

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING of the State
Trauma Advisory Board**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
of the State Trauma Advisory Board**

April 12, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Trauma Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Emily Cantrell, at 10:32 am, on April 12, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Board members, emailed to interested parties, and posted on the Department of Health and Human Services website on March 31, 2021.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

- Dr. Shahab Abdessalam
- Dr. Zachary Bauman
- Tami Bokelman
- Diane Canedy
- Dr. Emily Cantrell
- Dr. Rick Fermelia
- Ryan Hamburger
- Sandra Kirchner
- Chad Reutlinger
- Dr. William T. Sorrell
- Lori Terryberry-Spohr
- Benjamin Tysor
- Dr. David Voigt
- Laken Vrbas

The following Board members were absent: Dr. Juan Asensio, Mike Bailey, Pete Festersen, Dr. Rommie Hughes, Robby Rehmlandt.

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Voigt made the motion, second by Abdessalam, to adopt the agenda for the April 12, 2021, State Trauma Advisory Board meeting.

Voting Yes: Abdessalam, Bokelman, Canedy, Cantrell, Fermelia, Hamburger, Kirchner, Reutlinger, Sorrell, Tysor, Voigt and Vrbas. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Asensio, Bailey, Festersen, Hughes, Rehmlandt. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Sorrell made the motion, second by Abdessalam, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting.

Voting Yes: Abdessalam, Bokelman, Canedy, Cantrell, Fermelia, Hamburger, Kirchner, Reutlinger, Sorrell, Tysor, Voigt and Vrbas. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Asensio, Bailey, Festersen, Hughes, Rehmlandt. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Regional Updates

Regional updates were compiled and provided to the Board prior to the meeting. No additional questions or comments. See Attachment A to the minutes for complete briefing.

AGENDA ITEM: EHS Department Update

Information was compiled from the Office of Emergency Health Systems and provided to the Board prior to the meeting. See Attachment B to the minutes for complete briefing.

These minutes have been approved by the State Trauma
Advisory Board on July 30, 2021.

- a. Sherri Wren added a change to the trauma update to include CHI St. Elizabeth has been designation as a General Level Trauma Hospital. Canedy asked Wren to provide more information on the Preventative Health Block Grant: the 2021 grant involved online surveys on mass casualty. Wren and Tim Wilson will be sitting in on listening sessions this week addressing what is needed for training and education. The newest grant application is funding for Trauma Nurse Coordinator day, rural topic course, and registry training. The Department should know in a few months the amount of funds available. There is also a CDC COVID grant which some trauma funds have been applied for as well.

The third public hearing for the proposed rules and regulations did get set for May 13, 2021. Wilson has not heard much in the way of opponents, but closer to the hearing, we may hear more on the education requirement. Dr. Cantrell did remind the board to please provide letters from their specific facilities in favor of the proposed regulations.

- b. No additional questions or comments.
- c. No additional questions or comments.
- d. Wilson reminded everyone the Hospital Peds Ready assessment survey will be going out starting May 2021.
- e. No additional questions or comments.
- f. Wilson reported there have been some issues of getting records into Hospital Hub. The Department is looking into what may be causing this. The Department is also working on a more comprehensive report and some key elements were missing.

AGENDA ITEM: Data Update

- a. Data Dictionary – Ngochoch updated the Nebraska Trauma Registry Inclusion Criteria (pages 8-9) has been updated to ICD 10 CM codes. The co-morbidities section in the appendix of the 2011 data dictionary has been replaced with pre-existing conditions, which matches the NTDS 2020 Data. Rehabilitation chapter has been added. The rehab data elements added are: Glasgow outcomes scale at 6 months post discharge from acute rehabilitation hospital/unit; patient discharge destination and Rancho Los Amigos scale/levels of cognitive functioning.
- b. Geriatric Report – Ngochoch walked the Board through the presentation he sent prior to the meeting. There was some discussion on trauma and COVID positive cases this past year. Many hospitals commented the number of cases was fairly low and most of the age groups consisted of middle-age, mostly asymptomatic. Falls were also discussed. Dr. Voigt recalled Scottsbluff had a program in place working with nursing homes. Susan Wilson (Regional West Health) commented the program is still occurring and folks in nursing homes are learning tai chi, and this has resulted in a big decrease in numbers of falls. Physical therapists for those not in nursing homes, are also teaching tai chi to in-home health patients. Another training has been on the best kinds of tennis shoes. Susan will provide the Board with the specifics of their program. Wren also mentioned the Department has a fall prevention program so she will reach out and see if they can share information at the next board meeting.
- c. Diane Schoch shared a brief update on the Trauma Quality Improvement Program report. The spring one should be available soon. No additional discussion.

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Update

Dr. Bauman reminded the board as well of the upcoming public hearing. In June, he is also going to start “Fireside” chats and the goal is to address the needs of the trauma hospitals and bring those issues to the Board. If anyone has any suggestions to please contact him either email, phone call or text.

AGENDA ITEM: Burn Annex Discussion

Dr. Voigt briefly discussed the burn annex which was sent to the board prior to the meeting. There was discussion on bed tracking and will this be done through the Knowledge Center like tracking for COVID beds. Also, where the funding is going to be coming from. Dr. Voigt mentioned he has been unsuccessful the past few years with CHI St. Elizabeth, so there will need to be help for funding purposes. Dr. Ernest had a few questions as is CHI St. Elizabeth participating in regional activities since they are the only state burn center. The answer is yes, to the extent they can. Many have been phone calls as mock transfers. Barb Dodge also stated there are table-top exercises which do not involve too many elements. It is up to the regions to involve CHI St. Elizabeth as it will help them be more prepared for transfer coordination.

AGENDA ITEM: Legislative Bills Update

Nebraska State Trauma Advisory Board
Minutes of the April 12, 2021 Meeting

Wilson did not have any legislative updates at this time as none of the bills currently being debated impacted trauma.

AGENDA ITEM: Board Composition Discussion

Wren talked about the possible board composition changes. She had reached out to other states and gathered information as to their trauma board composition. After discussion within the Department, as well as Dr. Cantrell and Kirchner, Wren presented a draft option of board composition. There was very good discussion amongst the board, as well as members of the public: Karen Saxton, Katie Pierce, Mindy Walters; and a list will be typed up by the Department and sent out for review of the board and set as an agenda item for the July 30, 2021 meeting.

Pete Festersen joined the meeting approximately 11:55 am

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion on APP Site Reviewers

Kirchner addressed the board as to adding an Advanced Practice Provider (APP) to be part of the physician reviewers on the site review team. At this time, the number of physician reviewers is very minimal. Kirchner looked at other states site review statutes and did not see much information. Wren will send through the reviewer pool and will work with Kirchner on the qualifications for the Request for Proposal (RFQ) process.

The board took a break at 12:58 pm. The board resumed the meeting at 1:10 pm. A roll call was completed:

Present: Abdessalam, Bauman, Bokelman, Canedy, Fermelia, Kirchner, Reutlinger, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, Voigt and Vrbas. Absent: Asensio, Bailey, Festersen, Hamburger, Hughes, Rehbrandt, Tysor. A quorum was present and the meeting resumed.

AGENDA ITEM: Strategic Planning Update

Dr. Cantrell gave an update the Strategic Planning process is on hold until the board composition and regional board discussions have taken place and been voted on.

AGENDA ITEM: Regional Board Discussion

Wren gave an update on the regional advisory board composition and formal structured regional board meetings versus regional process improvement (PI) meetings. Dr. Abdessalam (Region 1) commented the regional boards seem redundant of the state board. If the state subcommittees can be structured and have representation from each region, this would be a better option. Dr. Sorrell (Region 3) commented he also likes the PI portion as for their region, this process is very important and builds relationships amongst the hospitals. Dr. Fermelia (Region 2) also agreed the PI portion of the region is very good and the structured board is redundant. Per Susan Wilson, Dr. Hughes (Region 4), would still like to be able to get information from the state board to be able to share with their regional PI meetings. Moving to PI meetings will be easier and not formal and fall under the Open Public Meeting Act.

Region 2 had their meeting March 19, 2021 and it was discussed the value of the PI meetings felt more accomplished. They will continue to conduct PI meetings until the State board determines the future of the formal regional meetings.

This item will be taken to the other individual regional meetings for their input and will be re-addressed at the July 30, 2021 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Publication of 2021 Board Meetings

Wren informed the board the 2021 meeting dates need to be published for public notices and by what means the board would like to have these done.

MOTION: Abdessalam made the motion, seconded by Canedy, to post meeting notifications to the Office of Emergency Health Systems website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar.

Voting Yes: Abdessalam, Bokelman, Canedy, Cantrell, Fermelia, Kirchner, Reutlinger, Sorrell, Voigt and Vrbas. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Asensio, Bailey, Festerson, Hamburger, Hughes, Rehmlandt, Tysor. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comments

Wilson gave an update as the Department is submitting a Governor's Proclamation in memory of Dr. Stothert with the date set for May 20, 2021.

Wren commented the board committees, which have been previously discussed, are also on hold until the board composition is completed. The Department will set up a meeting with Dr. Cantrell and Kirchner to discuss before rolling out to the board.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Coker
Trauma Program Coordinator