

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
July 6, 2022, at 2:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION:
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way, Conference Room 301
Carson City, Nevada 89706

Attendees were able to participate by Videoconference and Teleconference

1. Roll Call

Core Members

Dr. Dale Carrison – Chair
Bodie Golla
Carl Bottorf
Denise Nolan
Markus Hirt
Sean Burke
Steve Towne

Ex-officio Members

Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager
Dr. Douglas Fraser
Dr. Fermin Leguen
Andrea Esp
Michel Bologlu, Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee

2. Public Comment.

Public comment may be presented in person, by computer, phone, or written comment. Due to time considerations, each individual offering public comment will be limited to no more than five minutes. A person may also have comments added to the minutes of the meeting by submitting them in writing, either in addition to, testifying, or in lieu of testifying. Written comments may be submitted electronically before, during, or after the meeting by emailing Bobbie Sullivan at bsullivan@health.nv.gov. Written documents can be mailed to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, 3rd. Floor, Carson City, NV 89706.

No public comment.

3. For Possible Action: Approval of minutes from the meeting of the EMS Advisory Committee on March 9, 2022.

Motion: Bodie Golla

Second: Markus Hurt

Opposed: None

4. **Informational Only:** Update on activities within the state regarding EMS.
 - a. Update on the activities of the State EMS Program. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager
 - b. Update and discussion relating to ImageTrend. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager
 - c. Update on the activities of the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee. – Doug Oxborrow, EMSC Program Manager
 - d. Update on the activities of the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD). – John Hammond, EMS, and Trauma Systems Manager
 - e. Update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District (WCHD). – Andrea Esp, WCHD EMS Coordinator
 - f. Update on the activities of the local EMS agencies.

Bobbie Sullivan: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. Bobbie Sullivan, for the record.

A couple of items to bring up to the group. As a reminder, the EMS conference in Elko is going to be held in person this year. Those dates are September 15th through the 17th, and what I want to convey to everyone is that a representative from the National Registry of EMT's will be attending the event and will also be doing an update on proposed changes at from National Registry on resolutions and the ALS exam redesign. I think it's a great opportunity for everybody to be present and get a one-on-one conversation with national registry.

There will be a flyer going out via the listserv on the conference with the updated schedule, the UNR School of Medicine is currently finalizing that schedule, and as soon as it's done, we will get it sent out.

We had a security assessment done of the image trend system completed by our information technology staff recently. A couple of things that have changed that folks may not be aware of. After 120-days of inactivity on an account, it will suspend the account and the only way you can get back in is to contact the EMS Office via the email that's posted on the page HealthEMS@health.nv.gov. You're also locked out if you are unable to successfully log in after three attempts. Please do not try to use the program from a cell phone or an iPhone or a Mac device. It does not like those devices and on a cell phone you won't be able to see all the tabs. We also recommend that depending on how many people are using the computer that you clear your browser history before you try logging back in once we've reset your password.

We're wrapping up the permit renewals that were due before the end of May for an expiration date of June 30th. As of last count this morning, we have 17 departments who are still in the final stages of getting their permits renewed.

I think I brought this up before, but we were able to secure new computers for the mobile computer lab for the cognitive testing of the National Registry exam. We can do the exam for all levels, but the primary purpose behind the lab is for deployment outside of the Reno, Elko, Las Vegas and even Smoky Valley, they have their own lab as well, so it gets a lot of use in the rural communities. In fact, it's going out again tomorrow.

Update on our project that we're working on with the Helmsley Trust Foundation, the budget has been finalized for the deployment of defibrillators around Nevada for law enforcement personnel. The count of defibrillators that are going to be ordered is currently 2953. We expect that number to rise slightly. We have a couple of communities that we don't have final numbers on. That grant is going to go before the Internet Finance Committee next month for approval. And then once it passes that the grant will start being put into place in September.

We want to remind everybody that if you're doing blood glucose testing or any exempt testing that you need to have a clear exempt certificate and if you need any assistance with that, please contact our office and we'd be happy to help walk you through it or reach out to folks from the labs facility that can.

This morning staff have been working on a project to contact each of the agencies so that we can confirm physical as well as shipping addresses for all agencies. This is data we felt that we needed to update the database and the other portion of that. This affects a grant that is currently being done by the UNR School of Medicine and they needed the updated information, so it worked out well to bring it all together and I just want to close by thanking the chairman for the support of this organization.

Dr Dale Carrison: I have a couple of comments on item A and hopefully all of you have looked at the NREMT. They're looking into the fact of not having to have certified paramedic programs to qualify. I've had this discussion with several people, and I think it's a step backwards, in my opinion to do that, because we all know that there are educational institutions out there that are simply interested in money and if there are no certification requirements from COAPS to have your program approved so that it's certified, then pretty much anybody can start their own paramedic education program with minimal or no standards and from my standpoint, I think it's extremely important that we have standards for the professionalism of EMS and Paramedicine EMT's, It's not a proposed change yet, but they're looking into the change and asking for comments on it. So I would ask everyone that's involved in EMS to take a look at that and make certain that the NREMT has your comments.

Secondarily on item number B. I think it's remarkable that defibrillators are going to be available for law enforcement in the state of Nevada, and even more, and I definitely think

that's a step positive based on the proposals that we've had, or the what's been done in the past, and it's been proven that the safest place in the United States to have a cardiac arrest as a casino in Las Vegas, doctor Dave Slattery, who's the EMS director for the Las Vegas city Fire Department has been a pioneer in EMS the Defibrillation programs and they've reviewed all the films because everything in the casino is under a camera, so there have been some very interesting things to see. The patients have a heart attack, go down immediately gone to by security forces who open their clothing, put on the pads, and do whatever the machine tells them, and they've been just a remarkable number of successful reviews, spontaneous circulation and people's lives have been saved for that. So, I think that's interesting and if we take that forward to having the defibrillators available. For rapid deployment, I think is a giant step forward for medicine in in Nevada, especially in rural Nevada.

And last comments, I would encourage you to look at ImageTrend because I think it's an asset to help everybody.

Any questions for Bobbie on item number 4 A and B?

Markus Hirt: This is Marcus Hirt, for the record. I talked to Richard today regarding receipts for the payment for the certifications and we haven't been able to find anything we paid for our research through image trend, and I guess Richard said there is a problem with the platform right now to get any receipts out of it. Is that true, Bobbie?

Bobbie Sullivan: Mr. Chairman Bobbie Sullivan and for the record, Mark has there was an update and as most programs when they do an update, there's a glitch that occurs somewhere along the line. This time it was with the receipts. We can go ahead and get those receipts sent to you this afternoon. And Mike is in the process of working with image trend to fix the programming. It's just keystrokes, and we just needed to get the clear direction from image trend. But we'll get those two this afternoon. I appreciate it. Thank you.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Any other questions for Miss Sullivan? Hearing none item number C update on the activity in EMSC.

Doug Oxborrow: when we last at the last Council, we were putting out pediatric surveys and we had gotten about a 50% response rate, still had a long way to go. I'm very happy to report that we ended up with a 100% response rate like to thank everyone that did participate in that and got the response rate in. We just returned from the NASEMSO meeting in Charleston, SC where we made a lot of good contacts with the other states.

They were impressed enough with our 100% response rate that they announced it before everybody. And so, thank you to everybody that that did participate in that. We're currently doing a needs assessment for pediatric restraints.

We will be sending out a survey to EMS agencies for pediatric restraint systems. We have a flyer that we are about to get approved and put out for the number one challenge with pediatric patients is the conversion of weight into kilograms. Lot of times weight is

measured in pounds written down in kilograms and of course there can be some major challenges that come through that. So, we're going to put out a flyer to all of the services and all of the entities stating how important it is to keep everything in kilograms, that's about it. I'm excited to be the new EMSC manager and look forward to pushing the program forward.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Thank you, Doug. I know that Michael probably appreciates that and very much. The lack of pediatric restraint is clearly not a new issue. Mike has been working on this issue for a long time and it is obviously really important for the EMSC Program and for the pediatric patients in Nevada. I'm pleased that you can move forward with that. So, does anybody have any kind of questions for Mr. Oxborrow?

Hearing none, updates on the activities in the Southern Nevada Health District, Mr. Hammond.

Bobbie Sullivan: John is unable to join us today. He advised me that Nellis Air Force Base is currently operating as a Level 3 trauma center and they haven't had their verification or visit from American College of Surgeons yet but it is scheduled for late this year or mid next year. And again, the Clark County Health District is having exactly the same problems that every other health district in the country is having. They're just simply no qualified candidates for open positions, so everybody is really hurting for employees. And of course, we've experienced that here too.

Dr. Dale Carrison: You know how we solve that? One way we could solve it is the get the wages above what they pay at McDonald's. I said they were turning cheek, but I'm still serious. Updates on the activities of Washoe County Health District. Andrea, are you on board here? No.

OK, before we go to item number F on the updated, the activities of local EMS agencies, Doctor Fraser who is in charge of the level one trauma center at University Medical Center, do you have any updates?

Dr. Douglas Fraser: As far as Nellis, they are up and running and trying to get EMS used to that new and catchment area for them. Again, just Level 3 and 4 patients, no lights and sirens, they're having some challenges with access to a secure military base, especially for follow up as you can imagine with their trauma patients. So, I've been working with the trauma medical director at Nellis. No other major updates apply for our reverification a year from this August, so we're in the 18-month window for level one reverification and pediatric level 2, and no other updates.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Okay awesome. Thank you for that. For the comments on that. I have wondered about access because the base is extremely secure. We don't want delayed in transport because you're sitting at a gate which I've experienced when I was in Mexico doing the races. We got stuck at the border with customs and actually had a patient die waiting for clearance from customs to go to the hospital so hopefully the Level 3 will be

able to provide proper access and able to address those challenges and come up with a protocol for rapid transport into the center. Any questions for Doctor Fraser?

OK. Moving on, updates of the activity for the local EMS agencies. Markus, you always have something. Bodie, do you have something? Steve, do you have something? Which one of you would like to give us an update?

Markus Hirt: I don't have much, call volume it's at record highs. Basically we usually have 160 transports a day and we are at almost 200 a day right now. On the care flight side, the only update I have is we are running a program with nursing students so they can actually ride along on our critical care ambulances. We have two nursing students a week shadowing and it's working out really well. That's it for me.

Dr. Dale Carrison: I think that's actually pretty exciting because that may change some ideas and make some nurses want to be critical care transport nurses. So, congratulations on that, I think that's an outstanding idea. Anything else for Marcus? No? Bodie, do you have anything?

Bodie Golla: I unfortunately don't have an update honestly. I know that is kind of weird, but there is not a lot going on lately. It's been pretty mellow up here. Just running our normal call. I do want to shout out the state though. I've been getting a lot of help and support with grant stuff and working with Bobbie to get some things accomplished. So that's about the only updates I have.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Okay. Thank you Bodie. Steve Town, do you have anything?

Steve Towne: Good afternoon, everybody. Yeah, we we've been busy. Our call volumes are up. We're seeing a lot more public assist type calls, so that's trending for us right now. The last couple months we were higher than ever for lift assist and those kind of calls for service. We are fully staffed. Looking forward to a great summer, we've got a lot of educational things going on internally. Also, a lot of community planning events and now it's intern season. We have a waiting list for paramedic interns, and we are going to have a lot, so we are going to be busy with that.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Thank you, Steve. Does anyone have questions for Steve? No? Carl, any updates?

Carl Bottorf: Just to echo what the others said about Nellis. I work at Nellis and that's where my office is. We have a full-time access coordinator now and her job is to provide access to patients, civilian patients who are treated here and would otherwise have difficulty getting back on the base for follow up care. It's interesting. She's very active. She has prior military service and she's making things happen for people who need follow care. As far as civilian ambulance coming here, we have a safety huddle every morning and every day now we have four or five ambulances come here from the general public.

You'll see them sitting outside. So, it's quite an interesting dynamic on an Air Force Base. I have to admit.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Good. Thank you for that, I appreciate your update. Any further updates from anyone?

5. For Possible Action: discussion and possible action to elect an EMS committee member as the Vice chair. The vice chair will be important. We're going to have the hearing with regard to, changing the administrative code so that we can have EMT basics apply to and go to paramedic school without being an AEMT and essentially join a significant number of other states that do it this way. It will not stop AEMT's from being there because there are still people that want to be AEMT because of a slightly increased scope of practice, especially in the rural areas but it will open up a much larger applicant pool for paramedic school. As you all know, we all need more paramedics. So, with regard to that, I'm not going to be available when this comes up, so it's important to have a vice chair that's there. So, I guess what I would ask for first is if there is anyone who has that burning desire to be the vice chair of the EMS Advisory committee?

Carl Bottorf: This is Carl, I wouldn't mind helping out.

Bodie Golla: I would have definitely volunteered for it, but I think this my last year, so I just don't know how much benefit I'm going to be able to provide to the committee. So that would be my only hesitation on that.

Dr. Dale Carrison: His current term on the committee is short on time. He only has a year left on the committee. We're going to check out the eligibility, one minute. Marcus has the longest term. Carl, your term would end in July of 2024. So currently Carl has the longevity, so to speak.

Markus Hirt: I will nominate Carl Bottorf to be vice chair.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Ok, Marcus has nominated Carl.

Steve Towne: Historically the vice chair position has always rolled into the chair after the next term, correct? So something for consideration. Whoever takes this would eventually become the next chairperson.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Yeah, Steve. I'm not lobbying for the chair position; this will be my second year and it doesn't start until right now. I think my second-year term just started now that there is no limit on the term for the chairman from the State. Apparently the EMSC chair has been the chair five years. I don't think it that actually applies any longer based on the information we've received from the Attorney General's Office.

Steve Towne: Correct. I was aware of that. I would just be saying from a historical perspective that whoever assumes this role of vice chair might be the elected chairperson at some point in the future.

Bodie Golla: I second the nomination for Carl.

Cody Phinney: If I may, Mr. Chairman, this is Cody Phinney, Deputy Administrator for the Division and I just wanted to say that from the State's perspective, we are committed

to working with any member of the committee no matter their location, and we have a lot of resources with which to do that. With the exception of possible legislative testimony, location should not be a barrier.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Ok, everyone heard that? Perfect. Well, there is a nomination that has been made, is there any further discussion before we vote? Hearing no further discussion, all in favor of Carl Bottorf as vice chair of the EMS Advisor Commission. Signify by saying aye.

Markus Hirt: Aye.

Fermin Leguen: Aye.

Bode Golla: Aye.

Dr. Dale Carrison: I heard three ayes. I make 4. Any opposed? Hearing none. Carl, congratulations and look forward to working with you. I have to have a representative if I cannot attend a meeting. Carl, I will call you and can give you information that I have with regard to this.

6. For Possible Action: discussed in regard to the updates to the EMS Advisory Committee on rules and orders, including clarification that there is no limitation on how many times the chair can be elected, I really think we pretty much got that done last time. So, unless there's further discussion on that we'll move to item number 7. Is there any further discussion on item number 6?

Bodie Golla: We realized that we have to change that in the NRS and the NAC, right?

Dr. Dale Carrison: No, the EMS regulation actually doesn't say that. According to our Council from the DAG.

Bodie Golla: It does. 450B 151, says that the term of the chair is one year and 450B.152 too.

Under the Chair of the very last sentence, the term of the chair is one year, so it's going to obviously have to be changed.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Yeah, for the term you're correct. The term of the chair is one year. But if you'll notice, it doesn't say that the chair can't be reelected. And that was the point that our Deputy Attorney General made. The term is one year and then after one year there is another election and whoever is nominated would have to be elected by the members of the committee.

Bodie Golla: The only hold up for the chair is in our rules of order.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Dennis was going to was going to spearhead that, which hasn't happened so Bodie if you'd be willing, I think we could do all this by email. We can look at the rules of order and see if there are any necessary changes that need to be made to the rules of order and we can submit those changes during the next meeting to get the approval from the Committee. Would you be willing to do that Bodie?

Bodie Golla: Yeah, I'll be able to take that on.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Ok, I'll get on the phone with you next week and let's see if we can work this out.

Bodie Golla:

OK, sounds good.

7. Update on the recommended amendments to the Nevada Administrative Code 450B to allow emergency medical technicians (EMT's) providers to be eligible to enter a paramedic training program:

Dr. Dale Carrison: The primary update is I received letters of support from the paramedic programs in Reno and Las Vegas. Markus, I spoke to a gentleman at REMSA that said he also supported the change. So essentially, we have support from every agency that is training EMT, AEMT's and paramedics in the state of Nevada and everybody is for it. So, I don't anticipate any pushback.

Carl Bottorf: Mr. Chairman, this is Carl.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Go ahead Carl.

Carl Bottorf: Is there a way you can distribute those letters of support to the members of the committee?

Jenna Burton: Yes, we can. Any further discussion or questions in regard to that? Hearing none moving on to item 8.

8. Public Comment:

Public comment may be presented in person, by computer, phone, or written comment. Due to time considerations, each individual offering public comment will be limited to no more than five minutes. A person may also have comments added to the minutes of the meeting by submitting them in writing, either in addition to, testifying, or in lieu of testifying. Written comments may be submitted electronically before, during, or after the meeting by emailing Bobbie Sullivan at bsullivan@health.nv.gov. Written documents can be mailed to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, 3rd. Floor, Carson City, NV 89706.

No public comment.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Okay, hearing none, does any of the committee members have a question or comment?

Bodie Golla: Is that the next meeting at 1:00 PM?

Dr. Dale Carrison: Yes, the next meeting is scheduled for 9/14/22 at 1300

Bodie Golla:

Thank you.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Thank you everyone and with that, do I have a motion for adjournment.

Markus Hirt:

I'll put motion to adjourn the meeting.

Steve Towne: I seconded the motion.

Jenna Burton:

All in favor of say aye.

Markus Hirt:

Aye.

Carl Bottorf:

Aye.

Dr. Dale Carrison: Alright the meeting is adjourned, and I'll just thank you for joining us, Steve. You gave us a quorum and we really appreciate that.