

NORTHERN NEVADA
Public Health

**Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, November 6, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

Members

Kate Thomas (Chair) – Interim County
Manager, Washoe County

Dr. Nicholas Von Foerster – Emergency
Room Physician

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

Chad Kingsley – District Health Officer,
Northern Nevada Public Health

Dion Louthan – City Manager, City of Sparks

Joe Macaluso – Vice President of Risk
Management, Renown

This meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

1. *Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

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

The following members and staff were present:

Members present: Kate Thomas
 JW Hodge, representing Jackie Bryant
 Dion Louthan
 Chad Kingsley
 Dr. Von Foerster

Ms. Miller verified that a quorum was present.

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

2. *Public Comment

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

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

August 7, 2025

Mr. Hodge moved to approve the draft minutes. Dr. Kingsley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. *Discussion and Acknowledgment of Resignation – Joe Macaluso, Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Representative.

Andrea Esp

Ms. Esp reported that the current term for Mr. Joe Macaluso has come to an end and he has decided to submit his resignation for the role.

5. Discussion *Recognize the week of November 17 - 21, 2025 as Crash Responder Safety Week.

Andrea Esp

Ms. Esp read the proclamation and noted that there are several first responders present at the meeting and expressed thanks for the work they do and the importance of spreading the message. Our first responders, including tow truck drivers, put their lives on the line every day as part of their job and to help the community.

6.* Presentation, discussion, and possible approval for distribution of the Washoe County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Oversight Program FY25 Annual Report. (For Possible Action)

Andrea Esp

Ms. Esp presented the report noting the inclusion of the National Fire Protection Association standards, for informational purposes only. She wanted to express that these are not laws nor the local standards and are not asking for them to be, but merely a standard to which they can measure their performance as far as it relates to EMS operations. She suggested that regional standards be set in the future to ensure performance can be measured and goals can be set.

Vice-Chair Hodge opined that it may be time to have a larger conversation over the role of this board and how it relates to the ILA with the three different fire agencies in what controls what and how. Dr. Von Foerster agreed with the previous statements and also opined that perhaps there is more to measure than response times, such as a slower response time but a higher quality response and safer response or having accurate scene safety information. Mr. Louthan opined the need to address the board's role and how to evolve it bearing in mind any proposed metrics and their affects.

Mr. Louthan approved the motion. Vice-Chair Hodge seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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 the EMS Joint Advisory Committee, which includes REMSA Health, the NNPH EMS Program, Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue, City of Reno Fire, and City of Sparks Fire, met on September 9, 2025, to discuss identifying proposed metrics for the region outside of response times. Some proposed metrics include Safety & Reliability, Clinical Process Adherence, and Outcomes & Patient Experience. The process includes three phases to implementation. Phase 1 will confirm priority conditions and metrics including any required agency subsets. Phase 2 will decide patient outcome registries for linkage including finalizing DUA's/BAA's as needed. Phase 3 will authorize access to information to begin mapping and testing. Ms. Esp acknowledged that partner agencies have been very helpful in providing direction where they have implemented some of these agreements for their agencies.

8. *Regional Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Update – Public Board Activities, Technology Updates, Special Projects, Partnering Agency Discussions, CAD Team Goals
Cody Shadle, Director, Reno Public Safety Dispatch

Kenneth Kitts with REMSA Health provided an update as he is one of the four project coordinators for the Hexagon program. Currently the program is in the configuration and

implementation phase and nearing sublet training. Some key accomplishments identified were Hardware & Software Installation is complete; System Build & Configuration is 95% complete; 3rd Party Integrations 80% complete; and Disaster Recovery/Back-Up Site Installation. The recovery and back up installation ensures resilience in the system in the event of any kind of failure. The next phase of the program is a heavily centered on training staff that utilizes systems that connects to the CAD program. Training continues for the next several months. The go-live date is expected in February of 2026.

- 9. *Presentation and Discussion of Recommendations from the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) Statement** – The recommendations aim to improve the consistency, transparency, and quality of EMS performance evaluations and ensure that position statements are both credible and actionable.

Dr. Von Foerster

Dr. Von Foerster presented and discussed the Recommendations from the National Association of EMS Physicians Statement noting various EMS performance standards in addition to response time-based measurements. He noted that this is more of a clinical measurement and can be beneficial for the JAC to incorporate as a quality assessment and should be where we aspire to moving towards, as this is the formal recommendation at the national level.

- 10. Discussion and Possible Action to Rescind the August 7, 2025 EMSAB Approval to Establish a Workgroup to Explore Development of an EMS Licensure and Permitting Program in Coordination with Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH), Pursuant to Assembly Bill 102 (2025), Including the Identification of Entities to be Represented on the Workgroup.** (For possible action)

Andrea Esp

Ms. Esp reported that the approval given by the board at the previous meeting was later discovered that the board did not have the authority to make that appointment and requests a motion to rescind.

Dr. Chad Kingsley approved the motion. Mr. Louthan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- 11. Discussion and Possible Action to Direct the District Health Officer to Form a Workgroup Pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for EMS Oversight, Article 4, Section 4.1(b), to Explore the Development of an EMS Licensure and Permitting Program in Coordination with Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) and its EMS Oversight Program, Pursuant to Assembly Bill 102 (2025).** (For possible action)
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Andrea Esp

Ms. Esp reported that the District Health Officer (DHO) does have the authority through the Inter-Local Agreement to develop a workgroup and requests that the board direct the DHO to form the workgroup with the same parameters as previously voted on August 7, 2025. There would be no changes to the composition of the workgroup or the intent of that workgroup, but it would be the DHO forming the workgroup rather than this board.

Deputy District Attorney Dania Reid did clarify that the discretion for the participants in the workgroup falls to Dr. Kingsley. Dr. Kingsley thanked Ms. Reid and Ms. Esp in their guidance noting the complexities in navigating the formation of this workgroup. He also noted that he would be following the recommendations as previously discussed by this board.

Mr. Louthan approved the motion. Vice-Chair Hodge seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

12. *Update on Amended and Restated Franchise Agreement for Ambulance Service.

Presentation will include whether the agreement was approved by the District Board of Health (DBOH). If not approved, an update on anticipated next steps for updating the Franchise Agreement for Ambulance Service.

Dr. Chad Kingsley

Dr. Chad Kingsley reported that the Amended and Restated Franchise Agreement for Ambulance Services was supposed to be heard at the October District Board of Health, and there were some concerns, so the item was pulled from the agenda. Items of concern were discussed with fire partners as well as City and County Managers to hear recommended amendments for consideration by the contracted parties. All recommendations were asked to include the current impact on EMS providers in the community, supporting data, and associated positive or negative cost implications on EMS providers, and a proposed timeline for implementation with estimated costs for any recommended changes. These recommendations will be discussed with REMSA Health, NNPH, and the DBOH Chair, with follow-up discussions with the contracted parties' attorneys and subsequent amendments to the contract. These proposed amendments will be brought back to the DBOH January meeting.

13. *Agency Reports and Updates

- A. ***REMSA Health EMSAB Report, Adam Heinz**
Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

Mr. Adam Heinz presented REMSA Health’s report and highlighted that one of their EMS Managers, Caitlin Roberts, was being honored as a national star by the American Ambulance Association. REMSA Health has also been working in conjunction with Renown Health in meeting vulnerable populations where they are to provide immunizations that would otherwise not be able to. Mr. Heinz thanked Dr. Von Foerster for his commitment to looking at other measures of performance. Through the use of penalty funds, REMSA Health was able to provide Stop the Bleed and AED Kits to Doral Academy and the Christian Academy; 204 Stop the Bleed Kits and wall mounts to the University of Nevada; 156 AED bleeding wall mounts, 103 bleed control kits, and equipment for the Washoe County School Police.

B. *City of Sparks Fire Department EMSAB Report, Chief Jeff Sullivan
Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

Chief Jeff Sullivan presented the EMS Operations Report, highlighting that 4 of their 7 AFG grant-funded paramedics just completed schooling and will then go through their in-house 480-hour preceptorship program, followed by EMS evaluation. Trainings continue from July 2025 – September 2025, including annual protocol review, operational helicopter landing zone training, communications and radio frequencies, and their High-res and low-frequency training.

C. *Truckee Meadows Fire and Rescue EMSAB Report, Chief Joe Kammann
Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

EMS Coordinator Zeb Nomura presented the EMS Operations Report noting that they’ve been doing a comprehensive chest pain committee group with Sierra Medical Center to review STEMI cases and process improvements for hospital staff. TMFR will be on the panel for the HACAD webinar. Mr. Nomura highlighted the continued collaboration with Nevada Health System and the TMFR unit in Spanish Springs by providing extra patient support to the freestanding ER and facilitating a patient transfer to Renown. Mr. Nomura thanked Ms. Esp and the EMS Oversight team as well as REMSA for purchasing CYAONKITS with penalty funds.

D. *Reno Fire Department EMSAB Report, Chief Cindy Green
Data Performance Report, EMS Operations Report

Dr. Von Foerster, Medical Director for Reno Fire, presented the EMS Operations Report and reported that the division is in the midst of EMS training and working on neonatal advanced life support. Dr. Von Foerster has completed ride-alongs and station visits with every station shift in the City and continues to do ride-alongs in the

community as an EMS physician and has enjoyed developing relationships with the crews and found this helpful and a great way to understand the inner workings of the community.

14. *Board Comment

Limited to announcements or issues for future agendas. No action may be taken.

No board comment at this time.

15. *Public Comment

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

Chair Thomas opened the public comment period.

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

Adjournment

Chair Thomas adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.
