

# NASEMSO Board of Directors

March 14, 2024, 2:00 PM ET



## Meeting Record

### Attendees

#### Officers

President: Joe House  
President-Elect: Jason Rhodes  
Immediate Past President: Alisa Williams  
Treasurer: Justin Romanello

#### Region Chairs

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

#### Council Chairs

Health & Medical Preparedness: Jay Taylor  
Pediatric Emergency Care: Marc Minkler  
Trauma Managers: Eileen Worden  
Education: Terrie Godde  
Data Managers: Jay Ostby  
Personnel Licensure: Wendy Snodgrass  
Medical Directors: Richard Kamin

#### Absent

Secretary: Sam Hurley

#### Other NASEMSO Members

Emily Bergquist  
Anna Sessa  
Candace Gardner  
Margaret McComas  
Dana Selover  
Amber Viitanen

#### Federal Partners

Gam Wijetunge  
Rick Patrick

#### NASEMSO Staff

Dia Gainor  
Andy Gienapp  
Beth Armstrong  
Rachael Alter  
Kelli Perrotti  
Randall Eimerman  
Mary Hedges  
Alex Tyeryar  
Adrienne Wilson

### Call to Order / Roll Call

President Jason Rhodes called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM ET. A quorum was present.

### Secretary's Report

Jason Rhodes presented the Executive Committee (EC) report and the February 2024 Board meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Kraig Kinney moved, and Terrie Godde seconded to approve the 2024 NASEMSO Board meeting minutes.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**AMENDMENT:** None

**ACTION:** The motion carried with abstentions from Joe House and Justin Romanello

## Treasurer's Report

Justin Romanello reported that as of February 29, 2024, the total income is \$1,054,044. The total expenses are \$994,414 versus a twelve-month budget of \$1,524,366. The net income from operations is \$59,632. The total net excess is \$88,940. The net assets are \$864,688.

## Program Committee

Romanello reported that they likely had their last meeting before the Annual Meeting. The last order of the business was their decision on the eight mini presentations that were submitted. They voted on the presentations to determine the top six that will be presented at the Annual meeting: Indiana, Georgia, Colorado, Maine, Texas, and Florida.

Eight members of the Freedom House group will attend the Annual Meeting. The Committee talked about the Community event (to include a tour of the Mission Hill area) that will take place on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This event (not organized by NASEMSO) may overlap with the Biospatial sponsored President's Reception. NASEMSO staff will ask Biospatial if they would consider starting a half an hour later. This would allow attendees to go on the tour and take advantage of the President's reception.

119 people have registered for the Annual meeting. This is on par with registrations at this point for the Annual meeting over the years.

## President's Report

Joe House reported on new appointments for various Committees and a new Workgroup: Derek Flory (MI)—AVL Chair; Emily Baker (MI)—, HITS Chair; David Harden (AZ) HITS Vice-Chair; Marty Link (SD) Data Acquisition and Governance Workgroup Chair.

Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting for the East and West Region Chairs and Vice-Chairs, as well as Treasurer.

## Federal Partners Welcome

### NHTSA OEMS

Gam Wijetunge thanked the Board for their submission of nominations for the new state EMS Director to FICEMS. The Secretary of Transportation will make the selection.

Gam stated that the request for information on the EMS Education Agenda 2050 closes at the end of the month.

Gam reported NHTSA recently started looking at their fatality data in the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). This is the system that NHTSA has used for 50 years to collect data on public road fatality crashes, either inside or outside of a vehicle. They recently analyzed 2021 data that showed of the 28,000 occupants fatally injured in a vehicle, one fourth required extrication. Wijetunge is interested in feedback from NASEMSO regarding what they are observing when it comes to extrication.

Wijetunge thanked the NASEMSO Staff who visited the Department of Transportation on February 29<sup>th</sup>. About 60 NHTSA staff attended the final briefing on the Airway Evidence-Based Guideline project. It was a great opportunity to educate NHTSA's colleagues on the importance of airway management to post-crash care outcomes.

### **FEMA US Fire Administration (USFA)**

Rick Patrick reported that their fifth full-time position is now on-boarded—Jennifer Osborne is a Physician Assistant and a retired firefighter paramedic out of Dallas Fire and EMS Department.

USFA recently released a [Comprehensive Research Cohort Study of Emergency Responder Roadway Safety](#) Request for Quote (RFQ) that can be found on [eBuy](#) (a [gsa.gov](#) site for proposals). The RFQ is open until March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Donnie Woodyard, with the EMS Compact, briefed their senior leadership on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Patrick thanked Dia for her leadership and Kraig Kinney for his participation on the USFA Summit EMS Workgroup. USFA did a comprehensive analysis of the OSHA Fire Brigade Rule Change. EMS is in the proposed study which can be found [here](#).

USAF will hold a webinar on April 10<sup>th</sup>, the topic is on lithium-ion batteries and their impact on society. The informative will go well beyond traditional fire approaches. It will address the health impacts, the responder impacts for our EMS colleagues, as well as address the victims, both that are involved in the incidents, as well as our colleagues operating at the scenes. There will be both subject matter experts from across the industry, and government representatives presenting. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

FEMA's administrator, Deanne Criswell, announced the release of a funding notice of funding regarding the 2023 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant program. They have \$36 million to strengthen community fire prevention and to support scientific research on innovations for firefighter safety. You can find this notice of funding [here](#).

### **Executive Director's Report**

Dia Gainor recently met with Dr. Susan Cloft from the Indian Health Service. They have solicited NASEMSO's assistance with reaching out to the states where federally recognized tribal nations reside. They are working toward effectively mapping 911 and EMS agency availability to tribal lands with a specific focus on suicide.

### **Current Projects**

#### **EMS for Children Innovation & Improvement Center (Yale)**

The field test (pilot) for the Prehospital Pediatric Readiness Project began in January with New Jersey, North Carolina, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The current response rate is 46.4%, which is higher than anticipated.

The EIIC is currently planning for EMSC Day, celebrated on May 22<sup>nd</sup> during EMS Week. A webinar will be held, likely on pediatric emergency care related research.

#### **Safe Transport of Children Crash Test Project—CAP 5 (NHTSA OEMS)**

Progress continues to be made in all three workgroups. Two of the workgroups are meeting a bit more frequently to catch up to Workgroup 1 (Seated). All three workgroups are very close to having final draft test methods.

#### **Workforce—CAP 1 (NHTSA OEMS)**

This project will close at the end of March. An in-person meeting was held at NREMT headquarters in Columbus, Ohio at the beginning of the month. Davis Patterson was brought in to help walk the Technical Expert Panel through the priority questions that states should address in the coming years as it relates to the workforce. Toward the end of the month, a final product will be distributed.

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

Current work is primarily focused on efforts occurring in the pilot states. This project will continue through September.

#### **Airway EBG (NHTSA OEMS)**

The evidence-based guideline is finalized, and minus some financial cleanup and paperwork needs, the project complete. Andy, Dia, Matt Sholl and Jeff Jarvis all traveled to DC to give the final briefing for the project. Andy thanked Jeff and Matt for their enormous help during the project.

#### **Community Opioids (TASC)**

This project has been extended for one more year. A TASC staff member will attend this year's Annual Meeting. TASC will also bring a couple people to present at the Opioid Committee meeting.

#### **Rural Public Health Workforce TA (Georgia State University)**

Staff will be attending an in-person meeting with their grantees, in the near future, to support those that have any relationship to EMS or who are directly involved in EMS.

### Falls Prevention in the Elderly (NACCHO)

Staff continues to support NACCHO when needed. They assist them with EMS terminology, outreach to EMS agencies, and when necessary, connecting them with the state EMS office for help utilizing NEMSIS data.

### Opioid Overdose Learning Collaborative (NGA)

Staff are assisting five states to better enable EMS personnel to combat the opioid overdose crisis and are finding many opportunities to assist them and show them how many things there are related to EMS.

### New York University Langone

Timing on this project is perfect because this becomes a case study for the newly formed Data Acquisition and Governance Task Force This is a test case on how we can help a third party and credible researchers when they are zeroing in on EMS and trauma system issues.

### Pending Projects

#### CDC Application

Staff are holding weekly meetings in an effort to finalize an application for CDC on strengthening public health systems through national partnerships. Staff are zeroing in on the ways in which we can better enable, educate, and provide resources for the state EMS offices specific to opioid overdose response capacity and utilization of state level NEMSIS data.

#### NHTSA Umbrella Agreement Status

Dia stated that here is nothing to report.

### Action Items

#### **American College of Emergency Physicians-Sunset Policy Review Request**

American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) adopted a sunset policy to actively review existing policy statements on a periodic basis. This policy which dates back to 2017, covers medical transport advertising, marketing, and brokering. MDC reviewed it and provided input at the time. This is an opportunity to either declare it ok as written or remand it to the Medical Directors Council for closer review.

**MOTION:** Alisa Williams moved, and Jason Rhodes seconded to send this policy to the Medical Directors Council and the Agency and Vehicle Licensure Committee for review.

**DISCUSSION:** Medical Directors Council Chair, Rich Kamin, stated that they could review it at the Medical Directors Council meeting at the Annual meeting in Pittsburg.

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously. Staff will let ACEP know that we are reviewing the policy.

### **CDC Coalition FY 2025 sign-on letter**

This is a recurring letter of appeal from the Association of State and Territorial Health officials, National Association of County and City Health Officials, the American Public Health Association, and others that comprise the CDC coalition, of which NASEMSO has been a member for a long time. They are urging an appropriation commensurate with the coalitions request. NASEMSO has signed this previously.

**MOTION:** Jason moved, and Justin seconded to sign on to the CDC Coalition FY 2025 sign-on letter.

**DISCUSSION:** Joe asked if the letter has always included the following statement: “in addition coalition organizations will strongly oppose any efforts.” Dia will check and will let Joe know what she finds.

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

### **Selection of Level of EMS Week Partnership and One-Time Optional Financial Contribution**

This is a new format for to the customary request to support EMS week from The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). Previously ACEP has asked NASEMSO to distribute their materials, however, this year they are asking for a voluntary contribution for their time and effort developing the materials.

**MOTION:** Richard Kamin moved, and Kraig Kinney seconded to approve that NASEMSO continues to participate in the EMS week Partnership as they have in the past.

**DISCUSSION:** The Board agreed that NASEMSO will not contribute monetarily.

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

### **Comment Statement for the Education Agenda 2050**

Staff used SurveyMonkey to send the Education Council and the Personnel Licensure Council NHTSA’s 22 questions regarding the Education Agenda 2050. The compiled comments were provided to the Board.

One of the most common comments was that it would be helpful for NHTSA to provide a road map for this Agenda that will assist states in implementing their education

standards and education requirements. The states would be able to look at this, every three to five years, whenever education standards are released, and make sure that they are meeting the goals of the agenda.

**MOTION:** Wendy Snodgrass moved, and Justin seconded to submit the Education Agenda 2050 comments to NHTSA.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed with abstentions from Kraig and Jamie Gray.

### **Personnel Licensure Council Code of Ethics Guidance**

The PLC is asking for the Board's approval on this guidance document for states who do not have their own code of ethics or unprofessional conduct language in their regulations or statutes. The states could choose to use this as a guidance document for any investigations or any disciplinary actions.

**MOTION:** Jamie moved, and Terrie Godde seconded to approve the Personnel Licensure Council's Code of Ethics Guidance

**DISCUSSION:** The Board members discussed ways that they could add more inclusive terminology to the document. They also reiterated that the purpose of the document is to provide a guide and a resource for states who wish to create a Code of Ethics.

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously

### **Opioid & SUD Ad Hoc Committee-Determination of Future Status**

The current NASEMSO bylaws allow for the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee by act of the President, and that was accomplished. That led to the creation of the Opioid and Sud Ad Hoc Committee two years ago. A little over two years have passed since the creation of the Committee, therefore, the Bylaws dictate that the Committee is eligible for extension upon approval of the Board. Another option to consider, is a modification to the bylaws for consideration by voting members at the Annual business meeting in Pittsburgh. Thirty days' notice is required to get the Bylaws changes out to the membership to have a vote in May.

**MOTION:** Jason moved, and Kraig seconded to extend the Opioid & SUD Ad Hoc Committee for twelve months.

**SECOND MOTION:** Jason moved, and Kraig seconded to consider modifying the Bylaws to convert the Opioid & SUD Committee to a mission specific standing Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

President House appointed Sam Hurley to chair the committee with direction to staff to communicate the appointment on his behalf.

**Endorsement of the Congressional Resolution recognizing the historical contributions and value of the Freedom House Ambulance Service**

This resolution is sponsored by Congressional Representative Summer Lee. Congresswoman Lee is from the Pittsburgh area and is working to get the Congressional Gold Medal awarded to Freedom House Ambulance. The resolution comes first and then it goes from to Congress for a vote. Congresswoman Lee would like NASEMSO to endorse the resolution.

**MOTION:** Kraig moved, and Justin seconded to endorse the Congressional Resolution recognizing the historical contributions and value of the Freedom House Ambulance Service.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**AMENDMENTS:** None

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

Staff will communicate the board action to the Representative's office.

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM ET.**

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