

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**of the State Trauma**  
**Advisory Board**  
December 13, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the State Trauma Advisory Board was called to order by Emily Cantrell, MD Board Chairperson, at 10:33 a.m., on December 13, 2021. The meeting was held via Zoom. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Board members, interested parties, and posted on the Department of Health and Human Services Open Public Meeting Calendar and on the website on December 8, 2021.

**ROLL CALL**

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

- Dr. Zachary Bauman
- Dr. Emily Cantrell
- Jill Coddington
- Chad Duval, MD
- Renae Jacobson
- Jessica Lee
- Dr. Angela Hanna
- Marcia Harmon
- Sandra Kirchner
- Katie Pierce
- Chad Reutlinger
- Shana Romero
- Karen Saxton
- Dr. William T. Sorrell
- Dr. Lori Terryberry-Spohr
- Benjamin Tysor
- David Voigt, MD
- Mindy Walters
- Dr. David Voigt
- Susan Wilson

The following Board members were absent: Michael Bailey, Dr. Rick Fermelia, Pete Festersen, Dr. Rommie Hughes, Tami Bokelman, Ryan Hamburger, Laken Vrbas and Jacqueline Wright.

The following staff members from the Department were also present during all or part of the meeting:

- Tonya Bohling
- Carol Jorgensen
- Diane Schoch
- Wendy Snodgrass
- Diane Schoch
- Tim Wilson
- Sherri Wren
- Michelle Eutsler
- Sharon Steele

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

Dr. Cantrell announced that this is a public meeting and the open public meeting notice had been posted.

Dr. Fermelia joined the meet at approximately 10:35 a.m.

Pete Festersen joined the meeting at approximately 10:35 a.m.

These minutes have been approved by the  
State Trauma Advisory Board on January  
10, 2022.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Cantrell to approve the December 13, 2021 agenda:

Voting yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Fermelia, Duval, Jacobson, Lee, Festersen, Hanna, Harmon, Kirchner, Pierce, Reutlinger, Romero, Saxton, Sorrell, Spohr, Tysor, Voigt, Walters and Wilson.

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Kirchner made the motion and Festersen seconded to approve the July 30, 2021 draft meeting minutes.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Fermelia, Duval, Jacobson, Lee, Festersen, Hanna, Harmon, Kirchner, Pierce, Reutlinger, Romero, Saxton, Sorrell, Spohr, Tysor, Voigt, Walters and Wilson.

Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM: TRAUMA BOARD UPDATES AND NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Trauma program updates were compiled and provided to the Board prior to the meeting. See December 13, 2021 meeting handouts for a complete briefing. Wren announced the new board members to include:

- Michael Bailey (reappointment), Paramedic, State Agency EMS Professional (Rural)
- Tami Bokelman (reappointment), Rehabilitation Professional Representative (Rural), Regional West Medical Center
- Jill Coddington (appointment), Comprehensive Level Trauma Registrar, CUCM-Bergan, Omaha
- Chad Duval, MD (appointment), Advanced Level Board-Certified Emergency Physician, Bryan LGH East and West, Lincoln
- Renae Jacobson, RN, (appointment) Advanced Level Trauma Nurse Coordinator, CHI Health Good Samaritan, Kearney
- Jessica Lee, RN, (appointment) Advanced Level Pediatric Nurse Coordinator, Children's Hospital and Medical Center, Omaha
- Dr. Angela Hanna, (appointment) Pediatric Physician, Children's Hospital and Medical Center, Omaha
- Marcia Harmon, (appointment) Basic Level Trauma Center, Community Medical Center, Falls City
- Katie Pierce, RN (appointment) Comprehensive Level Trauma Nurse Coordinator, CUCM-Bergan, Omaha
- Shana Romero, (appointment), Consumer Representative, Children's Hospital and Medical Center, Omaha
- Karen Saxton, (appointment), Comprehensive Level Trauma Nurse Coordinator from Nebraska Medicine, Omaha
- Mindy Walters (appointment), General Level Trauma Nurse Coordinator, CHI St. Francis, Grand Island
- Susan Wilson, RN (appointment), Advanced Level Trauma Nurse Coordinator, Regional West Medical Center, Scottsbluff
- Jacqueline Wright, RN (appointment) Advanced Level Trauma Nurse Coordinator, Bryan West Medical Center, Lincoln

There were no additional questions or comments.

**AGENDA ITEM: DATA COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Walters stated that the Data/QA Committee had met several times to review the draft data dictionary in recent months. The draft data dictionary was sent out to the board review prior to the board meeting. Walters gave an overview of the document to include the inclusion criteria flow chart. The committee recommended to delete superficial injuries and readmissions. It was recommended to add readmissions to the PI section instead.

The committee discussed trauma activations and whether they needed to be included in the state trauma registry as a required element regardless of injury or sustained injuries and/or the patient went home. The committee asked for the board's advice as to whether these activations need to be included in the state trauma registry. Walters stated that currently no hospitals are entering data consistently so the data is not accurate. Tim Wilson stated that we can ask about injuries on the application but is not require to be entered it into the trauma registry. Hospitals can custom enter data elements such as trauma activations into their registries without reporting it to the state if they choose and run their own reports.

Laken Vrbas joined the meeting at approximately 11 a.m.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Fermelia and seconded by Wilson approve the draft data dictionary with revisions and to remove trauma activations as a requirement element to be entered into the state trauma registry.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Fermelia, Duval, Jacobson, Lee, Festersen, Hanna, Harmon, Kirchner, Pierce, Reutlinger, Romero, Saxton, Sorrell, Spohr, Tysor, Voigt, Vrbas and Wilson.

Voting No: Walters

Motion Carried

Walters recommended that the Data Dictionary be reviewed yearly to update it on any National Trauma Data Bank revisions.

Jill Coddington left the meeting at 11:39 a.m. and returned at 11:45.

#### **AGENDA ITEM: TRAUMA SYSTEM STATUTE**

Wren gave a brief overview of the draft "Trauma System Act" statute clean-up work that had been provided to members of the board in advance of the meeting. See December 13, 2021 meeting handouts for a complete briefing. Wren stated that members of the board had met earlier in the year to review the statute and had reached general consensus on the draft. The main change was the elimination of the regional boards with the stipulation that the regional Trauma Medical (TMDs) remained on the State Trauma Advisory Board to serve in a leadership capacity in their regions.

Wren asked for the board's advice on how to proceed if more than one applicant was interested in being TMD in the region and if and the TMD had to come from the lead hospital. The lead hospital is not defined in statute. The Director of Public Health makes the appointment after the recommendations from the EHS Program. The current process is the program staff looks at the credentials of the individual and not the hospital as they are advising on the Statewide Trauma System. Voigt recommended the Department look at the credentials and make a decision and that the TMD does not necessarily need to come from the lead hospital. There were no recommendations to further revise the statute. Kirchner stated that regions should work collaboratively and it should not necessarily be the lead hospital that provides leadership.

There was discussion of concern that it being a short legislative session in 2022 that it may be hard to find a senator to sponsor the clean-up bill. The alternative of waiting for the Department's review process in the spring was also discussed. Festersen offered to contact Senator Arch to get his impression in sponsoring the revisions in 2022 and report back to the board.

**MOTION:** There was a motion by Pierce and seconded by Cantrell, to have Festersen check with Senator Arch to get his impression of sponsoring the clean-up bill for the Trauma System Act in the 2022 legislative session.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Fermelia, Duval, Jacobson, Lee, Festersen, Hanna, Harmon, Kirchner, Pierce, Reutlinger, Romero, Saxton, Spohr, Tysor, Voigt, Vrbas, Walters and Wilson.

Motion carried.

#### **AGENDA ITEM: TRAUAMA SYSTEM REGULATIONS**

Tim Wilson stated that the draft Trauma System Regulations were sent to the Attorney General's Office for review on September 22, 2021. The next step will go to the Governor's Office for signature and an issuance of an effective date. Wilson had no timeline available of when the regulations would pass into law.

#### **AGENDA ITEM: DESIGNATION COMMITTEE**

Susan Wilson updated the board on activities of the September 13, 2021 Designation Committee Meeting. Copies of the complete committee notes are available on request. The committee reviewed the current chart review templates versus the past template used. This process should be in a written procedure/policy so new reviewers know the process for report submission.

The committee agreed that the new short version of the report was ok. It was recommended that the EMS squad information be deleted as this information is available on the questionnaire and is redundant and/or not information that is not needed. Saxton and Jacobson agreed to work on a statistical short list to send Wren to add to the short report template.

It was discussed that it would be helpful for the reviewer have the questionnaire from four years ago. It was suggested that if and when the new regulations pass that the questionnaire be reviewed.

The reviewer orientation checklist was reviewed. The committee agreed that the forms were ok, but more information could be added or it could be streamlined to be more helpful. It was suggested that a line be added for each reviewer to provide constructive feedback on what next steps need to be taken before the peer is ready to lead.

Dr. Hughes was opposed to the Advanced Practice Providers doing reviews as we have enough physician reviewers and it weakens the designation process.

Wren discussed the current process for new reviewer orientation. It was suggested a formal checkoff list and sign off list/sheet be created. Wren explained that there is contractual audit form that she uses to evaluate the reviewers and provides feedback. It was suggested that a similar checklist and sign off form be created for when the reviewer is ready to go out on their own. It was also recommended that the orientation handouts be sent to the new reviewer and then the state spends approximately an hour prior to review the regulatory requirements and provide a short standardized introduction before the first observation so the reviewer can then apply what he/she has learned.

It was stated that the next chair should be the nurse on the board or another expert the board with experience in state designation. The election of the chair was tabled until the new trauma nurse is appointed to the board.

#### **AGENDA ITEM: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**AGENDA ITEM: NEXT MEETING**

The Board discussed the 2022 Trauma Board Meetings to include:

January 10 – 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Zoom (Statute approval only meeting to be cancelled if no meeting is needed).

April 22 – 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. - Lincoln or Kearney (in-person)

July 25 – 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Zoom

October 7 – 10:30 a.m. 2 p.m. – Lincoln or Kearney (in-person)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Cantrell.