

State Mortality Review Committee

Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Other Attendees	
Rachel Zimmerman, Chair, present	Vera Wallican	Analisa Pearson
Dr. Alison Lynch, Co-Chair, present	Matthew Burns	Derma Rivera
Stacey Oleson, present	Dennis Kleen	Anna Moats-Gibson
Captain Sadie Weekley, present	Sona Parras	Kaitlin Smith
Abby Schueller	Melissa Walker	Monica Goedken
Dr. Stephanie Radke, present	Matthew Burns	Laura Terrell
Dr. Dennis Klein, present	Nafla Poff-Dainty	Bridget Konz
Casey Manser	Sylvia Navin	
Daniel Vakulskas	Jennifer Pham	

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Rachel Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

2. Roll Call

Jennifer Pham conducted a roll call as indicated above; a quorum was present.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion put forth by Lynch to approve minutes, seconded by Klein. Minutes from November 13th were approved by voice vote; Zimmerman, Lynch, Oleson, Weekley, Schueller, Radke, Klein voted in favor.

4. Public Agenda Topics

1. Annual Report: The SMRC is required to publish an annual report every year that includes information from all three subcommittees. The report will cover a calendar year and include 3 recommendations. These recommendations can come from one or all of the subcommittees. The first report will be published in June 2026 and cover work completed by the SMRC and the 3 subcommittees in calendar year 2025.

There was discussion individual subcommittee reports. HHS interpretation of the legislation is to have a singular report that synthesizes recommendations from all the subcommittees. There was concern that a single report, containing only 3 total recommendations, may be viewed by the public as censoring information from the subcommittees. Members emphasized that subcommittees must have an avenue

to release all recommendations based on their reviews and have recommendations for different audiences.

A motion was made by Zimmerman to include all subcommittee recommendations as an appendices to the Annual Report. Motion was seconded by Lynch. Motion was passed by voice vote; Zimmerman, Lynch, Oleson, Weekley, Schueller, Radke, Klein voted in favor.

Subcommittee leads (Nafla Poff-Dainty (Maternal Mortality), Analisa Pearson (Child Death Review), Derma Rivera (Domestic Abuse) gave a brief update on work completed by their respective subcommittees in calendar year 2025. Supplemental materials attached.

A draft of the Annual Report will be presented to the Committee at the April 13th meeting.

2. Child Maltreatment Protocol

Follow up previous discussions about child abuse assessment review required by Iowa Code §135.43.4. A draft protocol has been created and is being reviewed by HHS leadership for approval. A separate subcommittee will need to be created to meet the Iowa Code requirements.

5. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.