



MINUTES
NEVADA COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE

Notice is now given that a regular meeting of the Nevada County Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) has been called and will be held on **Wednesday September 8, 2021** from **10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.** through “Zoom”.

“The purpose of the EMCC is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors and the Sierra-Sacramento Valley Medical Services Agency on all matters relating to ambulance services, emergency medical care, and first aid practices in Nevada County”

- 1) Call to Order and Roll Call – Chairman
Clayton Thomas (Chair) – Penn Valley Fire District
Kim Blix – Nevada County Public Health
Dr. Kellerman – Nevada County Public Health
Branden Wilson – Unincorporated Non-Transporting BLS Provider
John Poland – EMS
Laura Brown – Truckee Fire
Bob Jakobs – Nevada County Sheriffs
Paul Cummings – Nevada County OES
Nevada City Fire
Dot Mitchell – Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital
Annette LeFrancois – Nevada County Health and Human Services Agency
- 2) Introductions- Review membership roster
The Committee Roster can be found on the Clerk of the Board Webpage: <https://mynevadacounty.com/3140/Committee-Board-and-Commission-Information>
Chief Brown can choose the alternate for Truckee Fire (a replacement for Rob Brock who retired). The replacement will need to complete the application which can be done online: <https://www.mynevadacounty.com/882/Committees-Commissions> . Also email annette.lefrancois@co.nevada.ca.us with replacement name and she will ensure the Clerk of the Board is aware of the change.
- 3) Approval of June 23, 2021 Minutes
There were no corrections to the minutes. Dr. Kellerman made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Branden Wilson.
- 4) Annual Report to County of Board of Supervisors
Clayton Thomas submitted the Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors. The presentation will be re-scheduled as Clayton was on a fire assignment and was not able to present the report at the August Board of Supervisors Meeting.
- 5) Displaced Populations
A decision was made to remove this agenda item from future agendas.

- 6) Tactical Active Shooter
There is funding from a grant for this training, but due to COVID, training has been delayed. A decision was made to keep this item on future agendas.
- 7) COVID-19 Update
Dr. Kellerman reported Nevada County's case rate has been the second worst County in the State now we are the 5th or 6th worst. Currently the case rate is approximately 54 cases per 100,000. On the Coronavirus dashboard graph, Western County cases are going up and Eastern County cases are mostly flat. Approximately 60% of Nevada County residents are fully vaccinated and 8-9% are partially vaccinated. Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital has 20 COVID patients with 4 in the ICU. Tahoe Forest Hospital has one COVID patient and possibly a few more as they had capacity to receive patients evacuated from Barton Hospital due to the Caldor Fire.

There is testing at Nevada Union High School today, the State is sending a team to help. There has been a group of anti-testing protestors who may show up at the school. Kids under 12 are still not eligible for the vaccine. There is a problem at the schools and the hospital with not enough staffing, especially when staff need to quarantine.

Clayton asks what public facing agencies are doing regarding the health orders/mandates and what they require of their employees. There are also OSHA standards. Clayton's agency is following the local health order and staff are wearing masks in public, on calls and office settings. Higgins is requiring masks in the office, in public and on emergency calls. Fire Departments and EMS responders separate from the hospital EMS System were not included in the State's order for vaccination and testing requirements. There was a comment that in Northern California, much of the fire response is volunteer and several agencies believe multiple staff would quit if vaccination is required. Clayton also expressed concern that his agency would lose staff if there was a vaccine mandate and there would be no one to fill the jobs.

Clayton asked about the difficulty for small businesses (Fire, EMS, Skilled Nursing Facilities etc.) to implement COVID testing for their employees. There is COVID funding that can pay for testing. Kim Blix reported that the local Skilled Nursing Facilities are well supported for testing. Guidance for Skilled Nursing Facilities require a 14-day quarantine for staff members if they test positive.

Paul Cummings mentioned sheltering for fires. For the River Fire the plan was to put people in hotels due to COVID, but there were not enough hotels for the large number of evacuees. Congregate sheltering was used instead. There was also congregate sheltering in Truckee for the Caldor Fire evacuees. So far, we have not heard of any COVID outbreaks because of the shelters. Hotels were found for a few evacuees who tested positive for COVID. The Red Cross provided support for both shelters, there were COVID screening questions and rapid testing was available for anyone who was symptomatic.

- 8) Old Business
None
- 9) New Business
None
- 10) Next Committee Meeting – December 8, 2021
- 11) Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.