

Meeting Record



Present

Officers

President: Kyle Thornton (NM)
President-Elect: Andy Gienapp (WY)
Treasurer: Gary Brown (VA)
Immediate Past President: Keith Wages (GA)
Secretary: Steve McCoy (FL)

Regions

East: Jason Rhodes (RI)
Great Lakes: Tony Spector (MN)
West: Wayne Denny (ID)
Western Plains: Joe House (KS)
South: David Newton (GA)

Councils

Data Managers: Tom McGinnis (CA)
Pediatric Emergency Care: Amanda Perry (KY)
Trauma Managers: Alyssa Johnson (MT)
Trauma Managers Alt: Eileen Worden (MI)
Medical Directors: George Lindbeck (VA)
Medical Directors Alt: Matthew Sholl (ME)
Data Managers Alt: Jay Ostby (WY)

Members

Ken Williams
Tim Wilson
Dale Adkerson

Federal Partners & Other Partners

NHTSA OEMS: Jon Krohmer, Gam Wijetunge
NREMT: Ray Mollers
EMS Compact: Dan Manz

NASEMSO Staff

Dia Gainor
Kathy Robinson
Hannah Degn
Leslee Stein-Spencer
Mary Hedges
Rachael Alter
Beth Armstrong
Kevin McGinnis

Absent

Joe Schmider (TX)
Jamie Gray (AL)

Call to Order / Roll Call

President Kyle Thornton called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time and Hannah Degn called roll. A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Steve McCoy presented the September Board meeting minutes and shared the Executive Committee report.

ACTION: Minutes were approved with no opposition.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Performance

Treasurer Gary Brown reported that as of October 31, 2020, NASEMSO had an operational income of \$331,502 versus a 12-month budget of \$1,177,041. Operational expenses were \$269,596 versus a 12-month budget of \$1,267,067. He presented proposed amendments to the 2020-21 budget and recommended it be approved through June 30, 2021.

ACTION: Tony Spector moved and Andy Gienapp seconded to approve the budget. The motion passed unanimously.

Program Committee

Gary Brown reported on behalf of the Program Committee there are no updates, the content from the Annual reimagined has been posted online and is available.

Federal Partner Updates

NHTSA OEMS

Dr. Krohmer reported that COVID continues to be a big issue for the EMS community. They will try to find time after Thanksgiving to bring organizational leadership together to talk about concerns that have been brought up, to do a "halftime" catch up meeting so to speak. The purpose will be to talk to leadership about issues that they are facing and how the community can address those.

PPE: starting to hear that when some organizations get their PPE order it is counterfeit material. Dr. Krohmer asked that if members are experiencing any issues please let NHTSA OEMS know. The other thing is there is a lot of focus on the federal level promoting the use of half or full face respirators. There will be a webinar next Wednesday about a study related to this.

Supply chain discussion followed with WY noting it is about to exhaust its reservoir.

NEMSIS – revisiting the DUA's, gathering additional information about that as it progresses and working with the Data Managers Council that the information is shared with state directors as well.

Hosted a call with CDC and EMS organizational stakeholders who expressed concerns about prioritization of EMS crews as part of vaccination programs. It is unlikely that the CDC will mandate that. Likely that the CDC will depend on the state health departments to affect whatever appropriate organizations it decides on.

Re vaccine prioritization, NHTSA OEMS is trying to get additional information, looking for any help. It has been pushed through in a very quick timeline and there are a lot of EMS folks who are concerned and are unsure if they would get the vaccine when it becomes available in the next month or so. Please let NHTSA OEMS know about concerns.

A survey was published that 70% of EMS were nervous to be vaccinated. As vaccine release approaches it would be helpful to have simple messaging that breaks down the science available.

Steve McCoy spoke last week about testing and entering care facilities as something that might need to be revisited; how EMS personnel tested. NASEMSO needs to start looking at what requirements that will developed and support them. Dr. Krohmer responded that the summary that CMS agreed to develop will address that and will follow up on a lot of the things that came out of that meeting. Testing kits have been provided to the long-term facilities.

Gam Wijetunge reported on the Oregon Health System review, which should be released for public comment before the end of the year. The feedback tool that has been developed will be released. Also reported on the bi-monthly call to talk about COVID impacts on education. One issue discussed was that as COVID surges, that programs are shutting down again as students are exposing instructors etc.

Executive Director's Report

NASEMSO/ASMI Management Agreement

Discussion: Kyle shared that the NASEMSO recommends a three-year extension to the ASMI contract at this time. ASMI is responsive to NASEMSO needs; staff is very effective and NASEMSO leadership has been pleased with their work. The timelines for several of the current projects in place extend beyond 2022. Extending the agreement now gives us stability with those and future projects. The scope of work can change as we expand our strategic plan.

ACTION: Gary Brown motioned to extend, Joe House seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Executive Committee: Member-at-Large Election

Discussion: Five directors expressed a willingness to serve and an electronic vote was conducted. Dia announced the results which were 14 votes, 1 abstention, resulting in a 4-way tie. A new voting link was issued, and the directors voted again.

Outcome: The results were tallied and Jason Rhodes was elected as the new member-at-large on the Executive Committee.

Current Projects

Falling off for future calls, either because they are concluding or there are no further resources are the following:

- ASHTO Overdose
- NACCHO Falls
- Safe transport of children (will move to pending as staff continue to pursue funding resources)

Fatigue in EMS

The fatigue project is nearing the home stretch of the experimental study. NASEMSO will be hosting a webinar on December 1 at 1 pm to provide a project update that will be open to all interested persons. The study is currently at just above 50% of enrollment so if members know of interested agencies, please let staff know ASAP. Higher participation was expected by this time but current national events have impacted recruitment and enrollment. Data collection will conclude in March 2021.

ASHTO overdose

Mary provided a brief update on the status of the project. Currently, states have been asked to send out the link to the survey to local EMS agencies about innovative responses to overdose calls. Deadline is December 20th. A high response rate is important to the CDC, which is funding this project.

Pain Management Evidence Based Guideline

Both George and Mary reported that pain management is going well – George said they are getting closer to the systematic review and are on schedule.

Future Projects

EMSC Sled

An RFP has been issued by the state of New Jersey to build the physical metal device (like those created for passenger cars) for crash tests simulating the impact in the back of the ambulance when struck.

Staff is working with Jim Green to develop the proposal that is due on Monday. Will share with EC tomorrow but we are optimistic receiving this small award will help us with future crash report project funding pursuits.

Action Items

Equipment for Ground Ambulances

Discussion: Dr. Williams shared the final draft, which is 14 pages and is out for organizations' approval. First pages describe the project, some suggestions throughout are presented in a table format. It also includes references. This was an extensive effort and it is recommended to the board for approval. NASEMSO had two people serve on the committee as well.

ACTION: Gary Brown motioned to approve, and Joe House seconded. There was no opposition.

Comments to DEA Proposed Rules to Implement Providing Patient Access To Emergency Medications Act of 2017 – Approval to Submit Needed

Discussion: The rules are being promulgated to implement the 2017 law; Mary has gathered comments to submit on behalf of NASEMSO which are available to review and to add additional comments as needed. Maine, Virginia, and Indiana submitted these comments which have been compiled into one document. It is due December 14th. Discussion took place on what the comments addressed, for example, how substances are stored and restocked and what the security requirements are. The DEA regards the end user or agency as responsible for the medications. VA and ME have dropboxes set up which is unclear in the document on what the correct practice is and comments are looking for clarification on how to routinely restock agencies. NASEMSO staff are seeking approval of the comments so that they can be submitted on behalf of NASEMSO as an organization. If state offices want to submit their comments as well, that would be helpful to illustrate any collective concerns.

The due date was discussed since it is still fairly far away from the deadline. It was discussed that everyone could review and add leading up to the deadline and the Executive Committee would finalize and submit following their December 4th meeting before the deadline.

ACTION: Andy motioned to approve and submit these and any additional comments that are received following the EC meeting December 4th. Joe House seconded and it passed unanimously without further discussion.

Discussion Items

Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate CompAct

Discussion: Dan Manz reported they had their 21st state join, and they anticipate that RI is promising as another state with legislation in process. They need to pass a coming fiscal year budget where the bill is attached. Please reach out to Dan with any questions.

NEMSIS Monthly Report

Discussion : Standing FYI/agenda item that NEMSIS is providing to the BOD that a mechanism to make sure that items of note are in plain view and that if there are any concerns they can wrap back around to and address.

Biospatial Use

Discussion: Activity is ongoing, no updates to report on today.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:22 PM EDT.

Meeting record respectfully submitted by Project Coordinator Hannah Degn.