

**NEVADA DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Committee**

MINUTES

January 27, 2021

Carson City–2:00PM

(Teleconference only)

Members In Attendance

Dr. Dale Carrison
Bodie Golla
James Wohlers
Michael Bologlu

Carl Bottorf
Markus Dorsey-Hirt
Bobbie Sullivan

Sean Burke
Steven Towne
Dr. Douglas Fraser

Absent

None

In Attendance

Pierron Tackes
Melanie Spencer
Brian Hoehne
Jeremy Sonenschein
Richard Fenlason
Marrisa Giampaoli
Linda Anderson
Joe Kammann

Andrea Esp
Chris Mann
Adam Heinz
William Hooker
Bonnie Holley
Dennis Nolan
Darlene Amarie-Hahn
Jenna Burton

Damon Schilling
Karen Beckley
Ryan McIntosh
Mason Burkhart
Julie Hunter
Trent Schroetlin
Marc Pinkas
Stephanie Mead

1. Roll call.

There was a quorum.

2. Public Comment.

No public comment.

3. For Possible Action: Approval of minutes from the meeting of the EMS Advisory Committee on October 21, 2020.

MOTION: Dr. Dale Carrison motioned to approve the minutes from October 21, 2020.

SECOND: Markus Dorsey-Hirt

PASSED: Unanimously

4. Informational Only: Update on activities within the state regarding EMS.

a. Update on the activities of the State Emergency Medical Systems (EMS) Program. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager

Bobbie informed the committee that there were two open positions, one EMS Representative and a Management Analyst, at the time of the last committee meeting and as of now there has been another separation and another EMS Representative is now vacant. The EMS Representative positions have been posted on the Nevada Employee Action & Timekeeping System (NEATS) website, so if anyone is interested in applying for those positions, they can do so by creating an account on NEATS and applying there. Bobbie said there are some issues surrounding Bianax testing and glucometers. She said several agencies have applied for and received a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waiver and have been working with the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) in partnership with the EMS office who has developed the exempt CLIA license certificate. She said there are several agencies who are poised to begin testing. She said if an agency applies for the exempt CLIA waiver to do the testing then the state will follow the process with inspections and issue the certificate. A formal notification will be sent out once complete. She said for several years' glucometer testing and the exempt licenses feel to HCQC and this brings it under the EMS office so there aren't multiple departments doing inspections. She said once that notification is done, they will send it out on the listserv and also posted to the website. She said there are some tools on the EMS website that help with formulating a policy on testing and addressing issues such as tracking logs for controls, personnel training and a useful checklist. She said they are part way through the renewal cycle for providers that expire March 31, 2021, so with everything that's going on with COVID-19 and training she asked everyone to remind their staff to get their applications submitted as early as possible. She said if anyone is having any issues with the application process they can reach out to any of the staff and if that staff member is unable to resolve the issue then they can move forward to finding someone who can or reach out to ImageTrend if necessary. She said at the last meeting she mentioned that they have added Certified Emergency Vehicle Operator (CEVO) and Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) back into the applications and there was one other component that was put back into the certification applications and that was for the Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) training. She said that has been in place for several years, but it had fallen off of the applications. She said most people are producing that training with little time frame to accomplish and for those who are struggling with locating the training or need a little bit more time they are working with people to get that taken care of. Dr. Dale Carrison said some people were surprised by the vehicle training, so he asked how they do this for the people who are now not in compliance. He asked is there any leeway for those people, especially since this is also a budgetary thing. Bobbie said yes, they have been working with everyone and providing the resources to locate the training. She said this is not something that is preventing any credentialing. She

said most agencies already have the resource they just weren't aware of it. She said for the departments that are a part of the pull pack system they can reach out to them to see if they have the training resources such as videos and student workbooks that have the scantrons in them. She said there are several resources that can be offered to the agencies, so it's not preventing anything they are just working with everyone to get it accomplished. Dr. Carrison thanked her for the explanation. Markus Dorsey-Hirt told Bobbie they had a provider who applied for the critical care paramedic (CCP) endorsement that submitted his Flight paramedic Certification (FP-C) certificate which is similar to CCP and has the flight component added but he was denied because FP-C was not on the list so he asked if there is any way to move this forward. Bobbie asked Markus to send her an email with the providers name so she can look up the file so she can see what notes are in there so she can address that.

- b. Update on the activities of the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Committee Members. – Michael Bologlu, EMSC Program Manager**
Michael Bologlu provided the update on the activities of the EMSC Committee. He said at the beginning of January 2021 they have launched the pediatric preparedness survey and has been sent to every EMS agency within the state of Nevada and they are requesting the service director or EMS coordinators complete the survey. He said the survey takes about five minutes to complete and asks basic and generic questions about pediatric training, policies and skills. He said the survey can be completed at emscsurvey.org. He said they are also developing and implementing pre-hospital newborn delivery training and are looking to provide that training via webinar. He said the training would be split into two sections, one would be written knowledge based and the other would be skills testing. He said they are trying to encompass all EMS levels from Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) to Paramedic. Dr. Carrison asked Michael to talk about the equipment that is required for that training. Michael said a laryngeal mask airway, such as the i-gel would be required. He said Sunrise Hospital is pushing for the i-gel. He said the training would be for that type of equipment for a newborn such as neonatal patients.
- c. Update on the activities of the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD).**
There were no updates. Dr. Carrison said he is disappointed there was no one to provide an update on the activities of the SNHD because he thinks they could have some valuable input for the committee. Steven Towne agreed.
- d. Update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District (WCHD).**
Julie Hunter filled in for Andrea Esp and told the committee that she is the new Emergency Medical Services coordinator for WCHD. She explained to the committee that they have been busy with COVID-19, helping with response, disease investigation, and testing. Staff has also continued working on the

Strategic Plan, updating the Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) and its annexes and continuing to produce data reports.

e. Update on the activities of the local EMS agencies.

Dennis Nolan provided an update on the activities of the Reno Fire Department. He explained their training has been put on hold while they are dealing with their COVID-19 issues. He said for their personal protective equipment (PPE) inventory they have a few months' worth of gloves and N-95 masks. He said the health department is going to provide some PPE that they have received through grants in the next couple of days. Markus provided an update on the activities of Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) and CareFlight. He said the vaccination program is ongoing. Their staff have been receiving the vaccinations and they are hoping to create their own herd immunity within their organization. He said they have already seen a reduction in the number of employees who are positive. He said it used to be about ten employees a week and now they are down to about three or four. He said they have already seen some effects from the first vaccine, and it has provided some protection for employees. He said their call volume has been very high. Joe Kammann provided an update on Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD). He said he wanted to echo what has been said saying they are knee deep in COVID-19 vaccinations and that they have about 87% of their staff receiving the vaccination and second doses have been completed. He said they have given over 1,000 individuals injections. Carl Bottorf said at the hospital that he works for at the Airforce during construction the oxygen suffered and all of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) patients had to be moved to different locations so he wanted to say thank you and give kudos to Medic West and American Medical Response (AMR) who were able to move seven critical care transports (CCT). He said this accomplishment is a testament to the care provided here in Nevada. Steven provided an update on Banner Churchill and informed the committee that they have seen record call volumes on everything COVID-19 related and there has been an uptick in trauma and medical calls. He said staff is slowing getting their vaccines and they are weathering the storm of the reactions to the second dose.

5. For Possible Action: Discuss and plan Open Meeting Law training for members. – Margot Chappel, Deputy Administrator, or Karen Beckley, Bureau Chief

Margot Chappel said she asked to have these two items added to the agenda and she thanked Steven for allowing them to be included. She said Pierron Tackes, Deputy Attorney General (DAG) for the regulatory and planning section and other sections within the Department of Health and Human Services. She said what had been discussed with Steven was to have an Open Meeting Law (OML) training to clarify the function and purpose of this committee and how it relates with the EMS program. She wanted to include this item as an action item to find out if the committee would like to include this training during this meeting or if they would like it to be separate and also to find out

who in the committee would like to attend the training. Dr. Carrison said it is very important that everyone have a clear understanding of the OMLs because he knows there is significant confusion out there about people talking and what you can talk about. He said he thinks it would be valuable time spent for all the members that are voting members on the committee to attend. Steven agreed with Dr. Carrison and that he appreciates the opportunity to have this type of training. He said any committee like this should have OML education and he looks forward to adding this in the future. Margot asked if they would like to poll the members as to whether they would like to add the training to a regular meeting or a separate meeting. Margot asked Pierron if she could talk about the options on how the training could happen. Pierron said she is relatively new to the Attorney Generals (AG) office, but not new to OML. She said all the members are subject to the OML provisions. They are also subject to the ethics and government provisions. She said she can provide an overview of those during the training. She said for scheduling purposes, it is nice to work the training into a regular meeting and is something that she suggests because it can avoid any violations of the OML. She said any time a quorum of members discuss something that they have authority over as a public body, there is a risk of OML violation, so if they can limit those meetings of a quorum to times where they are publicly noticed, that is something that she encourages. She said another thing she can do is put together a training that could be sent out to everyone to do on their own time. She said if anyone has any questions prior to and after the training they can reach out to her for more information. Steven thanked Pierron for being willing to work with the committee to provide training on the OML and the ethic and government provisions and he looks forward to working this into one of the regular meetings moving forward. Markus said he thinks it would be a good idea to offer both a class, where they can ask questions, as well as something available for individuals that way they don't have to hold a class every time there are new members. Dr. Carrison said he thinks it would help a lot and would be great if they could get a handout before the meeting. Margot said this has been great input and thanked the committee members. James Wohlers said he likes the idea of that and a hybrid training where they could go over the OML and then they could ask and have answered any questions they may have. Steven thank Margot and Pierron and said he is looking forward to the upcoming education.

6. Informational only: Discuss background and education of Chief Medical Officer. Margot Chappel, Deputy Administrator, or Karen Beckley, Bureau Chief

Margot explained she had asked for this item to be included on the agenda because someone had made a comment at the last meeting that stuck with her because it is very important to her how the state system is perceived. She said the comment made was about the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Ihsan Azzam, not being a clinical physician. She said that is true and explained he was a practicing physician in the country of Romania before he came here. Once he came to the United States, he earned a graduate certificate in epidemiology biostatistics and demography from the University of Seattle School of

Public Health and Community Medicine, he also earned a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) chronic disease and epidemiology certificate from Penn State College of Medicine, through University of Reno (UNR) he earned a Master's in Public Health and he earned a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree which he earned in 2010. She explained he has multiple achievements to his name. She said she is very comfortable and confident having him lead this process. She said he led the process during H1N1, and she believes that his knowledge and expertise is part of what has resulted in Nevada having a lower death rate in our skilled nursing facilities. She said he has been a tremendous help. She said across the Nation, 40% of the deaths that have occurred due to COVID-19 have occurred in skilled nursing facilities and long-term care facilities and she believes that because of Dr. Azzam's leadership the results in Nevada are only 17.3% of deaths have occurred over all in long-term care facilities. She said he wanted to make sure that everyone knows his background and understand why he's one of the best people they could ask for to lead in this effort. Dr. Carrison said he appreciates the update and that he was aware of all of his qualifications and said he was the one that made that comment on behalf of many physicians that were frustrated and concerned that their leader can't practice medicine in the State of Nevada. He thinks it's a valid concern even though he is qualified, has many academic appointments, and has taken many classes. He said he appreciates hearing Margot say that she has confidence in him because that's good because they haven't heard anything about him from people that have worked with him. He explained this is not isolated concern from one physician, it had been brought to him by many concerned physicians and colleagues that share similar concerns so that is why he brought it up and he said he appreciates the update on Dr. Azzam. Margot said this was just an informational item so there is no action on it, and this concluded her presentation on it. Steven said there was a lot of information presented that he wasn't aware of and thanked her for her presentation.

7. For Possible Action: Discuss and make recommendation on the following committee member positions:

- **One member who is an employee of a fire-fighting agency at which some of the firemen are employed and some serve as volunteers; Advisory Committee term from January 30, 2021 – January 29, 2023.**

Adam Heinz thanked the committee for allowing him to present why he feels he would be a good addition to the committee. He explained that he is currently the Executive Director of Integrated Health Services at REMSA. He said the face of EMS is changing and that was catalyzed by the unprecedented pandemic and the team at REMSA, along with many others across the nation, were put in a position where they had to find different ways to be able to provide high quality, compassionate and clinically excellent care and he has been very fortunate to lead the group of people that are doing that. He said the thirty-year-old model of sending an ambulance across town to every single person that calls is dangerous and doesn't change the outcomes. He said he is hopeful that his experience would be a benefit to the committee. He said he has been employee with REMSA for

almost twenty years. He graduated from the University of Nevada with an undergraduate degree in psychology. He said he has worked with many of the committee members and with members of other boards. He said he recently graduated with his master's in business administration focusing on healthcare administration. He is currently a practicing paramedic and still loves to see patients and he thinks that is exactly what provides him a relevant perspective that brings forward an opportunity to speak for providers that are providing care in the State of Nevada. He said he has also been a dispatcher. He has worked in education and currently oversees the center for pre-hospital emergency education where their talented educators are working every day to provide the next generation of EMS people. He said one person every twenty-nine minutes is trained by REMSA in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in the community and he is very proud of that. In addition to that, he has had the opportunity to sit on many national committees and he is currently the vice-chair for the Professional Standards of the American Ambulance Association and he participates and is a member of the National Association of EMS Physicians Standards and Practices committee and their committee of Community Paramedicine. He said he has worked with many different people at the local level or co-response, in addition to the legislative level and even nationally. He said he is appreciative of this opportunity and is hopeful that his background and commitment to EMS and quality of care as well as working for REMSA for so long would bring a perspective that you would find valuable.

Bonnie Holley introduced herself and informed the committee that she is the Health Services Administrator at the Nevada Southern Detention Facility. She said they have a different venue of patients there, but they do work well with Pahrump Valley Fire and EMS. She said they do their own internal emergency calls as well. She said her experience is that she has been an EMT since 1979. She has been an Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) instructor, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) instructor, CPR instructor and has a master's in nursing administration, a minor in law enforcement and criminal justice. She was a police officer for twenty years. She said this is all new to her, but she would love to be a part of the team and would like the opportunity to be a part of it if at all possible. She said she has been impressed just from what she has heard so far. She thanked the committee and chair for allowing her to present why she thinks should be an asset to the board.

Brandon Miles was not present at the meeting.

Charles Tabano was not present at the meeting.

Andrew Hooker thanked the committee for the opportunity to be there. He said he is very excited to be here in Nevada; he is new to the area. He said he is new to

the area and just accepted the Deputy Chief of Administration position at Humboldt General Hospital (HGH). He said he has been seated for about two months and hit the ground running with an amazing organization. He said his background comes mostly from Tennessee where he had spent the last twenty years and was a part of a lot of committees and also worked with the state there to move Tennessee forward in education and operations. He has a master's Degree in EMS Management and Public Administration. He said he has spent twenty years in education and operations, about half in each. He said he is excited to take his experiences in state government in Tennessee to assist this board and others in the area to be able to move Nevada forward. He said he looks forward to meeting all of the committee members once in-person meeting resume so he can shake their hands and get to know them better and thanked them again for the opportunity.

Gina Schuster was not present at the meeting.

Mason Burkhart introduced himself and told the committee that he is currently employed at REMSA as the operations supervisor. He said he started in EMS working as an EMT with Lander County EMS approximately seven and a half years ago. He later moved to Reno where he started working for REMSA as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT), training officer, operations supervisor and tactical paramedic. He is also involved with the Nevada Army National Guard where he is a critical care flight paramedic and has also flown with REACH Air Medical at the Nevada Ely and Reno bases. He has a diverse amount of EMS experience. He said he is honored and humbled to be considered for this position and he thinks he can bring a perspective from the lowest level all the way to the top and provide an insight to his current position as an operations supervisor and running those calls that are constantly changing and the decisions that they can make. He thanked the committee for their consideration of allowing him to be appointed to this position.

Sam Scheller was not present at the meeting.

Steven Towne explained that he is the current chair for the advisory committee and has been on the board for two years now. He said he is beginning his thirty-third year in public safety. He said he started as a junior volunteer firefighter and worked his way up the ranks of the fire department to assistant fire chief with a medium sized county fire department in South Georgia. He got into EMS leadership and management with his first position at a rural hospital in South Georgia as an EMS Chief and also served as an Associate Administrator for the hospital for seven years. He moved to Nevada in 2009 and accepted the position with Banner Churchill and has been the EMS Chief there two different terms for the last six and a half years and is Chief over a three-ambulance EMS agency. He

is also the Emergency Management Coordinator and serve as the administrator on-call for the hospital. He believes at Banner Churchill they have moved EMS forward significantly by creating a culture of advanced EMS care for their community by working with other leaders in the area to collaborate to bring forward the critical care program, advances in EMS as far as Rapid Sequence Intubation (RFI), critical care protocols and education. He said they team with numerous colleges, including Truckee Meadows, Western Nevada College and Great Basin to provide educational opportunities for paramedic and EMT students. He said they are also moving forward with the next generation of EMS students locally and are developing a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) program with both of our education programs in Churchill County. He said a lot of their education is in house and they have a great educator. He said they do a lot of inter-facility high acuity ground transports, which is something that wasn't really heard of over the last ten years. He thinks over his last tenure there has been a lot of momentum moving forward with a lot of collaboration with the State office of EMS and he said that is what this advisory committee should be doing to help them be that beacon for the rest of the country and at the very least be a beacon for EMS providers in this state.

Bodie asked Steve if this item was up for a motion now. Steve said yes, he was just about to open it up for a vote. Bodie made a motion to reseal Steve. Dr. Carrison seconded the motion. He also said the gentlemen with REMSA are highly qualified, he had no doubt about that, his concern was that the committee already has a representative from REMSA and trying to keep the diversity of the committee so they don't have one agency with several on the committee and the other concern he has had since he's been involved with this committee is the lack on continuity and he thinks Steve brings that continuity because he has been an excellent chair even with these very difficult times with COVID-19 and these meetings. Markus said he agrees with Dr. Carrison in regard to continuity but clarified technically CareFlight and his position in that organization is actually on a different certificate with the state so the applicants from REMSA still meet the requirements for this position. Steve agree that the candidates are highly qualified. He asked if there was any other discussion since there was a motion and a second from the board. Damon Schilling told the committee he had some technical difficulties and asked if he could still present. Steve asked if the members were willing to allow Mr. Schilling his three minutes to present. The committee member agreed.

Damon Schilling thanked the committee for the opportunity to apply for this position. He informed the board that he is a paramedic and is also the Government Community Affairs Manager for American Medical Response, Inc. (AMR) in the Southern Nevada area. EMS for him has become a passion for him over the years and he appreciates being able to be behind every decision that is made when and

ambulance responds to the citizens of Southern Nevada to have an influence in each patient contact that occurs. He said over the years he has been able to work with many physicians and care providers. In Southern Nevada he was one of the founders of the Nevada Ambulance Association and he is currently the board of directors of that association. He said as the Governor's Affairs Manager in Southern Nevada where he watches a lot of the local ordinances and give a lot of influence to city council members and other elected officials. He would also watch any state legislation, so he feels he is pretty up and up on what's happening in the State of Nevada when it comes to EMS in relation to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) or any local ordinances. He thinks being a part of this organization would be great since he is still a care provider and still a person of influence there in Southern Nevada to be able to navigate the industry to really help people understand what EMS is all about. He said he thinks there seems to be an understanding with EMS that they are a you-call-we-haul industry and they don't really understand a lot of the education and the principles that they stand for or a lot of the pioneering that has occurred over the last thirty years to really change the industry. He thinks he can help bridge that gap and propel the state to be where it needs to be and where they deserve to be as an industry. He thanked the committee again for his time and the opportunity. Steve thanked him and mentioned there is a motion and a second on the floor and asked if there were any other motions.

Carl said he found it hard to define the definition of a privately owned entity and he had some questions. He said for example are Humboldt General Hospital, REMSA and Banner Churchill Hospital privately owned entity's or is it a non-for-profit. He said he isn't trying to qualify or critique any of the candidates since they are all very well qualified, but it is a bit confusing trying to qualify what is a privately owned entity. Markus asked if Margot was still on the line. Margot asked him to repeat the question. Carl said his question was how you define a privately owned entity that provides emergency medical services, is that a private ambulance service, a hospital based ambulance service or hospitals that are non-profit. He said his question is based on making sure the committee member elected is qualified for the position based on the requirements. Margot said generally speaking private entities are privately owned by an individual or by a corporation that is on a stock market or has a couple of beneficiaries of any extra income that the agency earns. Non-profit or public run like non-profit hospitals or a government run, or funded agency would not be private. She asked if Pierron was still on the line because she could define a privately owned entity better than she could. Pierron did not reply. Markus said that the committee was not in compliance historically because of members hired by a 501(c) organization holding this position before. Margot suggested suspending voting on this particular position until they can get an accurate answer and all other positions, unless there are any questions on them, should be able to be voted on. Steve said

from a historical perspective this was discussed two years ago prior to him coming in where they discussed and qualified a privately owned entity was any entity that was not a governmentally owned or government funded entity. Markus said for example, Adam Heinz or other are technically employed by REMSA are not a non-for profit and REMSA is a non-for profit so it's a little foggy. Margot said her suggestion to the committee is to submit this question for a legal review and they will get back to the committee and appoint that member as quickly as possible during the next meeting. Dr. Carrison said the only problem he sees with that is they only meet four times a year so that put the position in limbo because Steve would be off the committee if not elected that day and that makes it difficult for the continuity of the committee so perhaps we can have a legal review and then have a teleconference vote or something similar. Margot said her suggestion was to continue on with reviewing them unless they were all done and let her quickly get legal advice. She asked Jenna to send her Steve's resume so she could forward it to the DAG for legal advice. Markus said he thinks Steve qualifies because Banner Churchill is a privately owned entity and asked Steve if they are a 501 (c) entity. Steve said they are a non-profit entity, but they are owned by Banner Health which is out of Phoenix Arizona. He said when that discussion came about in 2019 before he was voted in there was another candidate that was in a third service type of situation and they defined then what a privately owned entity was and it didn't have anything to do with if they were a 501 (c) because it was still owned by the board of directors for Banner Health. Margot said that makes sense and she looked up Banner Health and they are a '.com' not a '.org' so that would indicate they are an organization and not a non-profit agency. She said the other option is that as they move forward into compliance of open meeting law by asking if the committee was comfortable with moving forward with the vote now or do they want to get legal advice first. Dr. Carrison said there was a legal opinion two years ago and Steve was found to be qualified and that Banner Churchill Hospital is a privately owned entity it would be appropriate to move forward. Margot agreed with that assessment and said the committee could vote now and they can double check and get them legal advice after the fact that could take place after Steve's term in over unless there is some egregious distinction there. Pierron said if the committee wants to take a vote on this now she will look into it and she can give something to the committee prior to the end so if there is something that needs to be correctly they can do that prior to the end of adjournment. Margot thank her. Dr. Carrison said at that junction he called for the question. Steve said he yielded to the committee and that there is a motion on the floor and a second pending and that he left it to the committee to submit any other candidates or moving forward with the motion presented. James suggested moving forward with the motion that was put out. Sean Burke agreed as well as Carl and thanked everyone for entertaining the discussion for clarity. Markus also agreed. Steve said there was a consensus to move forward and asked if all were in favor for the candidate Steve for the position, there were none opposed. Steve

thanked the committee and that he felt humbled and looks forward to participating with the committee for another two years.

MOTION: Steve Towne motioned to reseal Bodie Golla for the member who is an employee of a fire-fighting agency at which some of the firemen are employed and some serve as volunteers; Advisory Committee term from January 30, 2021 – January 29, 2023.

SECOND: Dr. Dale Carrison

PASSED: Unanimously

• One member who is an employee of a privately-owned entity that provides emergency medical services; Advisory Committee term is from January 30, 2021 – January 29, 2023.

Bodie Golla said he is wishing to retain his seat. He said there have been a few things that he has been working on that he would like to be able to see go through, but he needs another two years to really get some movement. He would appreciate a reappointment for the position he holds. Steve informed Bodie he still had another two minutes and asked if he would like to yield them. Bodie said he wanted to yield.

Brian Hoehne introduced himself and told the committee he currently works as a firefighter for the Elko County Fire Department. He started his firefighting and EMS career back in 2005 by working up through the volunteer ranks and going through the EMS systems. He is native to Northern Nevada. He originally worked for the Nevada Division of Forestry when they were there in the county out of Spring Creek. Then he worked Elko County Ambulance part time. He has good experience in the transport world, from the firefighter side of it he responded to medical calls and seeing the different changes on certification requirements, so he has good insight there. When the county took over the fire district in 2015, he was selected as a captain to oversee about 1/3 of the county. He oversaw and directly supervised five volunteer department and was a liaison to the city of Elko and the city of Carlin. He had to build all the budgets, start departments from scratch and add new policies and procedures. He has a good background with the administrative role and how the changes in protocols nationwide effect smaller departments. He thinks he could give a pretty unique perspective of how national standards and how state standards apply especially for the station he works in. He said there is one station that run about 3000 calls a year so any changes to the volunteer and the paid of a fire service that's mixed into a transport world they can have big effects on them especially when they are moving into the community paramedicine world, so he could have a lot of good in sight when it comes to those types of things.

Marrisa Giampaoli is a firefighter out in Gerlach and she started as a volunteer for Truck Meadows. She said for her educational background she has a Master's Degree in International Agriculture with focus in outreach and extension in education and she thinks education is a huge part of the EMS world and she is currently back in school for another bachelor's degree. She said she is a glutton for punishment in fire administration and investigation. She is newer to the fire service so she doesn't have years of experience but she believes in firmly getting in there and being active in being able to facilitate changes for the best possible outcome not only for providers but making sure they get the education and training that they all need but for the people they serve. From the fire side of things, she is a Certified Fire Inspector and she has her National Fire Plan (NFP) inspector one. She said she would love to do anything she can to help facilitate the improvements of the EMS care statewide.

Ryan McIntosh greeted the committee and congratulated Steve on his re-election. He said this is his first time applying for a position on the board. He has been functioning as the Assistant Fire Chief for Central Lyon County for the past eighteen months and had an eighteen-year history of providing EMS care in State of Nevada, mostly in the Northern Nevada region. In his newest role he started to work in the administrative side managing an Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport that is high volume and long transport time organization. His perspectives coming from that organization would be valuable on the committee. He is working to finish a degree in emergency management which has given him a different perspective on a lot of things such as public health, EMS and fire services. He said he would like to be considered an asset to the State EMS program and the advisory committee.

James Morgan was not present at the meeting.

Steve asked the committee for a motion. Dr. Carrison said he is absolutely thrilled with the qualifications of the people who are applying for this committee and that it is very encouraging, they are some tremendously qualified applicants and not everyone can be elected but it certainly would be beneficial to the committee if they could still attend in the audience because it is extremely important to have their input even if they don't get elected. He is really interested in the continuity and based on that he made a motion to re-elect Bodie to the position. Steve asked if all were in favor and hearing yes, he congratulated Bodie. Bodie thanked Steve. Steve said for the continuity of the board he agrees with Dr. Carrison and it is important for the next term.

MOTION: Dr. Dale Carrison motioned to appoint Steve Towne as the member who is an employee of a privately-owned entity that provides emergency medical services; Advisory Committee term is from January 30, 2021 – January 29, 2023.

SECOND: Markus Dorsey-Hirt

PASSED: Unanimously

- **One member who is an employee of or volunteer with a medical facility located in a rural area that provides emergency medical services; June 20, 2020.**

Andrew Hooker had applied for the position of a privately owned entity and already presented to the committee but asked if anyone had any questions for him. They did not. Steve asked if there were any other applicants. Jenna informed him that Andrew was the only applicant for this position. Dr. Carrison said being that he is the only applicant he would like to make a motion to appoint Andrew to the position.

MOTION: Dr. Dale Carrison motioned to appoint Andrew Hooker to be the member who is an employee of or volunteer with a medical facility located in a rural area that provides emergency medical services; June 20, 2020.

SECOND: Bodie Golla

PASSED: Unanimously

- **An employee of an urban fire-fighting agency. January 12, 2021 – January 30, 2023.**

Jonathon Pedrini was not present at the meeting.

Dennis Nolan told the committee that he would like to submit his application for this position. He said with all the juggling of things with COVID-19 he missed the announcement for the opening. He said he had submitted his resume two years ago but another candidate from southern Nevada was selected and he would like to submit now again for this position. Steve said Dennis has been a well-attended urban representative, but he is going to defer this to Bobbie initially with the state to see if they are allowed to accept this submission at this time. Bobbie said ruling a contrary from our legal console there was no defined time frame or deadline for submission for those positions. Steve said he agrees and would like to accept the application of Chief Nolan and he made a motion to appoint him to this position. Markus said Dennis didn't get a chance to introduce himself and share some of his background with everyone and that it would be great if he could. Steve apologized and said he had gotten a little ahead of himself and told Dennis he had three minutes to introduce himself. Dennis thanked the committee again for the opportunity to apply for the position and apologized for not submitting his resume earlier and if he had not had some may other priority things going on he would have submitted a formal resume like he had two years ago. He is the EMS Division Chief for the Reno Fire Department and has been in that role for the last five years. He has a Bachelor's in Emergency Medical Services Administration and a Baster's in Emergency Medical Services Management. Prior to working

with the Reno Fire Department, he worked in southern Nevada in the EMS industry for a number of years, primarily in the private sector side but also as a member of the rural division of the Clark County Fire Department. He has been a paramedic for thirty years and an educator at all levels of EMS including ACLS, PALS and ITLS and he maintained those certifications over that same period of time. He has been involved in emergency medical services at the regulatory level and at the statutory level and has worked with people from both sides of the state. He understands EMS processes in both Northern Nevada and Southern Nevada, and he can bring that background and experience to the committee and he would be honored to serve with them. Steve asked if there were any questions for Dennis. Bodie said he didn't have a question but wanted to make a comment that he thinks Dennis Nolan would be an awesome addition to the committee. Steve agreed and referred back to his previous motion and asked if there was a second, Markus seconded the motion. Steve asked if all were in favor and members said yes.

MOTION: Steve Towne motioned to appoint Dennis Nolan to be employee of an urban fire-fighting agency. January 12, 2021 – January 30, 2023.

SECOND: Markus Dorsey-Hirt

PASSED: Unanimously

Steve asked the committee if they would like to take a ten-minute break, the members agreed. After the ten minutes Steve resumed the meeting. Pierron asked if she could interject for a moment. Steve allowed her. She said she had looked into the question about Banner Churchill Health and they determined that it is not run by the government, a state, city or county and is privately operated so it does constitute as a private entity. Steve thanked her for looking into that and clarifying position. Markus asked Steve if they could make sure they have the quorum back before they advance the meeting. Jenna took the roll call again and there was a quorum.

7. For Possible Action: Discuss and elect a Chair, pursuant to NRS 450B.152.

Bodie made a motion to elect Dr. Carrison as the Chair. Bobbie said that the chair is supposed to serve a term of one year and Steve's term started in the October or November of last year. Margot asked Bobbie if Pierron had that information to look at. Bobbie said yes, it was sent to her. Pierron said per the statute the chair position is for one year. The statute doesn't specify that there is a certain time of year that those elections must occur. She said sometimes in statute it will say the chair must be elected in January. The way the statute is written is that a chair is elected for one year. She didn't have the exact date that the chair was elected but it was less than a year ago. So, this term would stay with the current chair unless his seat was vacated. Steve asked if this was an item that doesn't need to be addressed at this time then. Pierron said that is correct. Steve thanked her and said he is happy to serve as chair for the remaining term.

9. For Possible Action: Discuss and elect a Vice-Chair.

Steve asked the committee if there was a motion to appoint a vice-chair. James motioned to elect Bodie vice-chair, if he wanted to accept it. Carl seconded the motion. Steve asked if there were any other nominations. There were none from other members, but Steve motioned to appoint Dr. Carrison, stating that his experience being on other boards would be beneficial to the committee. Dennis said he isn't sure if he is allowed to vote since he was just appointed to his position. Markus said it says the term started on January 12, 2021 and ends January 30, 2023. Steve said they do have legal opinion there so they can ask them as to Dennis's ability to vote. Unless legal opinion differs, Steve assumed the term began on January 12, 2021 and Dennis would be able to participate in the remainder of the meeting and can make motions, nominations, and vote. Dennis has a great deal of confidence in Bodie and his ability to chair meetings, but he seconded the motion for Dr. Carrison, having served under him in a number of different capacities on the homeland security commission and others and he knows that he will do an excellent job as well. Bodie said that he would like to thank James and Carl for the nomination and second, but he wanted to decline the position at the time. Steve said they would make not of that and asked if there were any other nominees that the committee would like to bring forward. Hearing none he asked if there were any opposed, there were none. Dr. Carrison thanked everyone and said he thinks the committee has a lot of potential to help Bobbie at the State EMS office, especially now during challenging times and anything they can do to assist the staff and otherwise should be done. Steve concurred and said they have to have a collaborative relationship with the state, especially with the difficult times that they will face ahead of others, so a collaborative relationship with the state is going to be paramount and he looks forward to working hand in hand with everybody to move that forward.

MOTION: Steve Towne motioned to appoint Dr. Dale Carrison as Vice-Chair.

SECOND: Dennis Nolan

PASSED: Unanimously

10. For Possible Action: Discuss and possible approval of recommendation on the EMSC draft Skills form. – Michael Bologlu, EMSC Program Manager

Michael told the committee he doesn't have much to add to this agenda item. The skills form was drafted by the Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory committee and it was received well by the committee and approved at the last meeting in October. They asked for the agenda item to be include for the approval of recommendation formally from the EMS Advisory committee for this document. Dr. Carrison attends both the EMS Advisory committee and the EMSC Advisory committee and think form is appropriate since they approved it. There was a lot of really good input from some tremendous pediatric physicians. So, he made a motion to approve the new skills form. All were in favor. Steve agreed and said the EMSC Advisory committee has worked hard on the form and it is very good.

MOTION: Dr. Dale Carrison made a motion to approve the new skills form.

SECOND: Bodie Golla

PASSED: Unanimously

- 11. For Possible Action: Discuss certificates of completion for continuing education and possible approval of recommendation that course coordinator's entry of attendees in ImageTrend suffice for verification of completion in place of physical certificates. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager.**

Bobbie told the committee that in a prior meeting it had been discussed illuminating the issuance of certificates of completion for programs as long as that information was uploaded in ImageTrend. In the interest of continuity and completion across the board they have not made any changes to that at this point because they discovered they have students coming from multiple programs from different areas. Once they complete that program, they are taking that certificate back to their local communities and applying it towards other education requirements. So, for now the certificate of completion requirement will stay in place. Steve said since this will not change there is no action needed for this agenda item. Bodie asked Bobbie if this is an issue that can be fixed or will it remain the same indefinitely. Bobbie said it is always open for discussion but at this time they are going to stay the course with what's in place to keep continuity across all the programs and students and all the documentation that they need. There have been students that had to reach out later and have had trouble securing that information from programs so for right now they are going to continue with what is currently in place. Bodie asked Bobbie for confirmation that this is not a dead issue, but it is something that will continue to be looked at and worked on. Bobbie said absolutely, it is always open for discussion, they are always looking for ways of improvement, but they don't have an alternative plan in place that will get the candidate students what they need once they return to their communities

- 12. For Possible Action: Discuss and make possible approval of a recommendation regarding importing Commission on Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) courses into ImageTrend. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager.**

Bobbie has been in contact with ImageTrend and with CAPCE and there hasn't been any movement. CAPCE is still reluctant to provide that information to third party recipients. ImageTrend is going to continue working on development in case those conversations change where CAPCE will provide that information but for now there has been no movement. There was no need for action on this item.

- 13. For Possible Action: Discuss and possible approval of recommendation that State EMS Office develop a policy and procedure on statewide communications to identify leadership changes. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager.**

Bobbie informed the committee that this is something they are looking to address as far as any leadership changes in the EMS office and as they move forward, they look

forward to improving the communication. Steve asked if there were any comment on this item. Bodie asked since all of these items haven't been completed will they roll over to the next agenda or does he have to request to add each item back on the agenda. Markus suggested they be added for information and updates but not for possible action. Dr. Carrison agreed but explained that he is confused on the leadership changes and asked what leadership changes they are referring to. Bodie told Dr. Carrison this item started due to a program manager change and agencies not knowing there was no program manager. Dr. Carrison thanked him for the explanation and asked what is needed from the committee to have agenda items added. Bobbie talked about discussions they have had in prior meetings about improving the communications should there be any changes in management in the EMS office and look at better ways to send out that information. Dr. Carrison thanked her for that information and said this is extremely important because he knows Bobbie and Michael are there in the office but he's not sure who else is there or what their area of expertise is or what their responsibilities are. He would like it if someone could send that information out and he would also like to know when the open positions get filled and what their administrative duties area. Markus asked if EM Resource could be something that could be used because they get notifications for Emergency Management (EM) Resource. Bobbie informed the member that the office has the capability to use the listserv in ImageTrend and that is a platform that they have been using and those changes can also be posted to the state website. Markus said that would be great. Bodie circled back around to his original question of for follow up on items does it have to be done individually or what the procedure is on that. Steve suggested to make a motion to roll over items on another agenda as action items or for information only so that the state can continue to report out on this. Markus made a motion.

MOTION: Markus Dorsey-Hirt made a motion to keep 11, 12 and 13 on the agenda for informational purposes so the state can give an update.

SECOND: Dr. Dale Carrison

PASSED: Unanimously

- 14. For Possible Action: Discuss and possible approval of recommendation to have the EMS Advisory Committee Agenda for meeting on 1/27/2021 Page 3 of 4 State EMS Office to update annual inspection sheets, skills sheets and other outdated forms and to develop a policy and procedure for annual review of these forms. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager.**

Bobbie informed the committee that the inspections form is currently being reviewed due to the inclusion of glucometer testing and the exempt Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) labs. As mentioned in the previous EMS Advisory committee meeting the EMS office would welcome any suggestions from this committee on any changes to be reviewed on the inspection form. The skills form has been under review and Michael has been working on the pediatric portion of it with the EMSC Advisory committee. Other forms, at this time, appear to be updated and entered into the

ImageTrend system. That platform has been used to make the updated changes. Dr. Carrison thinks the committee could help the EMS office since all they have to do is have a sub-committee to update the forms because everyone is currently involved in EMS transportation and inspections and probably have suggestions on how to update those forms. Bobbie thinks that is an amazing idea so they can get recommendations from the committee and it would be a great contribution to getting an updated document. Markus asked if sub-committees are subject to open meeting law. Dr. Carrison said if you follow the open meeting laws you can have a sub-committee. Dennis agreed with Dr. Carrison and said there are some different rules in regard to open meeting law for working groups such as soliciting people outside of the committee and having a member of the committee chair the meeting. He then suggested for the inspection form to remove intubation equipment for AEMTs since AEMTs no longer do that. He thinks they should assign a committee member to oversee a working group and have that person reach out to different industries and agencies. Dr. Carrison confirmed what Dennis had said was correct. Bodie suggested that they review this once a year at a regular committee meeting. He think if the inspection form said something about agencies protocols it could curveball this because there are items on the form that may not be in an agencies protocols and he believes that is the main reason there is an issue with the form not being updated. Pierron explained that a sub-committee is subject to all of the open meeting laws. And that the time when that wouldn't be subject is when the sub-committee has no more than one member and when it reaches two it is subject to the open meeting law. Dennis thinks that would be the better way to proceed because it would be easier and quicker to have a working group. Bobbie informed the committee that during this discussion she had received numerous inquiries to participate with this working group, so they have the support they need. Steve asked if there was anyone on the committee interested in chairing the working group. Bodie volunteered. Steve made a motion and thanked Bodie for volunteering. Bodie asked since Bobbie is an ex-officio member would it have to be different member of EMS. Pierron wasn't sure but said at this point it is probably wise to have a non-member on that working group. Bodie would like this item included on the next agenda as an informational item and asked Dr. Carrison how often updates need to come from the working group. Dr. Carrison said that is up to him. Bobbie let Bodie know that she does have a staff member that can help with the working group an that she would reach out to him after the meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Dale Carrison made a motion to create a working group with Bodie Golla as chair to work with the State EMS office to update the outdated forms and develop a policy and procedure for an annual review of those forms.

SECOND: Markus Dorsey-Hirt

PASSED: Unanimously

15. **Informational Only: Update and discuss the EMS Office providing an update to the status of the EMS Program Policies and Procedures Manual dated March of 2016. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager.**

Bobbie informed the committee that there are no updates on this item due to current staffing issues. Steve understands the staffing issues and the toll it is taking on the EMS office and commends the team for working through some very challenging times with the state. Bobbie appreciated the support and thanked Steve. Bodie asked for this item to be carried over informationally only to the next agenda.

16. Public Comment.

Dr. Carrison told the committee that he believes it is very important for the chair to have a two-year term and not a one year term because it is very difficult for a true chairman to work hard and really make a difference because you get something started and don't have enough time to see it through and it's something he would like the committee to think about because the committee would have more continuity in the agendas going forward. He feels things become disconnected when a term is too short, and a project or item doesn't get completed by the original chair because the new chair or members don't have a historical understanding of what the committee has been working on in the past. Margot said that something that was supposed to be added to this agenda that was mentioned in the last meeting and was reflected in the minutes was a review of the EMS budget so she requested to have that included on the next agenda. Dr. Carrison printed everything off from the NRS for the committee and as he understands it the committee makes the rules for the committee with the guidance of the NRS but he would like guidance on how they get agenda items added and who I going to address that so they make sure they are following the rules of their organization. He would like the committee to look at the process of who can add agenda items and when a member wants something it should be very clear if that agenda item is appropriate for the EMS committee or if it is not. He said it has come up several times and he has been asked about it as well. Margot told Dr. Carrison that they were aware of this issue and for this meeting they did work with the chair to create the agenda this time but it appeared that there was a disconnect that some of the items mention in the previous meeting didn't get added to the agenda so she agrees with him and said they will work on it going forward. Pierron explained those rules that Dr. Carrison was referencing are set forth in the bylaws and she clarified that the comment made about the chair is actually set forth in NRS so that is not something that the committee can change and that is something that the legislature would have to change. The committee can change their operating rules as much as they can within the bounds of the NRS. Dr. Carrison brought up changing the term for the chair in case the committee wanted to do that as a whole since they could request that during legislation and he thinks Dennis would be able to help with that since he has been a State Senator and he knows how that works. Dennis said by a lot of standards, a one year term is short and he asked if they could poll the members to see if that is something they want to do at the next meeting so they could include it as an agenda item at the next meeting. He thinks that it is a relatively benign change and since it is late in the legislative process, they would have to ask a legislator to bring the bill draft forward or look for something to tack onto a piece of legislation. He asked if Steve or Bobbie could ask the committee member what their interest is in extending the chairs term. Steve said they could poll the members

to see what they think and report back at their next meeting what the results of that poll were then put it on the agenda as an action item after that and move toward any legislative efforts that are necessary. Stephanie Mead asked if there is an ability to add an educator to the committee because she feels it is important to have because education is a huge foundation for EMS and having that educator is very important so they can have some say in a lot of the stuff that EMS does. Steve thanked Stephanie for those comments and said that is something that they have looked at several meetings ago where they looked at the makeup of the committee, which is set up in NRS, so any changes to that would have to go through the legislative process and an education position is something he supports. There was a consensus that the education position would be awesome to have because you can't have great EMS without the education. He thinks that position would be hugely beneficial. Stephanie asked if there was anyone working on that currently or how they can make sure that gets pushed through the next legislation session. Dennis thinks they could include Stephanie's recommendation in the same polling as the chairs term being extended and also ask the members if there are any other things that need to be changed in legislation and vote on them at the next meeting. He said the difficult part would be trying to find a legislator to bring the bill draft forward or finding a piece of legislation that is out there that are in the same section of statute and would be willing to take an amendment so it could be a little dicey but if the committee is willing to do it he said he is willing to help find an amendment. He thinks it should start with staff creating a letter for the committee members asking them specifically about the two items that were discussed, the chairman's term being two years and adding an educator position to the makeup of the committee members. After that these items should be included on the next agenda as action items to be voted on. If approved he said he would work with Bobbie and the committee to find a place during this next legislative session to promote those items. Steve thanked Dennis and said the general consensus from the committee on these items was that there are some many moving pieces to this right now and with the state having minimal manpower, COVID-19 and the financial constraints that the state is facing they put it on the back burner but moving forward it is something they can push for in the future. Markus asked to have someone poll these items, for example the State EMS office or the Chair, and have an agenda item added to the next meeting regarding legislative efforts and how to address them. Steve thanked the committee for an opportunity to serve for another two years and he looks forward to working with everyone to move EMS forward. Steve asked if anyone has agenda items to send them to him so they can be added for the next meeting.

17. Announcement of next meeting date, and adjournment.

The next EMS Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2021.
Adjournment was at 4:41 p.m.