

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

July 23, 2025

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Trauma Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Eric Kuncir, Board Chairperson, at 3:07pm, on 07/23/2025 at the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln. The meeting was held in person. 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 07/10/2025. Dr. Kuncir announced the location of an available copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

- Dr. Zachary Bauman
- Dr. Emily Cantrell
- Jill Coddington
- Michael Downey
- Dr. Chad Duval
- Dr. Charity Evans
- Ashley Farrens
- Victoria Hurlbut
- Renae Jacobson
- Eric Jensen
- Jozef Kuehn
- Dr. Eric Kuncir
- Jessica Lee
- Katie Pierce
- Scott Reifschneider
- Dr. William T. Sorrell
- Lori Terryberry-Spohr
- Mindy Walters

The following Board members were absent:

- Tami Bokelman
- Analisa Colglazier
- Dr. Eric Ernest
- Dr. Rommie Hughes
- Kyle Kellum
- Dr. Alejandro Luis
- Tia Manning
- Dr. Alesha Scott
- Susan Wilson
- Dr. Abdalla Zarroug

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

- Regan Blackwell
- Tonja Bohling
- Darla Hopwood
- Carol Jorgensen
- Theresa Hampton, *DHHS Attorney*
- Diane Schoch
- Lisa Steiner
- Tim Wilson
- Sherri Wren

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Coddington made the motion, seconded by Sorrell, to adopt the agenda for the 07/23/2025 State Trauma Advisory Board meeting.

These minutes have not been approved by
the State Trauma Advisory Board and may
be subject to change before becoming final.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Downey, Duval, Evans, Farrens, Hurlbut, Jacobson, Jensen, Kuehn, Kuncir, Lee, Pierce, Reifschneider, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, and Walters. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bokelman, Colglazier, Ernest, Hughes, Kellum, Luis, Manning, Scott, S. Wilson, and Zarroug. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Pierce made the motion, seconded by Coddington, to approve the minutes of the 4/11/2025 meeting.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Downey, Duval, Evans, Farrens, Hurlbut, Jacobson, Jensen, Kuehn, Kuncir, Lee, Pierce, Reifschneider, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, and Walters. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bokelman, Colglazier, Ernest, Hughes, Kellum, Luis, Manning, Scott, S. Wilson, and Zarroug. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Office of Emergency Health Systems Program Updates

Program reports are provided in the handouts, submitted for Board review prior to the meeting, and were posted in the portal.

- a. EMS Program: Jorgensen gave a review of the report submitted. She reminded everyone the EMS Model Protocols are also now available on the Protocol Application. The name of the application is One Dose. The website is: <https://hinckleymed.com/nebraska-dhhs/>. The Code is: 944037. The PIN is: 7711. Regarding the community paramedicine course, there have been a couple of town halls in the last couple of weeks as part of the assessment.
- b. Education and Training Agency Compliance: T. Wilson gave the update. Snodgrass has been working on leadership training for EMS leaders throughout the state. T. Wilson also gave everyone a reminder from the EMS education side the funding available for EMS education is eligible for services as well.
- c. Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Program: Blackwell reported the EMSC program received full funding for this grant cycle. Two surveys are out getting the needs of hospitals and EMS. The Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Program has 13 EMS Services recognized and two in the waiting list, plus several more looking at the process. There are many more techs statewide. There are also eight hospitals recognized as being pediatric-ready and a few working toward that recognition. Save the dates are out for the iEXCEL EMSC educational workshop in December. Her goal for this year for pediatric-ready EMS services has changed from 15 to 20/25.
- d. Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program: T. Wilson reported on all the activations. There are a few changes coming in 2026 due to the statutory changes this year. A reminder was given that CISM Teams are available for all first responders and hospital emergency room staff.
- e. Trauma Program: Wren reported that they have been busy with designations and will continue into 2026. Two new hospitals are coming on board for designation - Cozad and Winnebago. Fairbury is also working on getting designation. Draft regulation changes are being done. The Data Team has been working on the Data Dictionary. They have been working on training materials for reviewers and getting them out to reviewers.
- f. Stroke/STEMI Program: T. Wilson reported that there is a State Stroke Task Force meeting tomorrow evening. This group is trying to figure out what they want to evaluate and measure as far as Stroke data. The Interactive Statewide Stroke Conference, Stoke Transitions Across the Continuum: Elevating Team-Based Excellence, in partnership with iEXCEL will be held Friday, September 26, 2025, at the following sites: Omaha - UNMC Davis Global Center 4111 Emile Street, Omaha, NE 68105; Kearney - UNMC-UNK Health Sciences Education Complex, 2402 University Drive, Kearney, NE 68849; Norfolk - UNMC-Norfolk McIntosh College of Nursing, 801 E. Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701; Scottsbluff - UNMC College of Nursing – West Nebraska Division (Harms Center), 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE 69361. This year's conference will have even more interactive sessions including an escape room, virtual reality

goggles at all sites, and virtual poster presentations. The conference is aimed at Physicians, Advanced level providers, RNs, and therapists in all rehabilitation areas. A link is included here for more information: [Stroke Transitions Across the Continuum: Elevating Team-Based Excellence | Center for Continuing Education | University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)

- g. OEHS Data Systems: T. Wilson reported this group has been working on the 3.4 to 3.5 transition. This week they have sent over to ImageTrend to get the schematron updated and will be accepting third-party importer version 3.5 data at the beginning of August. Trauma Registry changes are being worked on with ImageTrend. Data needs are also being developed to be sent to the Epidemiology person.

Dr. Kuncir announced the new Board member, Analisa Colglazier APRN.

3:15pm *Tia Manning joined the meeting.*

AGENDA ITEM: Committee Updates

- a. Region 1 Committee – Pierce reported at the last meeting in May they went over the Keep Vs. Spend, head injuries, wrist fractures treatment protocols. The next meeting will be a Zoom-only meeting on August 1, 2025. Two hospitals are up for designation, Nebraska Medicine and Children’s Nebraska. Farrens recapped the discussion of providing protocols.
- b. Region 2 Committee – Wren reported Jackie Wright is the interim Trauma Manager. A meeting will be scheduled sometime in September.
- c. Region 3 Committee – Jacobson reported their last meeting was held May 21, 2025. At that meeting they discussed rib fracture protocols and medication. Image Trend training was also held. There were four RTTDC classes this year. There have been six designations in 2025, and they are planning on five designations in 2026. Two new TNCs are being trained. NOTE: Jacobson is a member of the Health Coalition Executive Committee for this region. There is only funding through December 31, 2025. There will not be a Trauma Coordinator for this region after that time.
- d. Region 4 Committee – No report.
- e. Data/QA Committee – Coddington is working on the Data Dictionary. She thanked Faith Regional Hospital, CHI Good Samaritan Hospital, Bryan Medical Center, Nebraska Medicine, CHI Health Creighton University Medical Center – Bergan Mercy, Great Plains Health, and Children’s Nebraska for all their work on the Data Dictionary. The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2025, at 10:00am. They will work on goals and objectives for next year.
- f. Designation Committee – Jacobson reported the creation of a group of different resources for TNCs throughout the state and working on the website template for those resources. There was discussion of having a Trauma Medical Director (TMD) orientation with emphasis on TMD involvement in designations. The Committee is working on a handout, checklist, etc. for Wren or Schoch to go over with staff when they meet with hospitals. This committee is working on Advanced Level PRQ, created an injury prevention log, and they have revised a list of questions for reviewers to use as a guide. Questions for reviewers will be sent out by Jacobson or Wren. The next meeting will be in October. Discussion was held on TMDs attending designation reviews.
- g. Financials to Support Improvement Committee/Legislation Outreach Committee – Pierce reported this Committee has not met and are waiting for data. She will get a report from the Data Registry and use data from it. Discussion was held on retrieving data. Several Level 1 facilities need to submit data. Some level 1 data is not being pulled. Getting ESO data imported is a priority. The OEHS Data Team is working on getting ESO data by August or September. Current changes to the Data Dictionary will be a primary focus. 2026 Data Dictionary changes will be a focus as well.
- h. Statewide Education Committee – Farrens reported the next meeting will be in August. Getting data will direct education. A plug was made for the Statewide Trauma Symposium. There are over 200 people registered.

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Trauma System Medical Director Update

Dr. Bauman had nothing to report.

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Navigator/Flow Sheet

Dr. Bauman addressed the Trauma Navigator Flow Sheet. This flowsheet is extremely variable between institutions and underutilized. Standardization of this flowsheet statewide was suggested as well as required usage for all trauma designated facilities. Discussion was held. Dr. Bauman will meet with the Designation Committee on this topic and report at the next meeting in November. If the flowsheet becomes a requirement, it will need to be put into regulations.

3:58pm Chad Duval left the meeting.

3:59pm Teresa Hampton left the meeting.

4:01pm Chad Duval and Teresa Hampton returned to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Program Updates

Wren reported the Trauma program will not have block grant funding due to Federal cuts, so funding will need to come from other sources for the next two years. This impacts the TNC Day, Trauma Symposium, special education classes, and the TQIP license. One way to work around this is by combining TNC Day with the Statewide EMS Conference in July 2026. TQIP is struggling with projects, so there is consideration of not renewing the license. TNCC, ATLS, ENPC, PALS, and other classes required by regulations will have continued funding support. Classes funded by the block grant can be reimbursed if they are held on or before September 30, 2025. There is a 90-day closeout after that to get the invoice submitted to accounting.

AGENDA ITEM: Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG) Funding Update

This was discussed in the previous agenda item above.

4:55pm Sherri Wren left the meeting.

4:58pm Sherri Wren returned to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: TQIP Collaborative

Jacobson went over the report. This report looked at data from August 2023 to September 2024 and only looked at Level 1 and 2 facilities and adults only. The category being watched is "Elderly."

TQIP will send the report/minutes of the meetings to TMDs for each area as well as invite TMDs to the meetings.

Discussion on funding for TQIP Collaborative was held. The option to absorb the TQIP into other funding by June of 2026 was brought forward.

MOTION: Walters made the motion, seconded by Evans, that the board recommend continued funding of the TQIP Collaborative pending alternative funding sources.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Downey, Duval, Evans, Farrens, Hurlbut, Jacobson, Jensen, Kuehn, Kuncir, Lee, Manning, Pierce, Reifschneider, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, Walters. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bokelman, Colglazier, Ernest, Hughes, Kellum, Luis, Scott, S. Wilson, and Zarroug. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: OEHS Program Budget

No updates.

AGENDA ITEM: Committee on Trauma

Evans reported this group is planning the Stop the Bleed event for the Legislators on-site at the Capitol. They are still looking for a senator to sponsor this event. If anyone has a senator that would be a good representative for Stop the Bleed across the state, please let this group know. COT launched a yearly event called Where Seconds Matter to build stronger relationships with members of Congress through visits to local trauma centers during the August recess, displaying the critical role trauma centers play, sharing challenges, and advocating for policies that strengthen trauma care for all. An idea was presented for a statewide event where a state representative is dropped off at a rural site where a “trauma event/accident” happened and reenact/participate in the “event” to simulate the event for the representative. Participation from local EMS services, hospitals, etc. would be encouraged to give the representative a realistic experience of what rural trauma is like and the importance of the State Trauma System to get quality care to our rural communities. The NDMS pilot for the Regional Medical Operations Center (RMOC) continues. A citywide drill was done recently that put pressure on capacity management. The COT also took a trip to visit STRACK (Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council).

AGENDA ITEM: Dr. Todd Maxson State System Presentation

Dr. Todd Maxson, Pediatric Surgeon from Arkansas, gave a presentation on the State System. He defined the trauma patient. Survivals are different for rural areas than for urban areas and data shows this difference. Data is needed for education and for funding. His suggestions were to get hospital and EMS data correct first, gather preventable mortality data, keep a log of fabulous saves according to area (congressional district), get talking points together for congressional leaders, and discuss data.

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Regulations/Data Dictionary 2:20:00

T. Wilson and Coddington gave an update on the Data Dictionary changes that were sent out to Board members in advance for review.

On p. 107, “Reason for Transfer Delay”, changed one of the fields, the “Referring Hospital - CT Scan” to “Receiving Hospital – Request Additional Imaging”.

On p. 107, “Reason for Transfer Delay”, in the “Field Values:”, took out “ED” in lines 5 and 7 so that each heading reads as follows: “High census at transferring hospital/busy” and “High census at receiving hospital/busy”.

On p. 188, to match what is in the NTDB Data Dictionary, in Appendix B, Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome, Additional Information, second bullet point, removed the comment that says, “Patients admitted with known alcohol use disorder, started on alcohol detox initiatives that experience onset signs and symptoms of alcohol withdrawal after arrival would report “No” for Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome.”

On p. 188, in Appendix B, Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome, Additional Information, third bullet point, removed the word “diagnosis” from “Documentations (diagnosis or signs/symptoms) of alcohol withdrawal must be in the patient’s medical record” so it reads, “Documentations (signs/symptoms) of alcohol withdrawal must be in the patient’s medical record.”

On p. 191, in Appendix B, under the heading Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection [CAUTI], Additional Information, removed second bullet point, “include patients transferred in from a referring facility with a catheter and patients no longer on the trauma service.”

On p. 209, in Appendix B, under the heading Unplanned Intubation, Additional Information, removed last bullet point, “Exclude patients who require intubation to protect their airway. Patients are sometimes intubated due to change in mental status or combative to protect their airway. Patient must meet the definition of severe respiratory distress, hypoxia, hypercarbia, or respiratory acidosis to be included.”

MOTION: Pierce made the motion, seconded by Jacobson, to approve the changes to the Data Dictionary sent out in advance by T. Wilson, and to include the changes from the original version presented by Coddington. Discussion was held.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Downey, Duval, Evans, Farrens, Hurlbut, Jacobson, Jensen, Kuehn, Kuncir, Lee, Manning, Pierce, Reifschneider, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, and Walters. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bokelman, Colglazier, Ernest, Hughes, Kellum, Luis, Scott, S. Wilson, and Zarroug. Motion carried.

It was recommended to modify the motion to add a HIPAA statement to move the Data Dictionary forward. Discussion was held.

MOTION: Walters made the motion, seconded by Farrens, to approve the Trauma Data Dictionary with the addition of HIPAA Statement in compliance with statute. Discussion was held regarding a Rehabilitation and Burn Dictionary, and linking the data sources with the Trauma Data Dictionary. T. Wilson will follow up on this topic with Department Attorney, Teresa Hampton, for review.

Walters amended the motion to read, to approve the Trauma Data Dictionary with the addition for legal to add a HIPAA Statement in compliance with statute and with the intent of making an additional Data Dictionary to include the rehabilitation data elements that would be recommended in the future. Farrens agrees to the amendment.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Downey, Duval, Evans, Farrens, Hurlbut, Jacobson, Jensen, Kuehn, Kuncir, Lee, , Pierce, Reifschneider, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, and Walters. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bokelman, Colglazier, Ernest, Hughes, Kellum, Luis, Manning, Scott, S. Wilson, and Zarroug. Motion carried.

5:32pm *Jessica Lee left the meeting.*

5:36pm *Jessica Lee returned to the meeting.*

T. Wilson went over changes to the Trauma Regulations that were sent out to Board members in advance for review. The following changes were in addition to those sent out in advance:

On p. 18, under the heading 011.01 Trauma Peer Review Committee, Section H, line 2, Add an “s” to the word “surgeon” so the sentence reads as follows: “At the advanced trauma level, fifty percent of the meetings must be attended by the trauma medical director and general or trauma surgeons participating on the trauma call panel.”

On p. 18, under the heading 011.01 Trauma Peer Review Committee, Section G, line 2, Add “participating on the trauma call panel” to the end of the sentence so it reads as follows: “At the general trauma level, fifty percent of the meetings must be attended by the trauma medical director and general or trauma surgeons participating on the trauma call panel.”

Discussion was held regarding section 011.03 Trauma Peer Review Committee, Items (F), (G), and (H).

5:40pm *Katie Pierce left the meeting.*

5:44pm *Katie Pierce returned to the meeting.*

5:52pm *Jill Coddington left the meeting.*

5:55pm *Jill Coddington returned to the meeting.*

6:03pm *Ashley Farrens left the meeting.*

6:04pm *Jozeph Kuehn and Charity Evans left the meeting.*

6:05pm *Jozeph Kuehn returned to the meeting.*

MOTION: Pierce made the motion, seconded by Walters, to approve the entire document of the Draft Regulations as written on the screen to include the edits.

Voting Yes: Bauman, Cantrell, Coddington, Downey, Duval, Hurlbut, Jacobson, Jensen, Kuehn, Kuncir, Lee, Manning, Pierce, Reifschneider, Sorrell, Terryberry-Spohr, and Walters. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Bokelman, Colglazier, Ernest, Evans, Farrens, Hughes, Kellum, Luis, Scott, S. Wilson, and Zarroug. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM: Next Meeting Date

Dr. Kuncir announced the next meeting will be Friday, November 14, 2025, at CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. This is an in-person meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comments

None.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:08pm by Dr. Kuncir.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonja Bohling
OEHS Administrative Technician