

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

November 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Trauma Advisory Board was called to order by Dr. Emily Cantrell, Board Chairperson, at 10:33 a.m. on Friday, November 17, 2023. The meeting was held in person at the CHI Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, NE. 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 11/09/2023. Dr. Cantrell announced the location of an available copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present in-person to answer roll call:

- Mike Bailey
- Dr. Zachary Bauman
- Tami Bokelman
- Dr. Emily Cantrell
- Jill Coddington
- Marcia Harmon
- Renae Jacobson
- Sandra Kirchner
- Dr. Eric Kuncir
- Scott Reifschneider
- Karen Saxton
- Dr. William T. Sorrell
- Lori Terryberry-Spohr
- Dr. David Voigt
- Mindy Walters

The following Board members were absent: Dr. Chad Duval, Mackenzie Gasper, Dr. Angela Hanna, Dr. Rommie Hughes, Kyle Kellum, Jessica Lee, Dr. McCann, Katie Pierce, Shana Romero, Dr. Alesha Scott, and Susan Wilson

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

- Tonja Bohling
- Sharon Steele
- Tim Wilson
- Sherri Wren

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Kirchner made the motion, seconded by Bauman, to adopt the agenda for the November 17, 2023 State Trauma Advisory Board meeting.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Harmon made the motion, seconded by Jacobson, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2023 meeting.

These minutes have been approved by the
State Trauma Advisory Board on
January 12, 2024

Discussion was held. Jacobson made the following correction to the minutes: Dr. Sorrell was not present for the roll call but was present for the voting of adopting the agenda.

MOTION: Harmon revised the motion, seconded by Jacobson, to approve with the revisions the minutes of the August 18, 2023 meeting.

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

AGENDA ITEM: Office of Emergency Health Systems Program Updates

All OEHS Program updates were provided in the handouts.

- a) **EMS Program** – Tim Wilson reported the EMS Board Executive Committee met to plan the agenda for the December 8, 2023 meeting. Bailey reported – Saving Rural EMS discussed funding and increasing the Fifty Cents for Life from \$.50 to \$1.00. Increasing to \$1.00 may not be enough of an increase. Bailey encouraged all organizations to work together in an active approach to move forward with an increase. Also discussed was dropping the level of transport from EMT to EMR, allowing EMRs to transport. This board may want to look at this topic so there is a unified voice on the issue. Continuing education is being addressed as there is a push out there to emphasize less continuing education. It is up to the Boards to educate constituents on resources that are available to help with education.

10:40am *Katie Pierce joined the meeting.*

EMS Board are currently updating protocols and specifically looking at spinal motion restriction. This is written into protocols.

Mike can send out a copy of the protocols that refer to spinal motion restriction if Board members would like to see it.

T. Wilson commented on EMRs saying it is a scope of practice issue.

Bauman spoke to the Fifty Cents For Life. The Legislative Outreach Committee met before this meeting and Dr. Kuncir will be speaking on working together on this in his committee report. He also brought up what EMS Regulations says for use of a Lucas device for management of a patient in cardiac arrest from a penetrating injury. He would like to revisit this issue. Tim will get what is in current protocols and what is in the upcoming protocols and send them to Dr. Bauman for review.

10:45am *Kyle Kellum joined the meeting.*

- b) **Education & Training Agency Compliance** – No updates
- c) **Emergency Medical Services for Children** – No updates
- d) **Critical Incident Stress Management** – No updates
- e) **Trauma System** – Sherri will give an update on Trauma System later in the agenda.
- f) **Stroke/STEMI System** – No updates
- g) **EHS Data Systems** – No updates

AGENDA ITEM: Committee Updates

- a) **Region 1 Committee** – Katie Pierce reported Region 1 meeting was held in October in Norfolk. The big goal is to get more hospitals involved and are open to suggestions from any of the other regions. Education will be updated on the State website. Lots of classes will be available More classes will be coming out for 2024. The Trauma Symposium will be on June 14, 2024 at the Scott Center. Children's Hospital Medical Center has updated their name to Children's Nebraska.

The Pediatric Trauma Conference will be held on September 13, 2024. Karen Saxton's position at Nebraska Medicine has been eliminated and will be replaced by someone who is yet to be hired therefore she is stepping off the Trauma Board effective January 1, 2024. She will let the state know when her replacement has been hired. However, she is still under contract for and will continue to do designation reviews and help whenever and in whatever she can.

- b) Region 2 Committee – Sandra Kirchner reported Dr. McCann resigned from his position as Medical Director at Bryan Medical Center and Dr. Kevin Mota is taking over as the interim TMD. Another person will be starting in March of 2024. A Committee meeting was held last week where they discussed goals with EMS Outreach. It was also decided at the committee meeting last week they want more rural trauma courses.
- c) Region 3 Committee – Renae Jacobson reported four hospitals designated, one brand new, one pending, one is scheduled, and one non-designated in the final stages of working towards designation. The next Committee Meeting will be on December 13, 2023. The Trauma Conference was held October 20, 2023 and was well attended. Three RTTDCs classes were offered in 2023 and two have already been requested in 2024. The next ATLS Class in the region is on February 22 & 23, 2024.
- d) Region 4 Committee – No update was given.
- e) QA Committee – Jill Coddington reported meetings will be monthly on the second Monday of the month from 10am-11am. A group within this Committee is working on the Data Dictionary and they are looking at doing a hybrid Data Dictionary. Regarding Data Drilldown, Andrew Ngochoch created a Nebraska report to mirror the Montana report with 2022 data. Coddington is looking at the drill down on some of the data elements, but without Andrew Ngochoch it is difficult to review this data. May 17, 2022 a new data dictionary was rolled out and there were a lot of data mapping changes. So, some of these changes may be resolved. Sherri has been working on registry networking and education and contracts. Gasper with her team at Bryan is working on securing April and March ImageTrend trainings to include ImageTrend Registry and report writing. Educators will speak at Trauma Nurse Coordinator Education Day. Education money is available from a \$60,050 grant. The CHI group will help organize a statewide AIS Severity Coding class. Discussion was had regarding data without Andrew. Mason, Sharon, and Diane, with OEHS are taking over administration of data and looking at data quality. They are working with Andrew to get updated with SASS to analyze some of the data. Currently there is access to Tableau, but there is no connection from the registry to Tableau to pull the data so that is being worked on as well. Andrew is still with DHHS and can still be accessed as a reference. There is a Highway Safety Grant being used to try and secure a temporary position to help.
- f) Designation Committee – Karen Saxton reported.
 - i. 2022 Trauma Regulations/Standards Clarification Document - This is a living document, and the board would review and approve all updates. This Committee is also seeking the approval of the document being uploaded on the state website.

MOTION: Coddington made the motion, seconded by Pierce, to approve the 2022 Trauma Regulations/Standards Clarification Document as a formal document and to have it uploaded onto the State website.

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

- ii. 2023 Chart Review Template – Saxton presented the 2023 Chart Review Template, a standardized format for physician chart review process. The Committee's recommendation is that this becomes a formal template and providers be tasked with using this format for their chart review process.

MOTION: Cantrell made the motion, seconded by Coddington, to approve the 2023 Chart Review Template as a formal template.

T. Wilson discussed a share-file system to store materials for reviews. Wren reminded everyone to remove all patient-identifying information from chart reviews. Kuncir made recommendations for this document. Discussion was held regarding revisions to the template. Cantrell revised her motion to say, “with the revisions presented to the Board”.

MOTION: Cantrell revised the motion, seconded by Coddington, to make the 2023 Chart Review Template a formal template with revisions suggested by the Board.

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

- iii. Qualifications for Nurse Reviewers from Basic Centers Document – Karen Saxton introduced this document. Discussion was held regarding allowing nurse reviewers to review at their level and below, but not levels above. Changes were suggested by Board members. Sherri is to go out once-a-year and audit nurses being trained to be reviewers. The discussion was tabled.
- iv. Education Log – Saxton presented a revision to the PRQ on the physician education page in Table C of the Education Log (Add a column to Table C in the Education Log to ask if doctors had a one-day ATLS course or a two-day ATLS course). Discussion was held. Saxton will send Sherri the revisions for Mason to revise.

Saxton reminded the Board she would no longer be Designation Committee head due to her resignation from the Board. Saxton made a recommendation to the Board that Katie Pierce take her place as head of the Designation Committee.

- g) Financials to Support Improvement Committee – Pierce reported this committee met and found documents from strategic planning session that outlined goals for the Committee. One of the goals was taking the database information and turning it into an annual report. The department and the Committee will need to sit down and figure out what needs to be included in this report. The other goal is to create a business plan to give to the Legislative Outreach Committee to take to the Legislature stating what it takes to run the Trauma Program. This will need to be a partnership between this Committee and the Legislative Outreach Committee.
- h) Trauma Information Highway Committee – Jacobson reported a need for data before they can move forward on any projects.
- i) Quality Trauma Care Matrix Committee – Sorrell reported a need for data before they can move forward on any projects. Harmon reported that a survey was started and more will come after the new year.
- j) Legislation Outreach Committee – Kuncir reported the following priorities for this Committee:
 - i. Priority 1 – Data: Look at mortality data per capita in the rural areas; quantify the mortality from trauma; EMS data; funding the data system as a priority.
 - ii. Priority 2 – Meeting with the EMS Board for collaboration
 - iii. Priority 3 – Meet with Dr. Cantrell’s contact who works with lobbyists regarding presenting to lobbyists.
 - iv. Priority 4 – Find ways to get money i.e., Dollar Glide vs. Super Speeder Fine vs. Cigarette Tax
 - v. Priority 5 – Ways to spend money: creating a statewide trauma transfer center.
 - vi. Priority 6 – Set up contact between a couple of Board members and a contact in Arkansas, a similar size state that has a very robust well-funded trauma system in place.
 - vii. Priority 7 – Meet with the State Committee on Trauma (COT).
 - viii. Priority 8 – Plan ahead of the Legislative Session on what will be presented.

Cantrell reminded everyone the Legislative session begins prior to the next Board meeting and on behalf of the Legislative Outreach Committee, a request was made for approval from the Board to act on the Board's behalf to approach Legislators and make suggestions and plans on how to best secure funding for the Trauma Program and Emergency Health System. Discussion was held regarding research on why Trauma is important and whether it should be funded.

MOTION: Bauman made the motion, seconded by Bailey, to give permission for the Legislation Outreach Committee to approach any Senators on behalf of the Trauma Board. Discussion was held and Bauman expanded the motion to read, "to give permission for the Legislation Outreach Committee and company to reach out to all committees, government officials, to promote Trauma and the wellbeing of the citizens of Nebraska."

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

- k) Statewide Education Committee – Kirchner reported overall goals were getting prevention and education more statewide. They are also looking at doing case reviews and collaboration for EMS and trauma centers across the state. They want to start a quarterly state case review. Information on this will be sent out in January. A templated PowerPoint is developed. It will start with Bryan Trauma Center. They are working through the medical legal part of it. They have lists of all the Program Managers, TNCs, EMS that can have information sent to.

The Board took a short lunch break at 12:00pm, resumed at 12:30pm.

Cantrell welcomed Kyle Kellum and Scott Reifschneider to the Trauma Board.

AGENDA ITEM: Trauma Program Updates

TNC Day will be held in North Platte on June 6, 2024. TNC Day Committee is working on lining up speakers for the TNC Day in 2024. Speakers have also been lined up with the Public Health Preventative Block Grant.

Registry trainings will be scheduled. Calendar of times will be coming. These will cover the basics of registry training first.

Another Committee project is working on draft regulations. They have been meeting every month focusing on cleaning up regulations and reviewing. Diane, Tim, and Sherri will meet at the end of the month and to look at the data changes. Reviewers and those on the Regulatory Committee need to see if there is anything missing that needs to be put into hospital reviews. The Preparedness Group was also consulted with. Tabletop exercises and drills are currently done, but maybe more is needed, so this is another area of the regulations needing reviewed to see if there are changes/additions needed.

The following Board vacancies will be posted soon:

- ER Medicine 3 or 4 Rural
- EMS Agency Urban
- Region 2 Medical Director

Designation is having an average year in 2023 and 2024 is anticipated as being an average year. Many hospital designations in Region 3 are set to expire in 2025 so that looks to be a hard-hitting year as far as

designations go. Not a lot of new inquiries for new hospitals applying for designation are coming through. One in Region 3 was recently designated – Grand Island Regional. One inquiry came in from Winnebago Reservation. This is an area we need to work on, so suggestions on how to recruit new hospitals to designate are welcome.

It has been busy with a lot of contract work and paying bills.

There is \$60 thousand of Trauma Education money to roll out and spend by September of 2024. Please email any ideas on how the money can be utilized (i.e., specialty classes) to Sherri Wren and she will run it by Tim Wilson. Wren will send out an inquiry to regional nurses to see if anyone is interested in TCAR and PCAR classes and pay with a purchase order. Start sending people Sherri's way to request to be reimbursed for classes. Wren is also looking for ideas on what to write into the 2024 grant period and grant writing for the 2025 year will start in April 2024.

For 2025 a 2-day Statewide Trauma Symposium was suggested by Dr. Bauman, offering specialty courses (Advance Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma - ASSET, TCAR, etc.), keynote speakers, other speakers (a senator and members at DHHS), classes for nurses, doctors, EMS, and providers. Discussion was held regarding the difficulty in getting someone/a group to coordinate an event of this magnitude. Conclusions: Tim Wilson and Sherri Wren will look at the grant and figure out what is needed to fund symposiums at regional levels and send it to board members. It was suggested for it to be noted in the agenda of the regional symposium that this is for education of basic and general hospital staff. It was also suggested that the sign-in sheet list the hospital each registrant is from to record the number coming from basic and general hospitals.

AGENDA ITEM: Statewide Trauma System Medical Director Update

There was no update. Dr. Bauman referred to the previous discussion held during agenda item #7.

AGENDA ITEM: TQIP Collaborative

Karen Saxton reported this Committee will meet next Tuesday, November 21, 2023 and are working on the second deep dive of the year from the spring 2023 report. This is for Shock Mortalities with Major Hospital Events. They are looking at shock mortalities with a predicted mortality of 40% or less. The Fall report just came out this week. There are not a lot of states that have published other state TQIP data and outcomes and changes they've made on the state system. Dr. Bauman suggested this as a publishing project. Tim Wilson suggested to pull out motor vehicle crashes, pedestrian, etc. with a possibility of using Highway Safety money for.

AGENDA ITEM: DHHS Block Grant Funding – COVID Grant Funding

There was nothing new to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM: Future Board Meeting Dates and Places

The following 2024 proposed schedule of Trauma Advisory Board meeting dates and places was presented for Board approval:

Friday, January 12, 2024 (Virtual)
Monday, April 15, 2024 (In-person – Lincoln)
Friday, August 16, 2024 (Virtual)

Monday, November 18, 2024 (In-person – Kearney)

Discussion was held.

MOTION: Sorrell made the motion, seconded by Coddington, to approve the 2024 schedule of meeting dates and places for the 2024 calendar year.

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

AGENDA ITEM: Public Comments

None.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m. by Dr. Cantrell.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonja Bohling

Tonja Bohling
OEHS Administrative Technician