extension

- due to COVID-related delays  
 Projects in progress: Portable Mobile Radios for Auxiliary Communications; EMS HearNet Radio System.  
 Completed projects: Sheriff's Office armored van; Radiological detection devices for County first responders; CERT training equipment; HAS/EMS PIO coordination; Watsonville Slough Stream Gage/Warning System; Medical Reserve Corps Coordination
- 9.4.2 FY 2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.2022 award of \$359,856).  
 Projects in progress: County Medical Surge Preparedness, Mass Casualty Incident Preparedness, and Active Shooter Bag for Health Services Agency/EMS; Personal Body Armor for Santa Cruz PD; Portable Bollards for Capitola; Personal Body Armor for Watsonville PD; Mobile radios for multiple fire agencies; and Mobile Medical Shelter Coordination for County EMS.  
 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.
- 9.4.3 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. Awaiting final approval. Projects can be started that are: 1) not a National Priority Project, and 2) not a project that has special requirements (EHP, Noncompetitive Procurement, any other holds) 3) pending waiver approval. (Contact Karen Adler to review status of your projects.)
- 9.4.4 FY 2021 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) (2.75-year grant through 5.31.2024) award of \$341,759. Projects submitted in the Advance Application 4/21/21 were updated to meet the 4 DHS/FEMA requirements addressing urgent national priorities for FY20 plus one new one for FY21. CalOES has reviewed and provided initial approval; awaiting further State and FEMA review.
- 9.4.5 FY2019 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) award (2-year grant through 6.30.2021) was approved by Cal OES on 1.13.2020 for \$180,870. Grant requires 50% match (dollar-for-dollar).  
 Projects in progress include OES staffing; EOC/OES supplies; and EOC Radio Charges.  
 Completed projects: ISD/GIS Staffing to Support EOC Operations; EOC facility co-location costs; Mountain Community Resources citizen preparedness activities; and Resource Conservation District (RCD)/Firesafe Council planning and community activities.
- 9.4.6 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). Final application submitted 2.2.2021; CalOES approved 2.28.21.  
 Projects include OES/EOC staffing; travel for training/meetings; EOC supplies; EOC radio charges; ISD/GIS staffing to support EOC operations; EOC network charges; EOC facility co-location costs; and Mountain Community Resources citizen preparedness.
- 9.4.7 FY2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG-S) COVID-19 Supplemental (grant through 6/30/2021)- award of \$95,979. (No County match required: match provided by CalOES). Final

application submitted 2.9.2021, approved 3.4.2021.  
Projects: Santa Cruz Regional 9-1-1 Recruitment and Retention during COVID-19; other projects in the process of revision.

- 10.0 Non-Governmental Organizations
  - 10.1 CERT Council.....*Robert Gray*
  - 10.2 CERT Auxiliary..... *Mary Edmund*  
Fortifying for fire season. Have acquired new equipment.
  - 10.3 Medical Reserve Corp .....*Kathleen Conley*  
-Brief from Brenda Brenner, County EMS Administrator:  
State making funds available to help homebound persons for vaccinations.  
-MRC Volunteers continue to be a big asset; deployed for COVID for contact tracing and vaccinations; 1,155 hours in April.  
-Grant application submitted to the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCO)
  - 10.4 Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS).....*Cap Pennell*  
-Have been conducting radio check-ins from different EOCs with equipment that can communicate with Sacramento and other areas in the state. They do different relays and audio reports to check on how things are functioning.
  - 10.5 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).....*Robert Ritchey*  
-Conducted a large training exercise with CERT teams; first time in 6 years to do a joint disaster drill; good learning experience.  
-Conducted an amateur radio licensing class with 52 participants; now many more new licensed operators in the County!  
-Working to incorporate different trainings to provide more experience for new operators  
-Looking for large spaces for trainings, including preliminary planning for Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)  
-ARES operators have logged 1,867 hours in the last 2 months
  - 10.6 Equine Evacuation.....*Cally Haber*  
-Also gearing up for fire season. At least 5 Equine Evac members were in the radio licensing class.  
-Working on reformulating and internal organizing; conducting great online trainings and recruiting new members.  
-Extending an invitation to EMC and others to join; will be sent out to the group.  
-ARES has mobile radios to share with EE members.
  - 10.7 American Red Cross.....*Patsy Gasca*  
-Continued assessments of human and material resources to be ready  
-Working with volunteers to make sure they are getting vaccinations
- 11.0 Announcements (*All*)
  - 11.1 -- Tom Avila: City of Watsonville published job announcement for Firefighter/Paramedic and Firefighter/EMT
  - 11.2 -- Kathleen Conley: Healthcare Coalition will conduct a required redundant communications drill—would like to include ARES, CERT, etc. Planning for mid-June; Kathleen will send out an alert.
  - 11.3 -- Liz Taylor-Selling: Private Covid vaccine clinic being held in the San Lorenzo Valley at Highlands Park Senior Center. Next clinic will be on May 20 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. (Previous clinic vaccinated more than 48 people.) Alternating with Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. Clinic is listed on My Turn.
- 12.0 Items for future meetings
  - 12.1 Transportation

13.0 Adjourn

13.1 Motion to adjourn: Liz Taylor-Selling; second: Michael Beaton

13.2 Motion passed; meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.

14.0 Next Meeting: September 2, 2021 2:00-4:00 pm

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