

**MEETING MINUTES of the
STATE TRAUMA ADVISORY
BOARD**

Friday, January 13, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Trauma Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Emily Cantrell, Board Chairperson, at 10:30a.m., on Friday, January 13, 2023. 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 January 06, 2023.

Dr. Cantrell announced that this is a public meeting, and the Open Meetings Law is posted.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

- Mike Bailey
- Dr. Zachary Bauman
- Tami Bokelman
- Dr. Emily Cantrell
- Jill Coddington
- Marcia Harmon
- Dr. Rommie Hughes
- Renae Jacobson
- Sandra Kirchner
- Dr. Eric Kuncir
- Jessica Lee
- Katie Pierce
- Chad Reutlinger
- Karen Saxton
- Dr. William T. Sorrell
- Lori Terryberry-Spohr
- Laken Vrbas
- Mindy Walters
- Susan Wilson

The following Board members were absent: Dr. Chad Duval, Dr. Rick Fermelia, Pete Festersen, Mackenzie Gasper, Dr. Angela Hannah, Shana Romero, Dr. Alesha Scott, Ben Tysor, and Dr. David Voigt.

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

- Tonja Bohling
- Teresa Hampton (DHHS Legal)
- Brad Harm
- Alex Hartzell
- Carol Jorgensen
- Debbie Kuhn
- Becka Neumiller
- Diane Schoch
- Wendy Snodgrass
- Sharon Steele
- Tim Wilson
- Sherri Wren

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Jacobson made the motion, seconded by Pierce, to adopt the agenda for the January 13, 2023, State Trauma Advisory Board meeting.

Voting Yes: Bailey, Bauman, Bokelman, Cantrell, Coddington, Harmon, Hughes, Jacobson, Kirchner, Kuncir, Lee, Pierce, Reutlinger, Saxton, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, Vrbas, Walters, and S. Wilson. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Duval, Fermelia, Festersen, Gasper, Hannah, Romero, Scott, Tysor, Voigt. Motion carried.

These minutes have been approved by the
State Trauma Advisory Board on
April 17, 2023.

10:20 am

Shana Romero joined meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Cantrell asked for questions related to the minutes and if none, a motion for approval. Saxton asked for clarification on page eight of the minutes under the Data Update. It was discussed and decided to strike the sentences referencing the ESO program sunseting.

MOTION: Harmon made the motion, seconded by Coddington, to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2022, meeting with the revision of the deletion as suggested by Karen Saxton.

Voting Yes: Bailey, Bauman, Bokelman, Cantrell, Coddington, Harmon, Hughes, Jacobson, Kirchner, Kuncir, Lee, Pierce, Reutlinger, Romero, Saxton, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, Vrbas, Walters, and S. Wilson. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Duval, Fermelia, Festersen, Gasper, Hanna, Scott, Tysor, and Voigt. Motion carried.

Cantrell reminded the board of Chad Duval's loss of his son earlier this month. A moment of silence was held in honor of William Duval. A card was sent to the family on behalf of the EMS Board and an email was sent to the Board members yesterday with his address and the option to send a donation for a memorial to be designated by the family later.

AGENDA ITEM: Office of Emergency Health Systems Program Updates

OEHS Program updates were provided in the handouts. Cantrell asked if there were questions or any additional updates. There were none.

AGENDA ITEM: Committee Updates

Due to lack of consistent written updates submitted in the last year, the format has gone back to an oral update from each region at every board meeting.

- a. Region 1 Committee update was given by Pierce. Karen sent in that Nebraska Medicine has added two surgeons to the Acute Care Surgery Trauma staff. Regional PI has been meeting quarterly on Zoom and had good representation from the facilities in the region. Kylie presented a pediatric PI tool kit that was interesting and well done, if anyone is interested in a speaker for their area. Omaha Area Trauma Symposium will be on Sept. 15, 2023, and a save-the-date will go out to everyone in the next month.
- b. Region 2 Committee update was given by Jodi DeWitt in the absence of Fermelia and Gasper. Region 2 had Regional PI meetings twice a year with the last one meeting in November. Trying to get RTTDC courses back up and running and have four requests in the region and DeWitt is working with Bergan and Renae in Kearney to get these courses accomplished. DeWitt is also working on getting these onto a shared drive for educational resources; the issue being getting special permissions to share the Google Doc file on a shared drive. Any questions for DeWitt can be submitted in the chat box. Kirchner added there are changes in the Bryan Trauma Center, one of which is Dr. Scott being unable to be here due to giving birth to twin girls on December 14, 2022. New news with a new TMD will be coming out soon.
- c. Region 3 Committee update was given by Jacobson. Nine Region 3 facilities were either designated or redesignated in 2022 and four facilities are slated for 2023. PI Meeting was held November 30, 2022. PI Meetings are held biannually (Spring and Fall). These are done combining in-person and Zoom. There are three new Trauma Nurse Coordinators in Region 3. All larger facilities are doing and have scheduled ATLS and TNCC classes. Jacobson has a listing of all ATLS classes being held statewide and can share with anyone interested. RTTDC is continuing to be offered. There are at least six projected and possibly eight RTTDC classes being held this year. An hour of focus

education addressing chest tube cricothyrotomy is also being offered with the RTTDC class this year.

- d. Region 4 Committee update was given by Dr. Hughes. RTTDC courses are being worked on. PI Meetings are getting scheduled again after not meeting due to COVID. ATLS Instructors Course was held and then an ATLS Course for all the new instructors was held. The first annual Hand Handle Regional Trauma Conference on Friday, March 24, 2023, directed to smaller hospitals in resuscitation and management of the patient and team management of the patient in these small hospitals before they transfer. Dr. Bauman will come speak at this event.
- e. Regional Committees discussion was led by Wren. The format has changed from Regional Boards to Regional Committees. There is statutory language being introduced to match these changes. PI meetings should be referred to as Regional Committee Meetings going forward. The purpose of these committees is to do what the former Regional Boards were doing only managed by the regions with the Regional Medical Director being the lead on these. Wren encouraged these committees to get their meetings scheduled and invite participants. Most meetings have focused on PI and lasting about one hour or two on Zoom. Wren also encouraged the Regional Committees to be thinking about the format of these meetings as well as formulating discussion topics and outcomes for your meetings. Wren encouraged Committees to check with program personnel about any scheduling conflicts if they want assistance from the State in these meetings.
- f. Data/QA Committee update was given by Coddington. Data/QA Committee met on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, for some updates. The Data Dictionary was approved May 17, 2022, but some errors were found along with things needing to be corrected in ImageTrend to match what is in our current Data Dictionary to be approved. The changes were supposed to be completed by the end of the year 2022, but due to unforeseen issues this has been pushed out to March 31, 2023. A checklist of what needs done has been created and this Committee will be meeting again in mid-February. Dates are still being confirmed and Coddington will get these out to everyone when they are solidified. Things being looked at for corrections are, field values, null values, and trauma element numbers that are used for reporting. The committee is also putting together a calendar and schedule of events (when changes are coming out, when these are due to the state for approval, etc.). The Networking Committee is going to get meetings started again. The Committee was holding off meetings due to the Data Dictionary changes, however there is so much information in these networking meetings that they will start these again. These meetings will be recorded and sent out if you are unable to make a meeting. Coddington brought up a need to have an educational meeting before September or October regarding a grant, so the registry meeting that occurs before September will count for that grant requirement.
- g. Designation Committee update was given by Saxton. This committee has not met since the last board meeting but will meet next week. Some things they will be doing at this meeting are continuing to refine the documents that we want approved through the state board for putting out on the state website (written transfer out policy, clarification log that has questions and answers related to the new rules and regulations, refinement of the position reviewer template) and the new business will be to look at the PI Tool Kit from Children's Hospital and make it into a document that can be posted to the website. An annual education will be looked at for reviewers to decrease variation in how the reviewers across the state approach their reviews. Saxton asked if there will be any business addressed at the Strategic Planning Meeting in April? Wren answered that it would be strictly a Strategic Planning Meeting so any business would be addressed at the next meeting in August.

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Program Updates

Sherri Wren gave an update. She emphasized the obligated funds for the Public Health Block Grant are being used for specialty courses like injury prevention, nurse leadership training, and registry training. The TNC Day Conference is in Lincoln on June 23, 2023. Designations are getting scheduled in advance prior to expiration dates. The Trauma Education Application process is in the final stages of revision and approval. This process is where you would fill in an application to get reimbursed and submit paperwork after the class is held. Instructions will be coming out soon. This would eliminate the necessity of an actual contract being in place prior. This should speed up the process and be easier to complete.

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Trauma System Medical Director Update

Dr. Bauman gave the Medical Director Update. Dr. Bauman gave a reminder for the beginning of the year 2023 and encouraged everyone to get out and review hospitals as well as promote it within your sphere of influence especially physician reviewers. The more we can have to get out there and do these reviews the lighter the load for everyone and better for our state. Conversation was had regarding prioritizing new reviewers and getting them through their first two reviews quickly so they can be in the rotation.

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Education Reimbursement Process

No additions or comments

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Statutes

Cantrell gave an update on the trauma statutes. The proposed changes have been looked over. A meeting was held with Senator Bossleman regarding the updates and edits to the rules and regulations suggested and approved by the board. Thank you to Mike Bailey and Jessica Lee for setting up that meeting. A proposed draft of these updates to the statutes was reviewed and then sent it back to Senator Bossleman for last minute edits. The legislative session has started. Lee asked if the draft with the changes will be sent back to the board? Cantrell answered she has not heard back from Riley, Bossleman's legal assistant, since last Friday. T. Wilson said these changes have not been introduced yet, however LB415 has dropped. This bill proposes appropriating funding to the OEHS Dept. (\$1 million from the general fund in 2023-2024 and another \$1 million from the general fund in 2024-2025 to DHHS to carry out the EMS Practice Act and the Statewide Trauma System Act). This will help supplement OEHS programs. A statement included within this bill states it is the intent of the legislature to continue such appropriation annually. The bill is also appropriating general funds to the department specifically for the use of statewide patient care reporting system for EMS and the Nebraska Trauma Registry. In total there is \$1,150,000.00 in that bill to appropriate to the department for programs. Projections are that it will sustain the programs for the immediate future. In addition, increasing the Fifty Cents for Life is still on the agenda, just not for this legislative session.

AGENDA ITEM: Grant Updates

Wren gave a report on Grants.

- a. PHHS Grant will be applied for again this spring. Wren asked for board members to give her ideas for projects to write into the grant for funding. T. Wilson elaborated on this for the non-board members at this meeting as well. It was requested for board members to reach out to Wren, Wilson, or Schoch with additional projects/requests for money. The PHHS Grant has a potential for additional dollars to be added.
- b. CDC COVID Grant ends in May 2023. Collaboration was done with the UNL Policy Center and there have been listening sessions held regarding the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis of the Trauma System. Ashley Miller is working on this report and

should have it to Wren in the next couple of months. Wren hopes to have it ready to look at by the Strategic Planning Meeting in April so recommendations from the report can be incorporated into the Strategic Plan. Wren stated there will not be any more COVID Grant funding so the project will come to an end in May. T. Wilson added there may be a potential for additional funding with this grant. Any projects for this grant must center around and be tied to COVID and prevention and health disparities and equity.

Walters asked what the PHHS grant can be used for? T. Wilson commented the PHHS Grant is broad and can be used for a lot of projects. It can be used for supplies, education prevention activities, laying the groundwork for initiatives that the trauma board wants to do; but it cannot be used for equipment. Care should be taken to tie it to the 2022/2023 Healthy People Initiatives. Walters also asked if there is a dollar amount? T. Wilson answered PHHS is a competitive internal grant and there is competition with the priorities of the department and other programs within DHHS for these funds, so go in high and then cut later. Proposals should be “quick and dirty projects” that can be proposed at the end of the year quickly if there is funding left over and needing to be spent last minute. The question was raised if this funding is used for the annual TNC Coordinator’s Day? The answer was, yes.

AGENDA ITEM: Reviewer Pool

Wren gave an update on the Reviewer Pool. The reviewer pool is now in place. The process is outlined in the RFQ. Wren gave a synopsis of this process. As discussed earlier there are opportunities for peers. Let Wren know if you are interested in being a peer on any of the dates listed. There are more trained physicians in the pool now that are interested to go. There continue to be scheduling conflicts. The reviewer pool is always open, so Wren encouraged people to go to the website and apply.

AGENDA ITEM: Strategic Planning Meeting in April

The Strategic Planning Meeting will be an in-person meeting in Lincoln on Monday, April 17, 2023. There will be facilitators for that meeting. Wren will be meeting with the facilitators next week to get a format for the day and go over the Benchmark, Indicators and Scoring (BIS) Report from 2016. The goal is to come up with short-term and interim goals for this board. She asked the board to be thinking what our priorities will be for the next 1-2 and 3-5 years. Also let Wren know if there are any thoughts to include with the strategic planning meeting discussion with the facilitators.

AGENDA ITEM: Board Member Orientation

Wren addressed having an hour-long annual orientation for newer board members via Zoom. Walters commented this would be good. Kuncir also commented this would be good. T. Wilson added, based on his recent experience with a new member orientation for the EMS Board, the meeting should be planned for two hours, and he would be willing to share his EMS Board Orientation presentation with Wren. Hampton also added the department has a link to a training online for the Open Meetings Law and the Attorney General’s website has information on this also as well as information about public records. Bailey commented that even long-time board members on the EMS Board found the EMS Orientation very educational and suggested allowing all members to participate. T. Wilson mentioned if the orientation is done as an entire board, it would have to be done as a public meeting due to the attendance/quorum issues. Wren will work on getting this scheduled.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comments

Snodgrass commented she has not received many trainings to put in her EMS Training Calendar and to let her know if there are any trainings, classes, webinars, etc. She will put her email address in the chat.

Next meeting is the Strategic Planning Meeting on Monday, April 17, 2023, in-person in Lincoln.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 by Dr. Emily Cantrell.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonja Bohling

Tonja Bohling
EHS Administrative Technician