

NEVADA DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH)  
**Committee on Emergency Medical Systems (EMS)**  
**(Advisory Committee to DPBH)**

**MINUTES**

**February 23, 2018**  
**2:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Temple Fletcher  
Jon Stevenson

Marc Pinkas  
William Botelho

Fergus Laughridge  
Darryl Cleveland

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tina Smith

John Hammond

Kevin Dick

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Linda Anderson  
Ed McDonald  
Judith Cordia  
Melanie Spencer

Heather Kerwin  
Brett Larkin  
William Webb  
Jenna Burton

Randi Hunewill  
Dennis Nolan  
Michael Bologlu

**1. Roll call and approval of November 17, 2017, minutes.**

**MOTION:** Marc Pinkas motioned to approve the November 17, 2017, minutes.

**SECOND:** Darryl Cleveland

**PASSED:** One abstained, Fergus Laughridge

**Public Comment** – Temple Fletched asked for a moment of silence for Garry John, an AMR employee who was killed in the line of duty of February 12, 2018. A memorial service was held for Garry on February 23, 2018, at 12:00 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

**2. Update on activities regarding Emergency Medical Systems (EMS) since the last meeting.**

*a. Update on the activities of the Nevada State EMS Program.*

Tina Smith provided an update on the Nevada State EMS Program. She introduced the new Bureau Chief, Karen Beckley. She explained that one of the goals for the Bureau is to create new policies and procedures by the end of 2018. The new policies and procedures will be posted to the EMS website once they are approved. They will be internal policies and procedures for the EMS program. Darryl Cleveland asked if there will be a Stakeholders' meeting and public comment on the policies and procedures before they are adopted. Tina wasn't sure but agreed to find out and let the committee know. Darryl shared his concerns with not having the policies and procedures reviewed by Stakeholders' prior to adoption that there may be changes that will affect providers. He mentioned the requirement to submit a renewal application ninety days prior to their expiration. He explained that is not a requirement by Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) or Nevada Revised Statute (NRS). He said the requirement was in previous policies and procedures. Tina explained that previously the program has processed renewals requiring them to be submitted ninety days prior, but renewals this year will not be. She said providers will not be

charged a late fee for renewal until after the expiration date of March 31, 2018. She clarified late renewals after received after March 31, 2018, will also need an assessment test. Tina explained the EMS program has thirty days to process an application and it is up to the provider to submit their application in a timely manner. All renewal applications will be processed in the order they are received. Tina clarified a Stakeholders' meeting or Public Workshop will be held to review the policies and procedures only if it is required by regulation. Darryl thanked Tina for the clarification. He stated he believes Tina and her staff have done an amazing job in the last couple of years. Tina thanked him for his compliment. Fergus Laughridge, former EMS program manager, explained that the internal policies and procedures for the EMS program are out of the scope of this committee. He clarified the committee's purview is specific to the NAC and NRS. Tina continued the program update by discussing the option to extend renewal dates for providers to the full twenty-four months allowed under the statutes. She explained this would start to stagger renewal dates throughout the year. This would lessen the workload created by the set expiration date of March 31 of each year. She also informed the committee that the EMS program is reviewing different options that will help improve the database used by the program and data collection. If the contract is approved, an announcement will be made at that time.

*b. Update on the activities of the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD).*

John Hammond gave an update on the activities of the SNHD. He explained that SNHD has recently been awarded a four-year continuing grant through The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to purchase Narcan and provide training to providers to help address the opioid crisis. He explained they have changed their protocols to allow Emergency Medication Technicians (EMT) to provide Narcan to patients, this will be reviewed at their next committee meeting. John informed the committee that they are also working to improve the protocols for stroke patients and ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) patients. They are creating a tool that will allow them to assess the current trauma system in real time. This will help them determine if a new system is required in Southern Nevada. He explained the current licensing system is antiquated. SNHD has been contracted with a software company called ImageTrend to develop a new system that will be ready for production in the next couple of months.

*c. Update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District.*

Heather Kerwin, on behalf of Brittany Dayton, provided an update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District. During the November 17, 2018, meeting Christina Conti informed the committee that the Washoe County Health District received a grant to help create training videos for responders across the state on how to respond to incidents that involve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Heather explained that Brittany is working on two training videos. The first training video will be a short five to ten-minute video that will be completed by the end of March. The second will be a half hour to an hour-long video to gain continuing education units (CEU) for a more formalized training. She explained the training videos will be beta-tested by REMSA and TMCC before being distributed to providers and law enforcement.

*d. Update on the activities of the local EMS Agency's.*

No updates.

*e. Update from EMS Committee Members.*

Jon Stevenson provided an update on the activities of Las Vegas Fire and Rescue. He informed the committee that they have been approved to put together training for responders, police, court personnel, educators, casino staff, etc. regarding Sex Trafficking Awareness. He said this is the

first training of its kind. The training will be held on the top floor of the world market center. March 5, 2018, to March 9, 2018, training will be for fire and first responders. March 10, 2018, the training will be offered to Clark County School District personnel. March 12, 2018, there will be a presentation by a survivor, Norma Bastidas, who is a survivor and the world record holder for the longest ever triathlon who also brought awareness to sex trafficking. There will be exhibits, training instruction, as well as, a presentation by another survivor. She will tell her story of being in police cars three or four times and an ambulance four or five times no one recognized that she was being trafficked. Jon welcomed members to attend the training and offered to share videos and pictures from the event if anyone is interested.

Temple announced that there will be free peer support training from the red cross. There will be two classes and there will also be a wellness and safety conference in March. If anyone is interested in these trainings, they can contact Temple for more information. She also informed the committee that a Balance Billing Committee has been formed and coordinated by Assemblyman Mike Sprinkle and James Oscarson. It involves mostly insurance, providers, hospitals, and physician groups. They will be reaching out the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) of those corporations to hold a Stakeholders' meeting. Once the committee has been established, there will be sub-committees formed that will focus on EMS.

**3. Presentation Regarding Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA) by Linda Anderson, Deputy Attorney General.**

Linda Anderson started by thanking everyone for their participation with this committee. Linda presented information regarding ODMAP and HIPAA. She explained the question always comes up if HIPAA applies to overdoses when trying to map them and collect data. HIPAA does apply to overdoses, however, there is a public health exception that can be used to share this information as it is being proposed for overdose mapping. Fergus asked who would be responsible for ODMAP, Linda clarified that will be the Division of Public and Behavioral Health. She explained that the ODMAP will help track overdoses in Nevada and the data collected can be used to support the need for more funding and education to fight the current opioid crisis. Linda told the committee if anyone has more questions they can contact her for more information.

**4. Presentation by Randi Hunewill from the Nevada Department of Education on the Nevada Hosa Event scheduled in March and their other secondary programs.**

Randi Hunewill presented on the Nevada Hosa Event scheduled in March and their other secondary programs. She explained these programs are provided to students in secondary schools. They award \$23 million dollars to secondary schools and community colleges that are state and federal funds. She explained heir EMT programs have state standards that were developed several years ago, the state standards were developed with the help of an EMS state representative, post-secondary institutions, local state agencies, and instructors from their secondary programs. The instructors must follow the same protocols as anyone else regarding certification and licensing through the EMS office. The EMT program in the secondary schools is a three-year program, the first year is Science I, the second year is Science II, and the third year is the EMT Program. She explained the handout she included in the meeting packet are the education standards they use that match the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) standards. One of the things that are beneficial to their secondary programs are building partnerships and recruiting people to participate in developing articulation agreements, such as the one they have developed between Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) who provides the training, and the education is articulated by Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC). These programs offer the education to the student at no cost but they will

receive the same amount of credits that a student would receive at the community college level. She explained each student must complete the three-year program, an assessment including clinicals during their last year once they turn eighteen, and an employability skills test. After completion, a Career and Technical Education Endorsement (CTE) will be added to their high school diploma, which will be an advantage to the student if they choose to continue their education by taking an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician course. The Leadership Conference and competitive events will take place in Reno on March 18, 2018, to March 21, 2018. The conference will be held at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks with competitions being held at the Nugget Casino Resort on Monday, March 19, 2018, and on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at TMCC and REMSA. Judges are needed for competitive events and you can sign up to participate at [www.nevadahosa.org/judge](http://www.nevadahosa.org/judge).

Randi also encouraged everyone to look at the Nevada HOSA website for further information at [www.nevadahosa.org](http://www.nevadahosa.org). Temple, Fergus, and Marc all commended and thanked Randi, the Nevada Department of Education, and Hosa for all their hard work and efforts with future EMS providers.

**5. Discuss and make a recommendation regarding continuing education units (CEUs) approved by neighboring states.**

Temple asked for this item to be added to the agenda so she could hear from committee members or participants on their experiences with CEUs approved by neighboring states. Darryl thinks it is important to have a reciprocity for CEUs from neighboring states, specifically, he mentioned California because there are a lot of providers that go between the states for different events, etc. He explained many of the CEUs from neighboring states are Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) approved, and all are state approved. Marc agreed with Darryl and clarified that it is already in NAC and NRS that any CAPCE approved CEUs will be granted automatic reciprocity. He is concerned that not all CEUs from California will meet the requirements for Nevada. Tina explained to receive CEUs, they must provide proof that the neighboring state has approved the education.

**MOTION:** Fergus Laughridge motioned to have the EMS program report back to the committee the process used to review and reciprocate CEUs from other states.

**SECOND:** Marc Pinkas

**PASSED:** UNANIMOUSLY

**6. Discuss and make a recommendation on selecting committee leadership of workgroups for Community Paramedicine, Air Ambulance, and Trauma Center Destination.**

Fergus offered to participate in the Community Paramedicine workgroup and will take the lead. Dr. Gomez will also be participating.

Temple offered to participate in the Air Ambulance workgroup and will take them lead. She said Bryan Pond, with California Shock Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR), Donna Miller, with Life Guard International, Joel Hochhalter, with Humboldt General Hospital (HGH), and Fergus Laughridge, also with HGH, have all volunteered to participate with this workgroup.

Marc and Dr. Gomez are co-leading Trauma Center Destination workgroup. Marc provided an update on the trauma destination task that he and Dr. Myron Gomez have been working on. Marc and Dr. Gomez reviewed the current trauma destination criteria from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and American College of Surgeons association with the current NAC and found the current NAC to be outdated. They would like to change the language during the next legislative session and have sent their request to the state for review.

Brett Larkin asked if non-committee members will be allowed to participate with the workgroups and the Marc informed him that was always the intention and they would be allowed to participate.

*Temple asked for a break at 3:24 p.m. The committee meeting resumed at 3:36 p.m.*

**7. Discuss and make a recommendation for committee priorities in 2018.**

- **Review of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 450B.153.**
- **Committee member attendance at meetings.**

Darryl would like to include attendance guidelines in the committee's membership requirements. He suggests a rule that missing two consecutive meetings without a valid reason your membership would be in question. He gave examples of valid excuses, such as medical, family emergencies, etc. Fergus disagreed, stating missing two meetings is too much since the committee only meets quarterly. He also mentioned each member should assign someone as their alternate so they can attend on their behalf if the committee member cannot. Fergus suggests if a member misses two meetings total, they should be removed from the committee. Brett asked what the qualification would need to be as an alternate. Fergus said the alternate would need to meet the same requirements that the main position holder meets.

**MOTION:** Darryl Cleveland motioned to include in the committee membership requirements that any member who misses two consecutive meetings in a one year period, they will be removed from the committee and replaced.

**SECOND:** Marc Pinkas

**PASSED:** UNANIMOUSLY

Fergus recommends the committee review agency protocols to ensure they meet National standards and report back to the EMS program. Darryl asked how they would be able to enforce a change if they didn't agree with the protocols set by the Medical Director for the agency. Fergus suggested asking the agency to apply for a variance in those cases.

**MOTION:** Mark motioned that the committee takes on the task of reviewing protocols to ascertain that they meet National standards and provide that information to the EMS program.

**SECOND:** Fergus Laughridge

**PASSED:** Five in favor, one opposed

Darryl recommends the committee review the NAC and NRS before the next meeting so they can discuss any changes that may need to be modified before the next legislative session begins. Tina request that any changes that are suggested also include a specific reason it needs to be changed. She asked that any suggestions be forwarded to her by email as soon as possible. Donna Miller suggested the committee work on a Public Safety Project. Temple suggested the committee work on hosting a Medical Director's conference. Chris Bosse spoke about radios and said she would research the topic further and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

**8. Public Comment – No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken.**

**9. Adjournment @ 4:37pm**