

Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley,
MS
Director

**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**



**NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**



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MPH
Administrator

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MEETING MINUTES

Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee

August 16, 2023, at 1:30 P.M.

Meeting Locations:

This meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams, by phone, and at physical locations.

Online Meetings Link:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Phone Number:

+1 775- 321- 6111 **Phone Conference ID:** 103 088 938#

Physical Meeting Locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way, Room 303
Carson City, NV 89706

1. **Call to Order/ Roll Call** – *Dr. Dale Carrison, Chair*

Board Members Present:

Dr. Dale Carrison
Carl Bottorf
Sean Burke
Ryan McIntosh
James Johnston
Kevin Grannis
Markus Hirt

Ex- Officio Members Present:

Bobbie Sullivan
Dr. Deborah Kuhls
John Hammond
Andrea Esp

Dr. Dale Carrison called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

Roll Call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum of the Nevada Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee was present.

2. Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

3. For Possible Action: Review and approval of minutes from the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee meeting held on May 10, 2023.

MOTION: Markus Hirt

SECOND: Carl Bottorf

PASSED: Unanimously

OBSTANTION: Ryan McIntosh

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

Bobbie Sullivan introduced herself, and welcomed Kevin Grannis and Ryan McIntosh to the committee, as it was their first meeting. Bobbie explained that there was supposed to be a new staff member joining the EMS office in August, however the employee declined. The EMS Representative II position in Elko will be reposted to the website. Bobbie mentioned the EMS Conference in Elko is happening September 13, 2023, through September 16, 2023.

Bobbie explained that with the recent ending of legislation, there were several bills that did and did not pass. One that did pass was AB158, which is the interstate compact for EMS Personnel in the state of Nevada, this was signed by the governor on July 5, 2023. Bobbie explained that this bill will become active on October 1, 2023. Naming Nevada a compact state allows individuals from other compact states to move more efficiently into Nevada.

Bobbie expressed that AB358, which would have moved the Nevada State EMS Office under the Fire Marshalls office, did not pass.

Bobbie explained that AB24 was designed to add a tribal position and a third service agency to the EMS Committee did get passed through this legislative session. These positions will be opened and there will be a posting sent out via list serv so that individuals who are interested in applying can do so. This will be discussed on the next agenda.

Bobbie explained that AB178, which would have moved permit renewals for permitted agencies to a two-year cycle, instead of one year. This did not pass.

Bobbie expressed that the committee has talked previously about spreading out the workload for renewals on providers, the final suggestion from the committee was to move renewal dates to date of birth. The EMS Office is in the process of implementing this and will begin on September 1, 2023. Bobbie says that the reason September 1, 2023, is because any of the individuals that expire March of 2024, are given the option to renew six months prior to their expiration, so the office wanted to ensure this was still an option.

Bobbie reminded the committee that private entities or private agencies can become a training center to conduct continuing education training under a training center, although this does not apply to courses such as immunization, EMT, AEMT or Paramedic. These courses need to be done by a permitted agency or college.

Bobbie explained that the EMS Office is working on creating a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page on the EMS website. This will negate the emails that go to individuals without needing or wanting the information. It will give individuals the option to have constant answers to questions they may have.

Bobbie mentioned that at the next meeting, the committee is going to invite L3 Harris to provide any information or updates on the radio system changes.

Bobbie was pleased to tell the committee that with the Helmsley grant, the EMS Office has been able to provide AEDs to law enforcement personnel, and as of July 3, 2023, there have been five activations of the AEDs.

Bobbie explained to the committee that EMS staff have been pulling together and providing reports to journalists who have been looking for answers on the number of provider responses and that information will be available shortly.

Ryan McIntosh introduced himself and asked Bobbie, with the new positions opening, how the notifications will be sent out.

Bobbie explained that these are sent out via list serv so we can capture as many individuals as possible for the committee.

Ryan McIntosh asked Bobbie if the individual would be coming from an employee association, instead of just an individual.

Bobbie explained that for the Tribal committee position, the individual will come from the Tribal community and for the third service member, it will be an individual with the recommendation from an agency.

b. Update and discussion relating to Image Trend – *Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager*

Bobbie discussed this within the last agenda item.

c. Update on activities of the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Advisory Committee – *Douglas Oxborrow, EMSC Program Manager*

Bobbie Sullivan gave the update for Douglas Oxborrow.

Bobbie explained that the pediatric restraints system project is still underway, as we are still delivering to agencies across Nevada. The second order has been delivered, and the third shipment is in place which is approximately 43 units so these will all be distributed as soon as possible.

The EMSC Committee is working on a recognition program, which is two teared, emergency departments and agencies.

d. Update on the activities of the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) – *John Hammond, EMS, and Trauma Systems Manager*

John Hammond introduced himself and explained the update for the Southern Nevada Health District.

John explained that he has been working in small groups, in person meetings with agencies to help explain and talk through some procedural changes that will be implemented October 1, 2023.

John Hammond also explained that SNHD is continuously revising clinical care guidelines. Trying to better reflect ACS's new guidance and rolling that out by the end of the year.

e. **Update on the activities of the Washoe County Health District (WCHD) – Andrea Esp, WCHD EMS Coordinator**

Andrea Esp explained that the EMS five-year strategic plan did go through for approval by the District Board of Health, so assignments have been given out and work groups have been created. The community is working on a variety of different tasks, that are set out to be accomplished over the next five years.

f. **Update on the activities of the local EMS Agencies**

Carl Bottorf gave an update on trauma centers on the air force bases. They continue to accept new patients by air rotor and ground. The hospital has seen patients brought in from Western Arizona, as well as California because of contracts in place.

Markus Hirt gave an update on Remsa Care flight, saying that the reaccreditation is coming up. Markus said that they have been a bit surprised because it has been slow the last few weeks, which is a good thing.

Ryan McIntosh gave an update for Central Lyon County Fire, he explained that it was voted on within Central Lyon for two of the volunteer fire stations to become full-time staffed fire stations. This allows Central Lyon to deliver 24/7 care from four stations rather than two. After gathering data, they found that this has reduced response times by 50%, which was their promise to the voters and pays the dividends.

Kim Eastman from Reno Fire explained that they just hired seven new paramedics. There will be getting ready to hold a spring academy soon. They are also looking at getting a new ambulance in a week so they will be reaching out about inspections.

Dr. Dale Carrison joined the conversation and explained the importance of EMS education and expressed the issue individuals are having with financing to pay to become a Paramedic or an Advanced EMT. He explained the idea of reaching out to federal senators to see if there is something we can do about getting grants for this kind of thing, so people feel more inclined to continue education.

5. **Informational Only: Update on changes to disqualifiers on background checks regarding regulations proposed through Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) File No. R105-22, available online at: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Legal/LawLibrary/Register/>. – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager**

Bobbie Sullivan explained that in the June Board of Health meeting, this was approved. Although, after the meeting it was determined that there was a crucial piece of this missing so it could not carry on. With this being said, Bobbie said this will be fixed and brought up at the next meeting on September 1, 2023.

Bobbie said that this changes how often backgrounds need to be done to six years.

6. **For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action of creating a working group regarding state-wide Emergency Medical Services protocols – Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager**

Markus Hirt explained that he thinks using the term “protocol” is harsh because this puts a lot of limits on what agencies can do, and with such different types of agencies it would not be fair to put them all in one box. Markus suggests guidelines instead of protocols.

Bobbie explained that the reason this got brought up was because it was pulled from the previous meeting, as requested. Some of the main concerns is that the last time protocols were updated was in 2003 by Dr. Joey. The idea behind this was to see how everyone felt with the current protocols in place to see if there was anybody who would like to take the roll to hopefully update some things.

Ryan McIntosh expressed concern with parts of this, such as creating more work for the EMS division, and having to regularly apply for variances. Ryan says that he thinks it can help, he just thinks it will add a heavier workload.

Dr. Carrison explained that in the past there was a work group like this, who worked together very effectively, and it did not add much of a workload with just minor variances.

Bobbie said to put some thought into it and possibly see if there is a certain direction anyone wants to go with this, since it was something, several agencies wanted brought up and talked about.

Ryan McIntosh made a motion to direct Bobbie Sullivan to send out notification via listserv to obtain interest in gathering nominations for a working group to establish minimum standards for EMS Care.

MOTION: Ryan McIntosh

SECOND: Markus Hirt

PASSED: Unanimously

7. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action of creating a working group regarding assisting Emergency Medical Services offices in the study of fees in states surrounding Nevada. – *Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager*

Bobbie Sullivan explained that this was also something that was brought up prior. Bobbie explains that it would be nice if we could put a working group together to reach out to other states to see what their licensing fees look like.

Ryan McIntosh disagrees with Bobbie and explains that Nevada has unique needs, and we should not be comparing prices to surrounding states. Although, he does say that it would be good to look at the State EMS program budget and find out what the needs are, to then establish new fees.

Bobbie explained that this was going to be necessary due to the recent passing of this in legislation, the EMS Office will need to show the comparison and where those numbers were pulled from to fulfill our half of the bill.

Ryan McIntosh made a motion to direct Bobbie Sullivan to send out a notification via list serv to obtain interest in establishing members for working group to perform a study of fees and budgets.

MOTION: Ryan McIntosh

SECOND: Markus Hirt

PASSED: Unanimously

8. For Possible Action: Discussion of the term lengths of positions on the committee and possible action to elect an EMS Advisory Committee member as Chairman – *Dr. Dale Carrison, Chair*

Dr. Dale Carrison explained that based on history, the chairman only had a one-year term but there was DAG opinion that the chairman could be elected several times.

Deputy Attorney General Pierron Tackes explained that there is not a term on how many times a chairman can be elected, although there is a limit on the general membership on the committee. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

It was determined by the committee that Dr. Dale Carrison did not begin with the EMS Advisory Committee until June of 2023. Therefore, he still has till June of 2024.

Ryan McIntosh made a motion to reappoint Dr. Dale Carrison as the EMS Advisory Committee Chairman.

MOTION: Ryan McIntosh

SECOND: Carl Bottorf

PASSED: Unanimously

9. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to elect an EMS Advisory Committee member as Vice- chairman. – *Dr. Dale Carrison, Chair*

This agenda item was removed and postponed to a later date.

10. **For Possible Action:** Introduction and possible action to recommend to the Board of Health the appointment of new Committee Members. *“An employee of a privately- owned entity that provides emergency medical services”*. *Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager*

Bobbie Sullivan removed this item from the agenda.

11. **Informational Only:** Discussion regarding proposed dates for future meetings. – *Bobbie Sullivan, EMS Program Manager*

The committee discussed future meeting dates. They decided to schedule the next meeting for November 15, 2023.

12. **Public Comment:** Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting.

There was no public comment at this time.

13. **Adjournment:**

Dr. Dale Carrison asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Markus Hirt

SECOND: Ryan McIntosh

PASSED: Unanimously

DRAFT