



MINUTES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD (RTAB)

January 15, 2025 - 1:30 P.M.

Minutes of the meeting are produced in summary format and are not verbatim

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Fisher, MD, Chair, Sunrise Hospital
Lisa Rogge, RN, University Medical Center
John Recicar, RN, MOMMC
Georgi Collins, Sunrise Hospital
Ashley Tolar, RN, St. Rose Siena Hospital
Yvonne Ramos, Health Education
Alexis Mussi, Administrator, Non-Trauma
Maya Holmes, Payers of Medical Benefits
Erin Breen, Legislative/Advocacy
Jessica Colvin, System Finance

Deborah Kuhls, MD, University Medical Center
Col Keith Berry, MD, MOMMC
Chris Giunchigliani, General Public
Sean Dort, MD, St. Rose Siena Hospital
Danita Cohen, Public Relations/Advocacy
Michael Holtz, MD, MAB Chairman
Amy Henley, Rehabilitation Services
Sam Scheller, Private EMS Provider
Frank Simone, Paramedic, Public EMS Provider

SNHD STAFF PRESENT

Christian Young, MD, EMSTS Medical Director
Stacy Johnson, EMSTS Regional Trauma Coordinator
Jacques Graham, SNHD Administrative Secretary

Edward Wynder, SNHD, Associate General Counsel
Andria Cordovez Mulet, SNHD Executive Asst

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

Brett Olbur
Keith Berry
Bob Rokosi

Stacie Sasso
John Gonzalez

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regional Trauma Advisory Board (RTAB) was called to order by Chair Fisher at 1:30 pm. The Affidavit of Posting was noted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Roll call was administered by SNHD staff member Stacy Johnson and she noted that quorum was met.

II. DIRECTIONS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO MEETINGS:

Directions were read out loud as follows: Members of the public may attend and participate in the RTAB meeting over the telephone by calling (702) 907-7151 and entering access code 815693579#. To provide public comment over the telephone, please press *3 during the comment period and wait to be called on.

III. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public are allowed to speak on Action items after the Board's discussion and prior to their vote. Each speaker will be given five (5) minutes to address the Board on the pending topic. No person may yield his or her time to another person. In those situations where large groups of

people desire to address the Board on the same matter, the Chair may request that those groups select only one or two speakers from the group to address the Board on behalf of the group. Once the action item is closed, no additional public comment will be accepted. Chair Fisher opened public comment. Chair Fisher asked if anyone wished to address the Board pertaining to items listed on the agenda. Seeing no one, he closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE JANUARY 15, 2025 AGENDA:

Chair Fisher asked for approval of the agenda from the January 15, 2025 meeting. *A motion was made by Ms. Giunchigliani, seconded by Dr. Kuhls, and passed unanimously to approve the agenda.*

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Fisher stated the Consent Agenda consisted of matters to be considered by the RTAB that can be enacted by one motion. Any item may be discussed separately per Board member request. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval.

Approve Minutes/Regional Trauma Advisory Board Meeting: 10/16/2024.

A motion was made by Member Giunchigliani, seconded by Mr. Scheller, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

VI. DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER REPORT:

No report.

VII. REPORT/DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Discussion of Possible Support Statement for Legislative Issues Regarding Traffic Safety

Andrew Bennett, Director of Traffic Safety for Clark County, introduced himself to the Board and stated he was in attendance solely in his capacity as the Chair of the Nevada Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety (NVACTS) which was established in NRS in 2021. He stated NRS is very clear on their statutory authority that represents a broad group of state level organizations as well as local organizations. He has had the opportunity to serve on the board with Dr. Kuhls and Erin Breen. Two legislators also sit on the committee: Senator Harris and Assemblywoman Brown-May. Every year they are required by law to present policy recommendations to the Governor and to the legislature that they feel would have the largest impact on saving lives on Nevada's roadways.

Mr. Bennett reported NVACTS unanimously voted to move forward with two bills:

- BDR 422 – Automated traffic enforcement has been prohibited by NRS since at least 1999. There have been two prior efforts to try to move this legislation forward over the last two sessions that were unsuccessful. The National Department of Transport (NDOT) listed automatic traffic enforcement as a proven safety counter measure. Thirty-three states have adopted the use of this tool to save lives on Nevada's roadways.
- BDR 423 – Focuses on screening DUI offenders for a higher level of treatment and intervention.

Mr. Bennett provided the link to the Nevada Advisory Committee on Traffic Safety's December 2024 Annual Report:

<https://zerofatalitiesnv.com/app/uploads/2025/01/2024-NVACTS-Annual-Report.pdf>. He stated that 33 states and hundreds of communities across the nation have implemented automated traffic enforcement, so we can learn from some of the mistakes that were made in the implementation process in those states/communities. He noted that NVACTS believes automated traffic enforcement is one of the largest proven traffic counter measures that is prohibited by NRS. They feel the prohibition should be lifted so local decisions can be made by the communities. Ms. Breen

stated that both bill drafts, as well as some of the legislation that came out of NVACTS could potentially save lives by having fewer patients coming through the trauma centers.

Mr. Bennett stated BDR 422 is largely a repeat of 2019 legislation that was proposed by then Governor Brian Sandoval along with the state office of traffic safety, which greatly eliminates the prohibition against the use of the technology; that would open it up for speed, red light enforcement and stop signs. Automated traffic enforcement is currently allowed to be used only if it's attached to a government facility. BDR 422 is focused on removing the prohibition, while also setting up safeguards. Again, best practices we learned from other neighboring communities such as Phoenix who eliminated their program but recently restarted it because they're struggling with increased traffic fatalities. This gives the Nevada Dept. of Transportation the authority to implement those regulations. BDR 422 would enforce any violations on stop-arm cameras for school buses. So, it would enforce any violations of people passing a school bus with a stop-arm out. There is also the potential for another BDR should BDR 422 fail to move forward. The back stop would be attempting to move forward automated traffic enforcement just in school zones, which was our effort conducted last session where we failed to receive a hearing.

Mr. Bennett related that DUI offenders with a certain blood alcohol content (BAC) are required to either go to a specialty court, or to be screened for a higher level of intervention. We're seeking to reduce the threshold of the BAC to either any DUI offender, or to lower the level it's currently at, which he believes is .18, and to lower the threshold of what is required to get people proper treatment to possibly address the addiction. It's not seeking to change any penalties in this specific legislation, but to address enabling language to ensure we have proper screening mechanisms in our courts.

Ms. Giunchigliani mentioned a pilot project done in Clark County by the Sheriff's Office for red light driving. She asked if we had access to the statistics gathered from that project. Mr. Bennett stated the RTC conducted advanced analytics of the videos that they receive from their traffic cameras. Over 1,600 people in one week ran the signal at Spring Mountain and Rainbow, with the extreme definition of running a red signal. They are hoping to address "what does red mean" in a public forum. It's not running a yellow, it's not running a soft red, it's a red signal that's been in existence for a period of time. He noted that the previous legislation decriminalized the majority of our traffic code via cameras. Part of the 2019 legislation was to go ahead and move some of these violations to civil. Local entities would have the decision-making power, but the Nevada Dept. of Transportation of NVACTS would be responsible for putting in safeguards through NAC and ensuring we have a common level of understanding what the implementation of these programs would look like.

Ms. Breen asked the Board to reach a consensus to support this legislation because of the potential to save lives and mitigate critical crashes. She noted that 412 people died in the State of Nevada last year, with the two largest contributing factors being speed and impairment. Pedestrian fatalities were also terrible. She stated that every citation that a camera would suggest is reviewed by a law enforcement officer before it's sent out. If you want to face your accuser, a law enforcement officer could be called to court for you to contest your citation. Dr. Fisher asked if they just need the Board to support the two bills mentioned, or if there are others. Mr. Bennett stated that nothing can happen without removing the prohibition and opening up other avenues. He stated they have a BDR number for the stop-arm that includes interim growth and infrastructure, but the school zone bill does not have a BDR yet. However, there is commitment to move it forward. The idea is to have an open and honest conversation about automated traffic enforcement in our communities.

Ms. Giunchigliani asked whether there has been any outreach to find out how the public feels about these issues. Mr. Bennett stated that over 150 communities have the use of automated cameras to enforce speed laws. He related he previously was the program manager for Zero Fatalities, the State's Traffic Safety Education Awareness Program, and PIO for the State police. Every year there was a study done that asked about public perception of potential legislation within the safety

realm. Issues such as the primary seatbelt law, automated traffic enforcement, and changes to the graduated driver's licensing process were always discussed; each of those three topics had over 50% support. There's been great conversation in the media so far about automated traffic enforcement, and the Sheriff has been very vocal as well. It's a popular topic, and there will be a need to do community outreach to continue to have these conversations. Ms. Giunchigliani offered her assistance with public outreach. Mr. Bennett stated there have been reports of increased crashes upon initial implementation, but they're low-risk, low-injury, if non-injury crashes. Across the board, every single state that's implemented automated traffic enforcement has seen a reduction in fatalities. He stated data is available from the Governor's Highway Safety Association and the National Department of Transportation. Ms. Giunchigliani stated we should also be looking at true, calming traffic design for the roadways, such as roundabouts. Mr. Bennett noted we do not intend on using automated traffic enforcement to fix every fatality, it's only a tool we will have on our tool belt. We understand there needs to be changes to our roads, including school zoning. The intention of the funding is to be exclusively used after the program is funded for traffic safety improvements in the immediate areas around the deployment of the technology. He stated that use of this technology varies from state to state depending on their needs.

Dr. Fisher asked whether there's been any positive changes to insurance benefits in the states with automated traffic enforcement. Mr. Bennett stated he met with a commissioner from the insurance commission, but he wasn't able to show on record that it would definitely make a difference in Nevada. We hope to see those rates lowered after we achieve certain benchmarks, but there are no guarantees.

A motion was made by Ms. Giunchigliani, seconded by Dr. Kuhls, and carried unanimously to support BDR 422.

A motion was made by Ms. Rogge, seconded by Dr. Dort, and carried unanimously to support BDR 423.

VIII. REGIONAL TRAUMA COORDINATOR REPORT

A. Update for EMS & Trauma System

Ms. Johnson notified the Board that 1) Tranexamic acid (TXA) was added to the Hemorrhage Control protocol; and 2) A medical preparedness and response for bomb incidents training is scheduled for February 26-27 at the North Las Vegas Office of Emergency Management. She stated it's a great learning opportunity, it is free to attend, and they will receive continuing education hours.

B. Trauma Field Triage Criteria (TFTC) Data Reports for 3rd Quarter 2024

Ms. Johnson referred the Board to the data in their packets. She apologized for the delay, citing issues with I.T. with transitioning the Steps to Colors. She noted the out of area data is not included because they're looking at it a little more closely because some of the submissions we're receiving don't always account for things like patient choice, so the numbers are over-calculated. The epidemiology department is currently working on a method to take those incidences into account and give us more accurate numbers.

C. Report from MAB Meeting

Dr. Holtz reported the MAB has been working on getting a whole blood project started in the valley for the past year. It's being used successfully throughout the country. They are close to completion and have coolers, blood warmers, and infusers on hand. They are currently working on obtaining a supply of whole blood. The pilot program should be up and running within the next month, so the receiving facilities should start to see patients arriving who have received whole blood in the field. Ms. Giunchigliani asked what jurisdictions will be included in the pilot program. Dr. Holtz stated that the plan is to supply an EMS supervisor vehicle at Station 33, which is centrally located in the city. The program is designed so that the supervisor will be dispatched to all high-level calls where it's likely that whole blood may be beneficial. We

also want to ensure that it's available to the whole valley, so all other agencies will be notified to request it when needed. He anticipates it will be used for instances of prolonged extrications or for an entrapped patient, but it will be available as a regional resource. He stated that after completion, he will provide the Board with the final algorithm for the pilot program. Dr. Young noted that operationally, the plan is not to delay transport to a trauma center. They are not going to be staying on scene waiting for blood to arrive to the patient; the patient will move toward definitive care.

D. Discussion of Upcoming Nominations for Non-Standing RTAB Member Seats for the Term Expiring June 30, 2025

Ms. Johnson stated there is a nomination form in everyone's packet. The deadline to submit a nomination is March 31, 2025 prior to the RTAB Member Nominating Committee meeting to be held on April 16, 2025.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS / DISCUSSION ONLY

A. Report from Public Provider of Advanced Emergency Care

No report.

B. Report from Private Provider of Advanced Emergency Care

No report.

C. Report from General Public Representative

No report.

D. Report from Non-Trauma Center Hospital Representative

No report.

E. Report from Rehabilitation Representative

No report.

F. Report from Health Education & Injury Prevention Services Representative

Ms. Ramos reported the following upcoming events:

- On Saturday, January 25th there is going to be a car seat giveaway event from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at Richard Rundle Elementary School.
- On Thursday, January 30th there will be a large jacket giveaway at Whitney Recreation Center. The Road Equity Alliance Project is working with local and community partners who do outreach with the un-housed community to distribute bright colored jackets with red reflecting striping to help those walking and biking to be more visible in the daytime, and also when crossing streets at night.
- On Monday, February 3rd the Road Equity Alliance Project will launch their 2025 Save a Life Win a MacBook. This poster contest aims to raise awareness on crossing the street safely. This year there are more expanded prizes to award more age groups and school children. The winning poster will be showcased at bus shelters. (For more details go to pedsafe.vegas)
- There will be crosswalk enforcement events which advocates for patient safety for both Valentine's and St. Patrick's Day.
- There is also ongoing school-based education for walking and rolling. Anyone interested to hold this event for their child's school can reach out to Erin Breen with the Road Equity Alliance.
- St. Rose Siena has multiple upcoming classes scheduled, including sessions for high school students and other local organizations.

- The Community & Parent Firearm Safety class is being offered at the Healthy Living Institute in collaboration with the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention. The class is a resource for parents, community members, and healthcare providers. It also provides free firearm securing devices to class participants. The next class is scheduled for Friday, February 28th from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

G. Report from Legislative/Advocacy Representative

Ms. Breen announced Southern and Northern Nevada will be hosting a breakfast on February 5th and will be available throughout the day to answer any questions on transportation-related legislation in the 2025 session.

H. Report from Public Relations/Media Representative

No report.

I. Report from Payer of Medical Benefits

No report.

J. Report from System Finance/Funding

No report.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment is a period devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussions of those comments, about matters relevant to the Committee's jurisdiction will be held. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of this Agenda until the matter itself has been specifically include on an agenda as an item upon which may be taken pursuant to NRS 241.020. All comments are limited to five (5) minutes. Chair Fisher asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Seeing no one, he closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Fisher adjourned the meeting at 2:20 pm.