



# Emergency Medical Services Council



Health Services Building – MC L963  
525 Portland Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55415-1569  
[chd.ems@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:chd.ems@co.hennepin.mn.us)

**Executive Committee**  
**Monday, March 13, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
**online**

<https://www.hennepin.us/business/work-with-henn-co/ems-planning-reg>

**Draft Summary**

Present	Absent
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Todd Joing, MD</b>, EMS Council Chair</li> <li>2. <b>Susan Long, NREMT-P</b>, EMS Council Vice Chair</li> <li>3. <b>Michelle London, MD</b>, Medical Standards Committee Chair</li> <li>4. <b>Paul Nystrom, MD</b>, Ambulance Medical Directors Subcommittee Chair</li> <li>5. <b>Ryan Quinn, EMT-P</b>, Operations Committee Chair</li> <li>6. <b>Angela Walker, EMT-P</b>, Ambulance Service Personnel Subcommittee Chair</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Marc Conterato, MD</b>, Quality Committee Chair</li> </ol>
Guests	Staff
	1. Kristin Mellstrom, HC Public Health

1. The meeting was called to order by EMS Council Chair Joing at 1:02 p.m., with a quorum assembled.
2. The Sept. 12, 2022 meeting summary and today’s agenda were approved.

### 3. **Action: Nominations to move to the EMS Council - Approved**

#### **EMS Council**

- Sherry Nail-Sadowsky as M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital administrator (alt.) rep.
- Sarah Fredensborg as M Health Fairview University Hospital administrator rep.
- Drew Zinkel, MD as M Health Fairview University emergency physician (alt.) rep.
- Gregg Jones, MD as Hennepin Healthcare HCMC emergency physician (alt.) rep.
- Todd Gengerke, MD to replace Jeff Elder, MD as Maple Grove Hospital emergency physician rep
- Andy Winter, MD to replace Todd Gengerke, MD as Maple Grove Hospital emergency physician (alt.) rep.

#### **Medical Standards Committee**

- Owen Anderson, MD as an emergency physician representing a medical control hospital (Methodist Hospital)

### 4. **Work Group for Bylaws and Committees Review**

Susan Long, Todd Joing, MD, and Ryan Quinn volunteered to be part of this work group; staff will contact Jeff Czyson to request his assistance. The charge of this work group is to review the functions of each committee of the EMS Council and make recommendations to the Executive Committee if changes are needed to fit the work of the EMS Council now, after Ordinance 9 was revised.

### 5. **2023 Work Plan and Committee Updates**

#### **Ambulance Service Personnel Subcommittee (Walker)**

The subcommittee did not meet.

#### **Ambulance Medical Directors Subcommittee (Nystrom)**

- A. The EMS Council protocol book will not continue in the future as an action item for the EMS Council and committees. EMS Medical Directors plan to discuss their individual service's protocols, as needed, at subcommittee meetings. If hospital, communications, First Responder, or other partner agencies' input is also needed, the subcommittee may request assistance through the EMS Council and brought to the EMS Council meeting as non-action items.
- B. Hospital Closure and Diversion Policy – The subcommittee decided to forward a motion to the Medical Standards Committee to remove the Red divert option from this policy. It hasn't been used since the policy was updated in Dec. 2021.
- C. A motion to change the management of medical control physician training and certification to a single hospital for each ambulance provider moved to the Medical Standards Committee. Previously, EPPA offered to take this work over, however, the EMS Medical Directors expressed concerns that with very few medical control calls, it would be best if ED physicians are trained and certified to provide medical control at a

few main hospitals. Details of this change in the medical control certification policy will be discussed at Medical Standards Committee in June.

### **Medical Standards Committee (London)**

The committee hasn't met since the last EMS Council meeting.

### **Operations Committee (Quinn)**

#### **A. System Communications**

##### **RFP for CAD to CAD connection**

MESB is finalizing the RFP requirements for applicants for funding to update their CAD systems to connect CAD to CAD for EMS. There is momentum to get more EMS agencies to connect their CAD systems.

B. **EMS West** is back online for all west metro EMS agencies to use if they choose to do so.

C. Helmsley Foundation grant will be available soon for public education for citizens to learn how to use AEDs in the community.

### **Quality Committee – Chair Marc Conterato, MD**

The committee didn't meet in April; two priority projects will continue at the next meeting in June:

A. **Cardiac Arrest Metric** - Dr. Conterato created a proposal for cardiac arrest response time metrics. Next steps will be to refine the metric, work on a data collection, then begin a six-month baseline data collection period.

The committee is also looking at creation of a standardized report form (e.g. MIST)

B. **EMS Response Times to Strokes** –For one year, the committee will collect baseline data then determine if the metric needs to be revised or would be continued as a standing performance metric to be forwarded to the EMS Council and the County Board for approvals.

For 2023, the committee will look at ways to decrease scene times by having some instructions for dispatchers to help callers to make access to the patient easier (e.g. remove pets from patient area, clear pathway, unlock door)

C. **Hospital Hub** - The MESB has purchased the Hospital Hub to connect EMS to hospitals so electronic medical records can be shared using a HIPAA-compliant platform. Hospital ED's report that ePCR's sometimes take several hours to appear in the patient chart so the information isn't available at the time of patient transfer. If Hospital Hub could close this gap it would be helpful for both EMS and ED providers.

## **6. Old Business**

### **Ordinance 9**

The amended ordinance, as approved by Hennepin County's Board and the EMSRB (Aug. 2022)

- Removes Response Time Standards as a required performance metric
- Maintains the patient choice standard
- Maintains the requirement for EMS Providers to submit certain data to Public Health for monitoring purposes, and
- Maintains the two paramedic staffing standard as written in the 1999 Ordinance.  
\*However, the two paramedic staffing standard is suspended until the end of at least 2024 to allow Public Health to conduct a study of the effects of staffing models on EMS providers' budgets, hiring challenges due to a paramedic shortage nationwide, and identify disparities in EMS care provided to different racial groups within the county.
- The Public Health Department will report findings to the commissioners in July 2023 and 2024, before the staffing requirement suspension ends. It is expected that the County Board will make a final decision on staffing after it has reviewed the study results.

### **2023 Work Plan**

The committee prioritized three of the 2023 work plan projects:

1. Encouraging EMS and hospitals to use Hospital Hub  
so ePCRs can be uploaded quickly and available to the ED via the patient's chart. There have been reports that some ePCRs take over 4 hours to be available in patient charts when the information is faxed, then scanned into the electronic chart. Hospital Hub could provide real-time data.
2. Work Group to Review EMS Council bylaws
3. EMS Council metrics (stroke, cardiac arrest)
4. Medical Control training and certification management and documentation
5. Update the Hospital Closure and Diversion policy to delete the section that allows Red Patient diversions.

### **7. Future Meetings 2023**

- A. Exec. Committee meetings - online  
Second Mondays 1:00-2:30p.m. in June, Sept. and Dec.
- B. EMS Council meetings - Hopkins Fire Station or online  
Second Thursday 3:00-5:00p.m. in April

8. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.