

NASEMSO Board of Directors
September 14, 2023, 2:00 PM EDT
Meeting Record



Present

Officers

President: Joe House
President-Elect: Jason Rhodes
Immediate Past President: Alisa Williams
Secretary: Sam Hurley

Region Chairs

Great Lakes: Kraig Kinney
West: Todd McDowell
East: Candace Gardner
Western Plains: Tim Wilson

Council Chairs

Health & Medical Preparedness: Karen Owens
Personnel Licensure: Brett Hart
Pediatric Emergency Care: Anna Sessa
Trauma Managers: Eileen Worden
Education: Terrie Godde
Data Managers: Jay Ostby
Medical Directors: Richard Kamin

Other NASEMSO Members

Anna Sessa
Wendy Snodgrass
Amber Vitane
Gail Bradley

Federal Partners

Gam Wijetunge

NASEMSO Staff

Dia Gainor
Andy Gienapp
Randall Eimerman
Mary Hedges
Beth Armstrong
Leslee Stein-Spencer
Kelli Perotti
Adrienne Wilson
Alex Tyeryar

Absent

South: Jamie Gray

Call to Order / Roll Call

President Joe House called the meeting to order at 2 PM ET. A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report

Sam Hurley presented the Executive Committee (EC) report and the August 2023 Board meeting minutes.

ACTION: Kraig Kinney moved, and Terrie Godde seconded to approve the August 2023 minutes as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Justin Romanello reported that as of August 31, 2023, the total income is \$356,767. The total expenses are \$210,210 versus a twelve-month budget of \$1,513,366. The net income from operations is \$144, 290. The total next excess is \$144,290. Net assets are \$941,595.

Program Committee

Justin Romanello reported that the Program Committee met Tuesday, September 12. They reviewed the feedback they received in the last two meetings. Attendees appreciated the networking opportunities and the changes to the schedule. Complaints centered on the smoke in the casinos and safety concerns outside of the casino/hotel. In the interest of addressing safety concerns moving forward, Pennsylvania officials were asked to provide a traveler's brief of the area. The brief will highlight some of the interesting parts of Pittsburgh for external events.

The Committee discussed the Freedom House Ambulance recognition event. Mary Hedges reported that she reached out to John Moon, who has been in contact with five of the original Freedom House honorees. The Committee has been looking into reaching out to more of the members. They are working on assessing what the needs of the members are and what support they will require to get to the event. This will inform the budget and the requirements for vendor support.

The Committee is considering inviting senior officials from state or Federal government, to attend and recognize the attendees alongside NASEMSO. They acknowledged that there would be costs associated with this in addition to paying for plaques and other miscellaneous items.

The possibility of having diversity as the theme for the conference was a topic of discussion. The Committee discussed the idea of integrating the theme into presentations and activities.

The Program Committee considered the idea of eliminating Committee meetings. Members considered whether two full conference days focused on Council meeting would be the most beneficial, but no decision was reached.

There was further discussion on the various breakout sessions and speakers. They considered including smaller 20-minute sessions.

Finally, they talked about the President's reception potentially being off site from the venue. The Gateway Clipper, a three-hour dinner cruise, was considered as a sponsored President's reception.

President's Report and Federal Partners Welcome

Election of Member-at-Large on the EC

Discussion: Joe House reported that staff received one self-nominee from Kraig Kinney. Joe asked if there were any others who were interested in the EC Member-at-Large position or if there were any nominations. No one present expressed interest and there were no nominations from the floor.

ACTION: Justin Romanello moved, and Anna Sessa seconded to close the nominations. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Joe House stated that, since there is just one nominee, Kraig Kinney is elected as the new Member at Large on the EC.

Candace Gardner is the new East Region Vice Chair

Joe House thanked Candace Gardner for joining the Board as the new East Region Vice Chair.

EC's In Person meeting with Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell

Joe House reported that the EC will meet USFA Administrator, Dr Lori Moore-Merrell, on October 6th. After this initial meeting, on October 17th, the EC, along with NAEMT, AAA, and NAEMSP, will meet with Dr. Merrell to further discuss the direction the USFA is going.

NHTSA OEMS

Gam Wijetunge thanked NASEMSO for allowing NHTSA to join their regional calls. This has given them the opportunity to talk about post-crash care and encourage state directors to reach out to their state highway safety officer and their NHTSA regional administrator. He stated that they are hoping that by providing these contacts and having positive calls, they will be able to increase the focus in the coming years on improving post-crash care and getting resources to the states.

Gam reported that FICEMS met recently and approved a statement on diversity, equity, and inclusion, and accessibility. The statement will be posted shortly and sent out to the community.

Gam reported that the last public meeting of NEMSAC received a lot of public participation, particularly on a draft NEMSAC advisory regarding graduate prepared paramedics. NEMSAC continues to debate that draft advisory.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has convened the Ground Ambulance, Patient Billing Advisory Committee. They have a November deadline to submit their report to the Secretary and Congress.

Finally, Gam reported that great work continues with NEMSIS. The state of Georgia moved to NEMSIS version 3.5 last week and additional states are moving towards NEMSIS 3.5 adoption in early 2024.

HRSA EMSC

No report

Executive Director's Report

Current Projects

EMS for Children Innovation & Improvement Center Update

No report

Workforce—CAP 1 (NHTSA OEMS)

Andy Gienapp reported that the latest product from this project is the Implementation Guide. The Guide was drafted from the perspective of asking, “how would a state implement the 2014 guidelines for workforce development?” The final version should be available in early November. This project will wrap up in March 2024.

Model Public Health Emergency Guidelines—CAP 4 (NHTSA OEMS)

Andy reported that the Technical Expert Panel (TEP) will meet in person at the EMS World Expo on September 20th. The guidelines document currently uses the emergency support function format structure and logic processes. During the upcoming in-person TEP meeting they share ideas on what this document will ultimately look like. This project extends into September 2024.

Airway EBG (NHTSA OEMS)

Andy reported that the manuscript TEP submitted to Prehospital Emergency Care was reviewed and returned with a request for edits. The project leadership along with the TEP amended it and sent it back. The journal asked for more changes which resulted in a meeting with the project leadership and the editorial staff of the journal. Andy added that he thinks the project leadership now has a path forward to publish the manuscript.

Andy stated that the TEP was able to generate some good practice statements which is where the educational materials are focused. These materials are a project deliverable, and a draft has been sent to NHTSA for review & comment. A couple Education Council members offered to read through materials and provide feedback. The final versions of these materials should be available next month. This project will finish up in February 2024.

Child Restraint Test Methods—CAP 5 (NHTSA OEMS)

Dia Gainor reported that the project is well underway. They will hold in-person workgroup meetings the week of September 19th, in conjunction with EMS World Expo. Meetings will be held for each of the three work groups for the three positional scenarios for infants and children when they are transported in the back of an ambulance.

Community Opioids/“Familiar Faces” Playbook (TASC)

Mary Hedges reported that the Community Opioids project is wrapping up for this year and it looks like NASEMSO’s agreement with TASC will be extended for another year. They have recently had conversations with the CDC Foundation Office of Response Strategy and, as a result, Dia, Randall Eimerman, and Mary will be doing a webinar with them at their data-users meeting at the end of this month. They have a special working group comprised of state epidemiology-oriented individuals on the respective state CDC Foundation funded teams who have historically looked at The Overdose Mapping and Application Program (ODMAP) as their only option for state specific data. Randall (NEMSIS liaison) is working on developing links and resources for them in anticipation of doing a presentation for the data-oriented individuals about NEMSIS and the opportunities that are available there. The expected audience would likely include the state drug intelligence officer and the state drug intelligence epidemiologist.

Georgia Rural Public Health Workforce Technical Assistance

Dia stated that NASEMSO’s agreement with the Georgia Rural Public Health Workforce Technical Assistance was renewed for an additional year. This agreement allows them to reach out to NASEMSO for EMS-specific technical assistance and advice for their grantees who are located in about 14 states across the country. Dia added that they are getting right to the heart of some workforce related issues on the EMS side. On the impact side, for example, a recent request was about a grant recipient that is not an EMS entity. They are a health workforce entity that hopes to recruit respiratory therapists from among the EMS personnel in their jurisdiction. This gives NASEMSO the opportunity to point out to Georgia State University the heart of a potential problem here and ask, “how is the EMS workforce going to get replaced?” Dia added that they are hoping that those questions bubble up to our Bureau of Workforce Development folks in the US Department of Health and Human Services as a result of having this difficult and important conversations about robbing Peter to pay Paul without talking about how we are going to compensate Peter.

Pending Projects

New Umbrella Agreement

Dia stated that as pending projects are concerned, we are in a hurry up and wait mode on the potential for a new umbrella agreement from NHTSA OEMS. NASEMSO staff will alert the Board to anything that moves on a new umbrella agreement moving forward.

Action Items

Letter of Support for Freedom House Ambulance Congressional Gold Medal

Discussion: Dia Gainor stated that there is a multi-organizational effort to get a congressional consideration for the Congressional Gold Medal for the Freedom House Ambulance Service. This letter of support was forwarded to NASEMSO staff by a staff member from ESO. NASEMSO has been presented with this letter to consider sending it on behalf of NASEMSO to identified key members of Congress to elicit their support for the Congressional Gold Medal for the Freedom House Ambulance.

ACTION: Anna Sessa motioned, and Terrie Godde seconded to send a letter of support to key members of congress to elicit their support for a Congressional Gold Medal for Freedom House Ambulance. The motion passed unanimously.

ACEP, NAEMSP, NASEMSO State EMS Medical Director joint position statement

Discussion: Richard Kamin reported the Medical Directors Council collaborated with ACEP and NAEMSP to revise a joint position paper: Role of the State EMS Medical Director. What is coming before the Board are two versions. The red track changes are the edits and highlight what the Council thought was important. One of the edits is a reminder that there is a public health component to the role that state medical directors play and the efforts that they should be involved with, as well as a very important point that clarifies that the only EMS subspecialty certification comes out of the American Board of Emergency Medicine.

After the Council made their suggested edits, NAEMSP and ACEP sent another version with new edits. The hope is that by comparing these two, and by looking at the comments made, the Board can approve the suggested changes from the Council. This revised version from the Council, if approved, will go back to NAEMSP and ACEP.

ACTION: Kraig Kinney motioned, and Richard Kamin seconded to join the joint statement as proposed and submit the Medical Director Council's comments as strong recommendations for consideration to that joint statement. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM ET.

Meeting record respectfully submitted by Member Relations Coordinator, Adrienne Wilson.