

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

MINUTES

July 26, 2018
11:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Myron Gomez, MD
Jon Stevenson II
Marc Pinkas

Donna Miller
Fergus Laughridge

Darryl Cleveland
Temple Fletcher

ABSENT

William Botelho

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Tina Smith

Christina Conti

IN ATTENDANCE

Brett Frey, MD
Joe Kamman
Donald Watson
Jenna Burton

Richard Fenlason
Rich Harvey
Louis Mendiola
John Fildes, MD

Stacey Ingram
Michael Bologlu
Jeff Sambrano

1. Roll call and approval of April 26, 2018, minutes.

MOTION: Marc Pinkas motioned to approve the April 26, 2018, minutes.

SECOND: Donna Miller

PASSED: Unanimously

Temple Fletcher asked for a moment of silence for fallen firefighter, Burt Miller.

Public Comment – None.

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 the update on the activities within the Nevada State EMS Program. She announced that a contract with ImageTrend has been finalized for use as a data management system for electronic patient care reporting data and certification/licensure data. The EMS program will begin working with ImageTrend next week to plan the implementation and training of the new

system. She also informed the committee that there will be a public workshop held on August 7, 2018. The notice and agenda for the public workshop has been posted to the EMS website. If anyone has problems with the website, they can contact our office for copies. The notice and agenda were also sent out on the EMS listserv.

Tina reminded the committee that at the last meeting members had asked the EMS program to accept out of state Continuing Education Units (CEU's). Tina informed the committee that out of state CEU's cannot be accepted because most western states do not require their CEU's to meet the national standard. She explained that she is still looking into accepting out of state CEU's from colleges because they may meet the requirement to meet the national standard.

b. Update on the activities of the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD).
There were no updates on the activities of SNHD.

c. Update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District.
Christina Conti provided the update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District. She informed the committee that the training videos they have been working on regarding intellectual disabilities will be sent out by them and the EMS program has sent them out on the EMS listserv. She also let the committee know that the trauma report they've been working on is now complete.

d. Update on the activities of the local EMS Agency's.
Fergus Laughridge started the update on the activities of the local EMS Agency's by apologizing for the increased radio traffic due to Night in the County. He explained that Humboldt General Hospital (HGH) Ambulance has been working the event and providing support to Mason Valley Fire Protection District and the Boys and Girls Club by providing a mobile unit. He commended Care Flight for adjusting their schedule to provide air care.

Fergus also informed the members that HGH Ambulance has been contracted to provide coverage for the annual Burning Man event this year. He explained they are seeking paramedics that are currently certified and licensed to participate. He also mentioned on Washoe County Health District training videos, stating he thought they were excellent.

e. Update from EMS Committee Members.
Darryl Cleveland provided an update about Truckee Meadows Community College's (TMCC) paramedic program. He stated they will be reducing enrollment by 25%. Darryl mentioned that Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) also offers paramedic program and HGH Ambulance will also help with internships. If a provider can't complete the paramedic internship they aren't able to complete the paramedic course. 50/50 paramedic internship has been discussed with the EMS program and could help increase completion of the internships and paramedic course. Darryl stated he believes any reduction to

paramedic training is a detriment to the State and he asked if anyone has any suggestions to improve internships to increase completion of paramedic courses to please contact him.

Jon Stevenson II provided an update on Las Vegas Fire and Rescue. He explained having a licensed social worker available for responses has had a lot of success, especially for police responses. The licensed social worker can suggest taking a patient directly to a mental health hospital if they feel that is the best option for the patient.

Jon explained that Las Vegas Mayor, Carolyn Goodman, has entered into a nation-wide contest to help reduce the number of veteran suicides. They are also working on a Community Paramedicine (CP) training program with Stephanie Woodard. They are hoping the program will also help cut down on opioid overdoses by following up with patients that were given Narcan. Temple commended Jon on all three programs that they are working on.

Myron Gomez, MD informed the committee that Renown will be offering the rural trauma team development course. He informed the committee that any local hospitals and EMS agencies that are interested in training can request it. Myron and Dr. Brett Frey, MD also informed the committee that all phone lines will be recorded. They are still working on updating the system, but they should all be recorded by next week.

John Fildes, MD stated they are working on identifying patients in their community that are under served and are reviewing the pertinent regulations that may need to be updated to accommodate the underserved populations. He explained they held a hearing to review the proposed changes and will be making amendments soon. He stated there could be as many as seven new trauma center applications in the next year.

3. Discuss and make recommendation on updates from workgroups for Community Paramedicine (CP), Air Ambulance, and Trauma Center Destination.

Fergus informed the members that the EMS program has drafted the regulations to allow hospitals to be more connected to CP. He explained that CP was only for Emergency Medical Services in the original regulations. Now with the proposed changes hospitals can apply for a CP endorsement to provide CP services.

Temple explained there haven't been any CP meetings and no items or concerns have been brought to their attention.

Marc Pinkas gave the committee an update on the trauma center workgroup and told them they have sent the EMS program their draft regulation changes. He said they will be discussed at the upcoming public workshop on August 7, 2018.

Public Comment – Darryl spoke about invitations he has received specific to global CP accreditation. He explained that he has been asked to provide training on CP. He asked the committees opinion on participating. Marc stated he was also interested in this and asked Darryl to forward the information to him, Darryl agreed. John expressed his interest in participating in the public workshop and shared his concerns with item four, specifically how it would affect SNHD. Tina explained there weren't any outside meeting help, and all would go through the EMS office according to Open Meeting Law (OML).

4. Discuss and make recommendations regarding filling the vacant Committee of EMS position. Presentation of the vacant position, each candidate will have an allotted three minutes to discuss why they should be nominated for the position.

Vacant Position

- **An employee of a privately-owned entity that provides emergency medical services.**

Temple informed the committee that the vacant committee position is for an employee of a privately-owned entity that provides emergency medical services. The State EMS program received four resumes for the vacancy. Resumes were received by Louis Mendiola, Paul Sierzenski, Steven Towne, and Samuel Scheller. Temple explained each candidate will have an allotted three minutes to introduce themselves and explain why they feel they should be chosen for the vacancy. She also expressed her concerns that some of the applicants may be a conflict of interest. She explained that the committee can't elect two people from the same company. Fergus doesn't see a conflict. He explained that Paul Sierzenski can't fill the vacancy because the physician position is occupied. He also explained that Steven Towne works for the county and also can't be chosen. That leaves two applicants left, Louis Mendiola and Samuel Scheller.

Louis Mendiola introduced himself to the committee. He informed the committee that he is the Senior New Ventures Administrator for REMSA where he has a very wide array of responsibilities. He explained that he works with the rural areas of Nevada including, Tonopah in Nye County. He is a certified and licensed Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) and understands high performance emergency care. He explained he also worked at HGH for twelve years. He explained he has worked on developing regulations and understands how to collaborate with others while developing them. He explained he would be able to help with developing policies and procedures as well and would look at all types of care include EMS, fire, etc. He feels he would be an advocate to EMS and could help develop one level of care. Fergus asked Louis if his employer is okay with him filling these committee position, Louis replied with yes.

Sam Scheller was not present to introduce himself to the committee.

Marc and Donna Miller both shared their concerns again about there being a conflict of interest. Fergus explained that the Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) was written in 1998 and the intent was to ensure Northern Nevada would have a voice too. Marc insisted that whoever is chosen must have an interest in the state as a whole. Fergus also mention that if the conflict of interest

concern is because of Temple being employed by Care Flight and Louis being employed by REMSA then there is no conflict because Care Flight and REMSA are two separate entities. Darryl asked for clarification from Temple and Louis on which entity is on their paychecks. Temple explained that she is an employee with Regional Ambulance Service Incorporated (RASI). Louis explained he is an employee of REMSA. Darryl agreed they are separate entities and asked the committee to entertain a vote.

MOTION: Darryl Cleveland motioned to nominate Louis Mendiola to the vacant EMS committee member position of an employee of a privately-owned entity that provides emergency medical services.

SECOND: Fergus Laughridge

PASSED: Unanimously

5. Discuss and make recommendation on using Google Docs for the EMS Advisory Committee for reviewing agency protocols.

Tina explained this item is on the agenda today because a decision was not made at the last meeting because committee members needed to confirm they would be able to use Google Docs as the file sharing platform for reviewing protocols. Temple asked the committee members if they are able to use Google Docs. Donna, Dr. Gomez, Fergus, Darryl, and Temple all stated yes. Marc and Jon stated they are not able to use Google Docs at their agency. Jon did mention he would be able to use a personal computer to access Google Docs. Darryl asked why the committee is reviewing protocols. He said the NRS talks about statewide protocols but there are no statewide protocols, so he doesn't see how this is in the committee's purview. Marc clarified that the committee agreed to take on this task voluntarily to assist the State and to possibly help develop statewide protocols. Temple agreed, stating the committee's review will not supersede the State and the committee will not be able to make changes to the protocols. She explained the committee will be reviewing the protocols to ensure they are meeting the minimum requirements.

MOTION: Fergus Laughridge motioned to use Google Docs to share protocols for the committee's review.

SECOND: Donna Miller

PASSED: 1 abstained, Darryl Cleveland.

6. Discuss and make recommendation on adopting "Washoe County Regional EMS Protocols" and "Clark County EMS System Emergency Medical Care Protocols" for State wide use.

Temple explained to the committee that the "Washoe County Regional EMS Protocols" are proprietary and cannot be used. Fergus said that is unfortunate because the protocols are great and would benefit the rural areas where an agency may struggle to find a medical director. He explained HGH used "Clark County EMS System Emergency Medical Care Protocols" to help develop wild fire protocols and he wishes the Washoe County Protocols were available to assist other agencies when needed.

Temple suggested reviewing the previous State protocols. Marc stated he believes not having State protocols hinders the State. He said protocols can't be a one size fits all thing and that protocols may need to be adjusted by individual agencies. He suggested creating a sub-committee to help create EMS guidelines that can be used by agencies that don't have efficient protocols. Temple informed the committee that California has multiple agencies with protocols that are public, and she wished it was like that in Nevada as well. Darryl asked about medical liability for the medical director who signed off and if the State Medical Director would be signing off on the protocols. Marc explained that for an agency to adopt and use statewide protocols, their medical director would have to sign off on them and that would make the agency responsible for any liabilities.

MOTION: Marc Pinkas motioned to forma work group lead by one committee member to research and create minimum guidelines for protocols for statewide use.

SECOND: Fergus Laughridge

PASSED: Unanimously

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

No public comment.

- 8. Adjournment at 12:52 pm.**