

## MEETING AGENDA

DIVISION	Public Health – Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services		
MEETING TITLE	Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC)		
FACILITATOR	Dr. Nathan Shaw, EMSAC Vice Chair		
DATE	10/08/2025	TIME	1300-1600
LOCATION	Microsoft Teams ONLY		

## MEETING OBJECTIVES

The EMS advisory committee shall advise the director and develop policy recommendations concerning the regulation, administration, and coordination of emergency medical services in the state.

## MEETING PARTICIPANTS (Voting Members)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>P/A/E</i>
	Iowa Osteopathic Medical Association	-
Dr. Jeannette Capella	Iowa Medical Society	X
Dr. Brian Paul Jennett	American College of Emergency Physicians	X
*Dr. Nathan Shaw-Chair	Iowa Academy of Family Physicians	X
Dr. Andrew Kozminski	University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics	A
Dr. Joshua Pruitt	American Academy of Emergency Medicine	X
Dr. Amy Groen	American Academy of Pediatrics	X
Dr. Nicola Preston	NAEMSP, Iowa Chapter	A
Amanda Sieve PA-C	Iowa Physician Assistant Society	A
Kevin Miller	Iowa EMS Training Program Association	X
Christina Peterson	Iowa Nurses Association	E
William Cline	Iowa Hospital Association	X
*Jamey Robinson-Vice-Chair	Iowa State Association of Counties	X
Gene Evans	Iowa Firefighters Association	X
Mark McCurdy	Iowa Firefighters Association	X
Ben Kurka	Iowa Professional Firefighter Association	X
Jeff Messerole	IEMSA-Provider	X
Julie Kemp	IEMSA-Volunteer Provider	A
Sandy Neyen	IEMSA-Private Service	A
Luke Huggins	Volunteer Provider-At Large	X
Traci Smith	Volunteer Provider-At Large	X
	Iowa 911 Communication Committee	-
Dr Kelly Kruse*/Dr Jon Thompson	Iowa State Medical Examiner	X

MEETING PARTICIPANTS (Guest)		
Name	Name	
Regan Aeschliman	Mark McCulloch	
Mary Chwirka	Dr. Brian Meeker	
Travis Clark	Gary Merrill	
Katie Dekker	Patrick Mooney	
Jacob Dodds	Vicki Petersen	
Sarah Eason	Katie Schlichting	
Paul Ganss	Dr David Thomas	
Dr Pete Georgakakos	Brad Vande Lune	
Heather Grobe	Steve Vandenbrink	
Teresa Higginbotham	Steve Vannatta	
Jody Koffman	Adam Wedmore	
Heidi Lancaster	Neil Wellner	
Jacob Lindauer	Jill Wheeler	
Dr. Gigi Landal	Jamie Wuebker	

AGENDA TOPIC	ITEMS
Introductions and welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call meeting to order &amp; establish quorum (minimum of 11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Quorum established-Yes</li> <li>○ New Members- William Cline, Dr Pruitt, Dr Kruse/Dr Thompson</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Review of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call for additions to agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No additions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Review of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review/approval of July 2025 EMSAC draft meeting minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jeff Messerole motioned, seconded by Jamey Robinson, no one opposed. Minutes approved with no changes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bylaws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Working on filling the newest additional organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the last organization, we are looking at contacting Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Jamey has a contact and will send to Katie</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope of Practice Update-Final Draft-Steve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The final draft was presented last week to the EMS Physician Workgroup. There were a few questions and a few comments, otherwise the group had some very good comments.</li> <li>○ The next steps are to go through the administrative approval process to get it into 641-131 due to it being codified. BEMTS is working on 641-131 as there are a few</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>other changes we'd like to make when it's open. We welcome any questions or feedback; please send them to Steve. Also, you can make public comments during the administrative rule process. Our anticipated date for that would be in a couple of months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The question was asked about leaving it out of code as some other states do. This has not been an option for Iowa in the past.</li><li>○ Our anticipated date would be around 6 months before it's officially in code.</li><li>• ALIGN update-Steve<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The State, currently through DIAL is looking at changing the re-licensure platform from Amanda to ALIGN. It is a work in progress right now and it will include every board that does any sort of licensure across the state.</li><li>○ We're in the development phases right now and have been doing quite a bit of work on it in the last 3-4 months.</li><li>○ As of now, they are projecting to go live somewhere between June and August 2026.</li></ul></li></ul>
<p>Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Legislative Update</li><li>• Bureau Update</li><li>• CARES Update</li><li>• PHEP-HPP</li><li>• Bureau Staff Update</li><li>• Law Enforcement AED</li><li>• FR-CARP</li><li>• Data Reports</li><li>• CHEMPACK</li><li>• EMS-C</li><li>• System Development</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Legislative update report by Brad Vande Lune:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Director Garcia's last day with HHS will be Friday Oct 10. The Governor has appointed the Director of DIAL, Larry Johnson to be the new director. Our understanding is things will be status quo for the next 15 months.</li></ul></li><li>• Bureau Staff update report by Brad Vande Lune:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Jacque Dilks was hired to replace Lisa who retired. Jacque started August 1<sup>st</sup>. Heather Grobe was hired as a Field Coordinator to replace Steve who was promoted. Heather started Sept 12<sup>th</sup>. BEMTS is fully staffed at this time.</li></ul></li><li>• CARES update report by Brad Vande Lune:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ CARES is looking to get more hospitals to participate in their data collection. Brad has a meeting set up with Iowa Hospital Association to discuss them sending a message and maybe more hospitals would be interested in participating in CARES</li></ul></li><li>• PHEP-HPP report from Jody Koffman:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ We are in year two of our five-year project period with the HPP and PHEP Programs. Right now, the preparedness team has been providing technical assistance to grant coordinators across the state to support them in completing their Mid-Year Deliverables. Our coordinators are also working with local EMS agencies to complete their annual system standards assessment. This year, we added pediatric measurements to the assessments as that population was identified as a vulnerable population on</li></ul></li></ul>

service area Hazard Vulnerability Assessments from the prior year. Our preparedness team also continues to lead the Medical Operations Coordination Center Workgroup. The MOCC workgroup meets monthly and is comprised of 25 emergency preparedness and response stakeholders from across the state. Disciplines represented include EMS, hospitals, public health, and emergency managers. The group started collaborations in January as a result of HPP requirements and began to take a deep dive into patient tracking and bed availability processes. The primary objective of the MOCC workgroup is to find better ways to get patients to the right hospital at the right time in the event of a disaster. The group has reviewed MOCC operations in Texas, Utah, and Nebraska. Conversations regarding what MOCCs look like for Iowa are still in the early stages, and of course funding is a fundamental piece of those conversations. The group has made progress by incorporating elements of patient movement into their annual exercises. Moving forward, participants will also consider federal funding and how to better utilize patient tracking and communication resources, like radios, that are currently in place.

- Law Enforcement AED update report from Neil Wellner:
  - Currently, just under 4000 AEDs have been issued to the law enforcement community for use.
  - As of today, in 2025, we've used those 392 times.
  - We are at the 4-year mark where the agency will have to replace the battery and the unused pads because of expiration. That cycle is just starting.
  - Program continues to move forward and seems to be working exceptionally well within the EMS community.
- FR-CARP report from Regan Aeschliman:
  - We just closed out year 2, last day of year 2 was September 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Supplies sent during Year 2 (Sep. 30<sup>th</sup> 2024-Sep. 29<sup>th</sup> 2025)
    - IV: 1431 doses to participating agencies
    - IN: 822 2-dose kits
  - During year 2, local coordinators onboarded and trained 18 new EMS agencies into the program.
  - There is some growing interest in the allowance of secondary distribution of naloxone. We have 4 agencies that we are working with that are implementing that into their programs

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- We did receive our notice of award for year 3. That began the beginning of the month.
  - Data Reports by Terry Smith:
    - Report unavailable
  - CHEMPACK update report from Teresa Higginbotham:
    - The program is now more open than it used to be about the locations and different things in it, so there will be more information coming soon and maybe some trainings to get everyone acclimated again.
    - They've been doing some maintenance visits for CHEMPACK right now too. Unsure how the shutdown will affect those, but so far they've not cancelled all of them yet, so those should be going as scheduled.
  - EMS-C report from Vicki Petersen:
    - EMSC has provided 8 sets of infant and child training manikins that are now in place and available, one set in each of the state service areas. Manikins have BLS, ALS and NRP capability and may be checked out at no cost by services or hospitals for any no-fee pediatric training. Contact me if you'd like the name of the lender in your area.
    - Last week, Hansen Family Hospital in Iowa Falls became the 16<sup>th</sup> hospital accepted by the IPEAC hospital recognition program. The national EMS for Children organization has approached us with their intention to make Iowa the focus of a national video to promote the National Pediatric Readiness Project hospital assessment in the spring. The video will feature a case study involving both EMS and hospital care of an Iowa child, and highlights IPEAC's success rate with critical access hospitals, as well as larger hospitals.
    - We are currently working on planning the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Rural Peds Conference after losing several members of the planning committee to new jobs and other life events. If anyone has speaker or topic ideas for this free, virtual conference, I'd love to hear your feedback.
  - System Development/Rural Health Transformation Grant report from Jacob Dodds:
    - BEMTS was approached in July about interest from the Governor's office and the legislature regarding EMS initiatives. An ongoing series of meetings began to discuss modernized, efficient and streamlined system development and the realignment of EMS delivery statewide. At the same time, we learned that there would be an opportunity, with the passage of the "One Big Beautiful Bill", for the state of Iowa to apply for the Rural Health Transformation Grant.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ BEMTS gave a presentation to Governor Reynolds and her staff two weeks ago and provided a snapshot overview of the current EMS system, the history of how it developed, and where we have identified critical failure points. She was very attentive, and asked a lot of good questions, and we were effectively given the “green light” to move forward with continued planning and discussion.</li><li>○ EMS is very closely tied to the Rural Health Transformation Grant and has been identified as an area of focus that will help in the overall scoring in the federal-level review of the grant. Iowa is requesting \$200 million per year, over 5 years with this grant. Now, obviously, those funds will be applied to multiple sectors of the state’s healthcare system, but EMS will get a “piece of the pie” to better fund system development efforts, and a strong focus on the development of mobile integrated healthcare programs and providing some additional funding to those already operating.</li><li>○ BEMTS held a series of small-group stakeholder meetings over the last two weeks in the four quadrants of the state to solicit some feedback regarding system development; what has worked, not worked, etc. These meetings were very informative and will help guide us as this project continues to evolve. The common themes that we heard from these meetings included communications and dispatch issues, funding challenges, staffing issues, medical direction issues, and a greater need for individual EMS services to work more closely together to solve local delivery issues.</li><li>○ This is a very rapidly evolving initiative, but BEMTS is working hard to capitalize on the political goodwill that we currently have to keep positive changes moving forward. We will provide updates along the way.</li></ul>
<p>Organizational Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· CP-MIH Sub-Committee</li><li>· EMS Training Program Sub-Committee</li><li>· Iowa EMS Association</li><li>· Medical Director</li><li>· Pilot Projects</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CP-MIH report by Dr. Thomas Striegel/Fiona Johnson/Jacob Dodds:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Meetings had been placed on hold due to the evolving situation with system development. Currently waiting to confirm a date but looking at the next meeting being in mid-November. Notices will be sent out to the membership once confirmed.</li></ul></li><li>• EMS Training Program report by Kevin Miller:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Since Paul Ganss retirement, Kevin was elected as Chair of the Training Program Association and will be the new voting member for EMSAC. Any TP related items can be directed towards him.</li></ul></li></ul>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· QISD Sub-Committee</li><li>· EMS Physician Workgroup</li><li>· System Standards Sub-Committee</li><li>· TSAC</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ We have 2 work groups working on a couple of projects. The BLS exception curriculum was presented to EMSAC earlier this spring. That is available currently to the training programs. We are currently working on the ALS curriculum. There's been some discussion within the TP Association on utilizing NREMT Proficiency exam as well as looking into how other states handle this process. We will keep working and present that to EMSAC when we have it at the final stages.</li><li>○ For our National Registry workgroup, we are looking at the state and national pass rates on the National registry exam. We had a recent meeting with the National Registry representative yesterday, and we'll be taking that up at our TP Association meeting tomorrow about what the different pass rates look like as well as what's going on at the National Registry and any updates they may have with their redesign. We also sent out a survey to training programs to look at both qualitative and quantitative data to see what aspects of a TP are either barriers or successes for programs to get completed because ultimately, that's our goal as a training program is to get those completers and get EMS professionals out there into the workforce.</li><li>• Iowa EMS Association update report by Jeff Messerole:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ IEMSAs next virtual meeting is October 16 at 1300.</li><li>○ IEMSAs 35<sup>th</sup> EMS Conference and Trade Show will be November 13-15 at Iowa Events Center in Des Moines</li></ul></li><li>• Medical Director report by Dr. Georgakakos:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Nothing to add at this time</li></ul></li><li>• Pilot Projects by Jacob Dodds:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Des Moines Fire/West Des Moines EMS blood project cleared its final hurdle two weeks ago and they will be starting their work very soon.</li><li>○ Mark McCulloch from West DM EMS spoke and said all training, paperwork, and equipment are in place. They are waiting for the final review of a document.</li></ul></li><li>• EMS Physicians report for Dr. Carter:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ No report</li></ul></li><li>• Quality Improvement &amp; System Development Sub-Committee report by Gary Merrill:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As a reminder, this new group came together by combining the old system standards group and the QASP group.</li><li>• The focus of this new group will be to develop a new system standards document. There's been a lot of great brainstorming so far.</li></ul></li></ul> |
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Goal is at the next meeting to have something to distribute.</li><li>• TSAC report by Jill Wheeler:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ American College of Surgeons Trauma System Consultation was held a couple of weeks ago. It was a successful event with approximately 125 people overall attending the event. There was a couple of virtual meetings, the full day in person stakeholder meeting, and a virtual exit meeting. The ACS reviewers seemed pretty impressed with some of the things that we have going on in Iowa. They also had a lot of pretty strong recommendations for things that we can do better. We should receive a final report in the next couple of months.</li><li>○ We received our notice of award for our trauma program from the CDC, Public Health and Health Services Block Grant. If you are not aware, that's how our trauma system is funded.</li></ul></li></ul>
• Other	<p>Dr Capella- RMOCC (Regional Medial Operations Coordinating Centers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ PowerPoint was shared and presentation was given on RMOCC. Any questions should be directed to Dr. Capella.</li></ul>
Announcements and Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jeff Messerole motioned to adjourn. Luke Huggins seconded.</li><li>• Next meetings for 2026:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ January 14, 2026</li><li>○ April 08, 2026</li><li>○ July 08, 2026</li><li>○ October 14, 2026</li></ul></li></ul>