EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 18th, 2025

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Indianapolis EMS Conference Center

3976 Georgetown Rd Indianapolis, IN 46254

Members Present: G. Lee Turpin – *Private Ambulance/ Chairman*

Dr. Lisa Clunie - Hospital EMS

Patrick Hutchison – *Municipal Fire Services*

Matthew Shady – Training Institution

John Zartman – Paramedics

Dr. Sara Brown - Trauma Physicians

Andrew Bowman - Emergency Nurses

Dr. Jim Nossett - Medical Director

Lori Mayle – Air Medical Services

Members Present Online: Matthew McCullough – Volunteer Fire EMS

Mary Ann Dudley – Volunteer EMS

Jonathon Whitham – Executive Representative of IDHS

Ex-Officio Members: Kraig Kinney (*Indiana State EMS Director*) – (non-voting)

Dr. Eric Yazel (Indiana State EMS Medical Director) – (non-voting)

Members Not Present: Darin Hoggatt – *Public Representative*

Jerry Harder – EMTs

Others Present or Present by Teleconference: Stan Frank, Robin Stump, Corey Wells, Emily

Castor, and other members of the EMS community.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00am by Chairman Lee Turpen. Emily Castor called roll and announced quorum. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Adoption of minutes from May 9th, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman to approve the minutes from the May 9th, 2025, meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Clunie. Roll call vote was taken:

G. Lee Turpen: Yes Dr. Lisa Clunie: Yes Patrick Hutchison: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes

Matthew McCullough: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes Mary Ann Dudley: Yes

Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes Jonathon Whitham: Yes

HONORARY CERTIFICATES

- a) EMS Director's Award:
- b) Emeritus:
- c) EMS Star of Life:
- d) Certificate of Remembrance: Israel Robinson
- e) **Certification of Appreciation:** Brady Wiles, Erin Frank, Shane Stilts, Contessa Stilts, Aaron Arroyo
- f) **Stork Award:** Matthew Osborne, Ian Kull, Andrew Justin, Arlington Hayne, Robbie Connell, Sam Gallardo, Christian Mersereau
- g) Cardiac Saves: Austin Hagan, Tom Anderson, Michael Ciesielski. Joel Difiore, Stephen Gross, Kevin Radtke, Shane McCormick, Nathan Way, Kade Sapp, Sean McCarthy, Cory Hall, Adam Brosio, Nicole Stephenson, Ben McClure, Gabby Munoz, Michelle Lopez, Caitlynn Saltzgaber, Josh Halstead, Chase Kieselbach, Lily Boles, Reid Cripe, Kevin Imel, Spencer Gregory, Brodie Campbell, Stephanie Wilder, Matt Meyer, Jason Scheiderer, Kory Williams, Terry Lockwood, Melissa Meehan, Scott Schroeder, Caleb Vanlandingham, Kyle White, Jeffrey Harris, Lori Downs, Edward Hauenstein, Tyler Daming, Deron Clark, Patrick Hoose, William Bryant, Ian Stephens, Hannah Ruggles, Arienna Ewing, Jordyn Roach
- h) Retirement: James Elliott
- i) Honorary Lifetime Certification:

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Trauma System Update—Director Kinney reported the Trauma Regional Advisory Council (TRAC) meetings are in process and reviewed the TRAC Funding Guidelines and Process. Director Kinney reminded all to save the date for the 2025 Statewide Trauma and Emergency Medicine Symposium on October 1st and 2nd, held at Monroe Convention Center in Bloomington, IN. For registration and more information you can visit https://my.ihaconnect.org/Events/Calendar-of-Events.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Director Kinney stated that there are no legislative updates at this time.

EMS FOR CHILDREN

Director Kinney reported that the Prehospital Readiness Program is now receiving some funding coming back into the program, the amount is significantly reduced. There will be some program restrictions moving forward but no other information regarding details.

INDIANA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

Chief Jarrod Sights reminded all of the upcoming Indiana Fire and EMS Leadership Conference, formerly the Indiana Emergency Response Conference. The conference will remain from September 17, 2025, to September 19, 2025, at the Embassy Suites in Noblesville, IN.

INDIANA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (IEMSA)

Bob Miller reported on IEMSA's upcoming events: EMS Memorial Benefit Poker Ride on September 6th, and the Crossroads Emergency Medicine Conference from November 19th to November 21st. For more information regarding these upcoming events please visit their new website, www.indianaEMSassociation.org.

EDUCATIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Commissioner Zartman stated there is nothing to report at this time.

MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH COMMITTEE

Director Kinney reported that the MIH Committee met on Friday, June 6, 2025. The MIH Subcommittees continue to do work with plans for actionable items in the next year. The MIH Data collection pilot continues, as participating programs have begun using version 2.0 of the MIH Run form. Director Kinney stated that IDHS is working with IEMSA and other partners on a MIH Preconference in tandem with the Crossroads Conference in November. He also reminded all that Emily Castor – MIH Coordinator, is continuing to collect updated MIH Program information to ensure the MIH Map is updated and adding the MIH Programs into Acadis. Director Kinney stated that the next MIH Committee meeting will be on Friday, August 8, 2025, at 10:00 am at MADE.

NEW BUSINESS

Commission Bowman presented a Diversion Statement from Indiana Chapter of the National Association of EMS Physicians, IN-NAEMSP, the primary goal of this proposal is reducing diversion to incoming EMS. The recommendations are to eliminate diversion based on patient volume alone, this may still allow for diversion in unique situations. Encouraging stakeholders to work together and address ongoing issues with collaborative system redesign. Possible implementation of regional EMS-Hospital communication to coordinate patient distribution in real time with a focus on clinical appropriateness rather than volume alone. As well as patient-centered transport protocols meaning EMS

destination protocols must prioritize timely, appropriate, and equitable care for all patients, and should be free from administrative or volume-based redirection.

Commission Brown expressed her support for the presented Diversion Statement and stated that she recommends a collaborative approach with the hospitals and suggested that while IDHS will collaborate with IDOH, IHA and other invested entities to enhance the monitoring of diversion along with it's impacts on the EMS service in effected regions, she would also like to include publication of the information to allow for transparency in real-time. Commission Brown also recommended working with all the hospitals to create an interactive dashboard with real-time hospital capacity to show if beds are available.

There was no action taken on this and recommendations will be reviewed. There will be more on this in the future

Dr. Yazel presented on protentional changes in the scope of practice: First, Dr. Yazel proposed EMR administration of Aspirin. He gave a brief background regarding Aspirin and what it is primarily used to treat in pre-hospital settings as well as stating that Aspirin, with early administration can lower morbidity and mortality, and is routinely advised to be administered by dispatchers through local protocols developed by the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch. In Indiana, EMRs currently can perform thorough medical assessments which include patient history and allergies and they are already allowed to administer a limited number of medications. Dr. Yazel Stated that Aspirin is safe, and the risk is limited.

A motion was made by Commissioner Brown to add "Oral" to EMR "Medication Administration Routes" and adding EMR to "Medical Director Approved Medications" for "Oral Aspirin for chest pain of a suspected ischemic origin" with medical director approval and oversight, training and written protocols. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bowman. Roll call vote was taken:

G. Lee Turpen: Yes Dr. Lisa Clunie: Yes Patrick Hutchison: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes

Matthew McCullough: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes Mary Ann Dudley: Yes

Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes Jonathon Whitham: Yes

Second, Dr. Yazel addressed the request for consideration of IV Acetaminophen for AEMTs. He reports that with most recent studies showing that its efficacy is significantly better than previous years, now showing its comparability to others such as Toradol but also showing a more reasonable price point. There was a brief discussion regarding how this change could help with pain management and avoiding using controlled substances that have the potential of leading to long term use disorders, notably a representative from Vernon Township Fire Department stated that their department had done a study led by a Nurse Practitioner that showed giving only Acetaminophen, even in post operative stages significantly reduced narcotic abuse.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman to add AEMT level to "Parental analgesia for pain" and then notation of "IV administration of Acetaminophen is the only approved parental analgesia for pain at the AEMT level and requires medical director approval and oversight, training and written protocols. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nossett. Roll call vote was taken:

G. Lee Turpen: Yes Dr. Lisa Clunie: Yes Patrick Hutchison: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes

Matthew McCullough: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes Mary Ann Dudley: Yes

Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes Jonathon Whitham: Yes

OLD BUSINESS

Director Kinney reviewed the EMS Honorary Recognition processes, stating that they are becoming increasingly more popular by the year. With popularity have come some challenges and at times the office will be sending out ten to fifteen awards on average. Emily Castor briefly discussed the Cardiac Arrest and Stork Award average submissions thus far for 2025 and after a brief discussion it was determined to keep the process unchanged at this time.

Director Kinney discussed the EMS & Hospital Summit that was hosted in May. This event was invite-only. There were approximately 47 attendees with EMS and Hospital representation across all IDHS districts. This was coordinated by the IDHS EMS Division with co-sponsors of IDOH, IHA, and IRHA. The Summit identified EMS Data Sharing and Documentation needs such as consistent receipt and access to ePCRs by hospitals, and the lack of access to hospital outcome data by EMS providers – Taking away that a standardized, interoperable data-sharing infrastructure is needed to communication.

Diversion practices and coordination failures identified were varying diversion protocols that are inconsistently communicated, EMResource is underused and not being updated by hospitals and decisions are being made often without documentation, leaving EMS uninformed – Taking away that a statewide diversion standard with enforceable protocols is essential moving forward.

Transfer and Interfacility Transfer Challenges such as IFT providers declining long trips because of cost, time and staffing. Local EMS often avoiding IFTs causing an increased burden and behavioral health transport responsibility questions. Taking away that a coordinated statewide IFT dispatch/network system is needed.

Staffing and Certification concerns such as underutilization and low pass rates for AEMTs, burnout and competition from fire services affecting retention, and scope of practice issues creating inefficiencies. Taking away – Reforming education pathways and expanding the scope flexibility to support staffing needs.

Regional Coordination and Technology was discussed, notably the Texas model with not only regional coordination but unified patient tracking and hospital agreements noted as a best practice. A lack of unified software systems was noted to hinder interoperability. Taking away – Exploring Indiana-specific regional coordination hubs with shared tracking systems.

Director Kinney touched base regarding the Primary Instructor Mandatory Training, this was previously approved at the May 2025 EMS Commission meeting, stating that all certified Primary Instructors must complete one of the IDHS offered EMS Education Forums in 2025 as part of their continuing education requirements. (836 IAC 4-5-2 © The requirement is attendance at one (1) 2025 update as part of a twelve (12) hours of continuing education.) Director Kinney stated that there are no virtual offering at this time, as it is an in-person requirement. Director Kinney presented the staff recommendations to address the expressed concerns such as the addition of 3 more PI Mandatory Forum locations covering Districts 2, 7 and 8. As well as a noncompliance recommendation stating that PIs not compliant with the in-person requirements must complete an ACADIS online offering that includes written testing between November 1 2025, and December 31, 2025. If compliance is still not met after January 1, 2026, the individual cannot teach an EMS class or be involved in the EMS course.

ASSIGNMENTS

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS</u>

- 1) Administrative Proceedings
 - 1. Waiver Orders
 - a) Personnel Waiver
 - b) Provider Waiver
 - I. 836 IAC 2-2-1 (h): Requires Paramedic and EMT to transfer an ALS patient
 - a. Lutheran Hospital Critical Care Transport
 - II. 836 IAC 2-7.2-1 (f): 24/7 coverage ADV EMT
 - a. Hamblen Volunteer Fire Department
 - 2. Discipline Orders
 - a) Personal
 - I. Letter of Reprimand
 - II. Probation 1 Year
 - III. Probation 2 Years
 - a. Allen, Samantha
 - b. Bolinger, Brande
 - c. Master, Michael
 - C. Master, Michael
 - d. Cooper, Christopher
 - e. Dolack, Victoria
 - f. Cree, Jennifer
 - IV. Suspension 7 Days
 - a. Bolinger, Brande
 - b. Dolack, Victoria
 - c. Cree, Jennifer
 - V. Suspension 30 Days
 - VI. Suspension 1 Year
 - a. Master, Michael
 - VII. Suspension Emergency Order
 - a. Becerra Jr., Xavier
 - b. Stutzman II, Garry
 - VIII. Revocation
 - a. Joseph, Jeanan

- b. Stanifer, Shad
- IX. Censure
- X. Initial EMT Denial
 - a. Mays, Zachary
- XI. Surrender
 - a. McFarland, John
- 3. Administrative Rulemaking: None Pending
- 4. Appeals Docket
 - a) Re: Matthew Copeland RESOLVED
 - b) Re: Kenner Township Respondents PENDING
 - c) Re: Troy Louthen Pending (Final Order)
 - I. A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman to adopt ALJ Non-Final Order Dismissal with Prejudice as Final Order. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nossett. Roll call vote was taken:

G. Lee Turpen: Yes Dr. Lisa Clunie: Yes Patrick Hutchison: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes

Matthew McCullough: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes

Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes Jonathon Whitham: Yes

STAFF REPORTS

Data Registry - Robin Stump

Robin Stump reported that EMS reporting for June 2025 was 94% with 108,393 incidents, and Fire reporting for June 2025 was 68%. Ms. Stump also announced that the Indiana transition from NFIRS to NERIS will take place in December of 2025.

Operations Report – Robin Stump

Robin Stump reminded organizations the importance of keeping your Points of Contact updated in Acadis. The following should be updated at all times: Medical Director, Chief Executive Officer, Day to Day Operations Manager, Pediatric Coordinator, Data Collection Manager, and Training Manager.

Certifications and Compliance Report – Corey Wells

Corey Wells reviewed the EMS Certifications 2nd Quarter numbers for all certification levels. He stated that the total number of Indiana EMS Certifications as of June 30, 2025, was 25,524 clinicians, this is 162 more than the 1st Quarter of 2025! The total number of audits from April 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025, were 256 with only 9% being incomplete – no response from the individual, and four certification dishonesty sanction orders were issued.

EMS Education and Training – Kari Lanham

Kari Lanham reported that the Jones & Bartlett test prep packages have been approved and classes starting July 2025 or after are eligible to receive them. At this time the two packages available are the Indiana Instructor Driven Test Prep Bundle and the Indiana Student Driven Test Prep Bundle. The test codes will be issued by IDHS staff. She updated all on the EMT student minimum competencies that were recently updated by NASEMSO, you can find those on the State EMS website. Mrs. Lanham reviewed the upcoming

Mandatory PI Education forum dates and locations and reminded all about the 2025 PI Quarterly meeting dates and times.

STATE EMS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Kinney reviewed the EMS Dispatch newsletter; this was introduced in April and is released once a month and sent to all Indiana EMS personnel that hold a certification. It is continuing to grow with added data elements and vital information. For questions pertaining to EMS Dispatch Newsletter, email Certification Systems Section Chief Corey Wells. Director Kinney reported that Indiana Department of Workforce Development has transitioned from a "Flames" validation to the new statutory system TOP JOBS Indiana effective July 1, 2025. EMS programs dropped and the EMT eligibility is no longer available from WorkOne funding, while Paramedic dropped from WGRD funding, but ETPL funding remains. He stated limitations to EMS are cross-profession careers, but primary is salary which appears to be accurate.

Director Kinney explained the EMS Readiness budget for FY2026-2027, specifically pointing out the areas in which have been the focus of EMS's budget in previous years such as Education, Equipment grants, and Training. Director Kinney reviewed upcoming events such as The NASEMSO Great Lakes region annual meeting hosted in Illinois, and the upcoming EMS World Expo in Indianapolis from October 20-24 with the MIH Summit hosted by NAMIHP on October 20-21.

STATE EMS MEDICAL DIRECTORS REPORT

Dr. Yazel touched on the Trauma Regional Advisory Councils (TRACs), he encouraged EMS providers to get involved in these meetings to better communication better EMS and hospitals. He also mentioned the Regional Operation Centers, which was started for the military to move wounded soldiers, and the framework continues to be in place and are being utilized now for behavioral health management across the nation. With the passing of SB 505 for alternative destination, you may start to see a trend of this become more popular. Dr. Yazel reminded everyone the importance of taking care of our own mental health, as it's vital and just as important. Dr. Yazel reminded all of his monthly state inservice; these are on the first Wednesday of the month.

CHAIRMAN'S REORT AND DIRECTION

Chairman Turpen reiterated Commission Brown's earlier comments regarding diversion, about the importance of have a patient-flow software/dashboard to continually monitor best location as to not delay essential care.

NEXT MEETING

The next EMS Commission meeting will be on September 17th, 2025, at 1:00pm at Embassy Suites – Noblesville, 13700 Conference Center Drive South, Noblesville, IN 46060.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.