

NORTHERN NEVADA
Public Health

**Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, August 1, 2024
9:00 a.m.**

Members

Eric Brown (Chair) – County Manager,
Washoe County

Dr. John Hardwick – Emergency Room
Physician

Jackie Bryant (Vice-Chair) – Interim City
Manager, City of Reno

Chad Kingsley – District Health Officer,
Northern Nevada Public Health

Dion Louthan – City Manager, City of Sparks

Joe Macaluso – Director of Risk
Management, Renown

This meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

1. *Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

The following members and staff were present:

Members present: Eric Brown
 JW Hodge, representing Jackie Bryant
 Dion Louthan
 Chad Kingsley
 Joe Macaluso

Ms. Miller verified that a quorum was present.

Staff present: Dania Reid
 Dr. Nancy Diao
 Andrea Esp
 April Miller
 Sarah Smith

2. *Public Comment

Limited to three (3) minutes per person. No action may be taken.

Chair Brown opened the public comment period. As there were no public comments, Chair Brown closed the public comment period.

3. Consent Items (For Possible Action)

Matters which the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board may consider in one motion. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval.

A. Approval of Draft Minutes

May 2, 2024

Joe Macaluso moved to approve the draft minutes. JW Hodge seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. *Regional Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Update – Public Board Activities, Technology Updates, Special Projects, Partnering Agency Discussions, CAD Team Goals
Erick Willrich, Technology Coordinator, Washoe County

Mr. Willrich reported that the HEXAGON project began in December 2023 with four partners including Washoe County, City of Reno, City of Sparks, and REMSA and the procedures and business practices were some of the first items accomplished. In the last month they began working on the technology infrastructure, installation, server licensing, disaster recovery, and the secondary site. The regional team continues to work on the call suite which includes the Computer Aided Dispatch and records management system. Overall, the project is on schedule and is 12% complete and all partners are engaged while completing designated tasks. The interfacing phase has been a long process that has resulted in several change requirements for functionality. The data migration phase has had an early change of scope to include an archived federated query tool for searching by the regional partners. Mr. Willrich emphasized the continued collaboration between all partners for the development of this program to have a unified system. The project is scheduled to go live September 2025. Training for this program is anticipated to begin March 2025. There has been extensive research to determine how information is obtained, for example, in the field by law enforcement, to the recording keeping, and how this will relate to a searchable database.

Chair Brown asked if the partner agencies would be receiving an update on the program and Mr. Willrich reported that an update will be presented to each partner later this month.

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Mr. Kingsley requested an update as well.

5. *Prehospital Medical Advisory Committee (PMAC) Update – Review of Current and Future Activities
John Hardwick

Ms. Andrea Esp reported that during the recent quarter, Dr. John Hardwick’s term has expired. A recruitment was opened twice for the position, both resulted in no applicants. The recruitment will open again, with anticipation of identifying a new PMAC representative. Ms. Esp reported that PMAC has not met in quite some time and they are reassessing the purpose and focus of the group as part of a CQI process with relation to the strategic plan and partnering EMS agencies.

6. *Presentation of the Washoe County Trauma Data Report 2023 – Background of the Nevada Trauma Registry, Summary and Purpose of the Washoe County Trauma Data Report, Case Fatality Rates by Mechanism of Injuries in Washoe County
Anastasia Gunawan

A. Washoe County Trauma Data Report 2023

Anastasia Gunawan, EMS Statistician, presented the Washoe County Trauma Data Report 2023 to the board. This report is produced annually and is available on the NNPH website and available for public use and distribution. The Washoe County Trauma Data report provides a summary of trends for common, preventable and traumatic injuries in Washoe County, such as Falls, Motor, vehicle related accidents, firearm and pedestrian fatalities. This year the report highlighted motor vehicle safety statistics provided by the Traffic Safety research team at UNLV and the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety. Data for non-adjudicated citation behavior is available in the current report for Washoe County with focus on failure to use due care in motor vehicle crashes.

Mr. Kingsley thanked staff for the report and recognized the importance and impact that this has on our community and noted the report highlights the areas of improvement so we can better serve the community in the case of a traumatic event. Additional attention will be required to provide a standardized data set for use in the future and amongst other jurisdictions.

7. *EMS Oversight Program and Performance Data Updates – Joint Advisory Committee Activities, Special Projects, EMS Planning, Data Performance, REMSA Health Franchise Agreement Updates, REMSA Health Exemption Requests, Community Services Department Reviews, Mass Gatherings and Special Events Reviews

Andrea Esp

Ms. Esp reported that as the fire agencies move over to the new data standardization program, we have been implementing new business-use agreements, which is in legal review currently. The

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group is reintroducing all objectives and activities for the upcoming strategic plan and plan to continue discussions in September, with a focus of determining new milestones to accomplish the objectives as a region. The EMS Program continues to work with partners on the franchise revision with a particular focus on Article 2's terms and language. There has been an improvement to Article 5 with the new development and soon to be implemented CAD system. To date, Article's 1-5 have been reviewed. Articles 6-17 are still to be reviewed. The next phase of review will include the CAD system response times and penalties as well as conduct a market study to review public utility models across the nation. Ms. Esp expressed the importance for all parties to have collaborative discussions on how to improve patient care across the region. Mr. Kingsley expressed support for the collaboration required to make the necessary changes moving forward to the next phase of revisions.

8. *Agency Reports and Updates

A. *REMSA Health EMSAB Report, Adam Heinz

Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

Mr. Heinz reported that in July the City of Sparks and Sparks Fire Department entered into a service agreement with REMSA Health to provide ALS response and transport services in the Wingfield Springs area. This new partnership has proven to be productive and collaborative while enhancing the service delivery in Northern Sparks, while maintaining the high standards and response time agreements set by the District Board of Health. This agreement mirrors the agreement in place with Truckee Meadows Fire. REMSA is working on establishing alternative care destinations for patients while pairing them with the appropriate partnering facilities based on level of care needed in lieu of transporting to the emergency departments. Burning Man is coming up in August and REMSA is not providing services, but is working closely with the medical provider while maintaining communications and providing liaison support.

B. *City of Sparks Fire Department EMSAB Report, Chief Jeff Sullivan

Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

Jeff Sullivan reported that they have continued to work on integrating their new ambulance into service while also providing training to staff. SFD entered into an agreement with REMSA Health on July 1 and is pleased to report there is an enhanced service level of support in Wingfield Springs area. The City Council entered into an agreement with Marshall EMS Billing to allow cost recovery for ground ambulance transport services. The SFD Medical Director provided training to staff on pain management and narcotics with the appropriate use and timing of each one of those medications. Additional training was provided on the use of IV Tylenol, pelvic binders, as well as a series of scenarios that challenge their skills to ensure standards of care are met.

C. *Truckee Meadows Fire and Rescue EMSAB Report, Chief Joe Kammann

Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

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Joe Kammann reported that training has continues on the new ESO charting system and highlighted the expansion of the REMS Team, Rapid Extraction Module Support Team. This includes a group of firefighter paramedics that provide advanced life support on wildland fires to both the firefighters themselves and to the public in the event of any injuries or medical emergencies. There are 25 paramedics that are on the team and they have been in action the majority of the month. There is a new regional hazmat coordinator position that is housed by the City of Sparks, but is jointly funded by TMFR, RFD, and SFD. This new role is predominantly the medical side of hazmat and will allow TMFR to expand the tax medic program which is a group of firefighter paramedics that are hazmat technicians as well. This group will be able to provide advanced specialty medical care on scene of the triad responses and will be able to allow for a seamless transfer to the ED's while providing the medical information from the hazmat incident. Mr. Kammann reported that they are continuing to onboard and train new staff and have eight new cadets starting the October Fire Academy.

D. *Reno Fire Department EMSAB Report, Chief Cindy Green

Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

Cindy Green reported that they also switched over to the ESO charting platform for both fire and medial reporting and training continues. They participated in a regional active assailant training at Truckee Meadows Community College which included TMFR, SFD, the dispatch centers, REMSA, and Washoe County. She expressed excitement to be able to partner with the regional agencies to provide additional support, provided by the training activity. RFD deployed an additional ambulance in the north valleys for both medial and fire to help assist and reduce response time due to the ongoing construction in this area.

9. *Board Comment

Limited to announcements or issues for future agendas. No action may be taken. Dion Louthan requested a detailed financial report from REMSA Health to understand where the organization is at fiscally. Adam Heinz agreed to provide this information. Chair Brown welcomed the newest members of the board, Dion Louthan and Chad Kingsley.

Chair Brown closed board comment.

10. *Public Comment

Limited to three (3) minutes per person. No action may be taken.

Chair Brown opened the public comment period.

As there was no one wishing to speak, Chair Brown closed the public comment period.

Adjournment

Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.