



Mark Marchetta, Sr., Chair
Mark Resanovich, Vice Chair

Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director

**TRAUMA COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

FINAL – APPROVED 11/15/23

Committee Meeting Date and Location: Wednesday, September 13, 2023, ODPS Shipley Building, Conference Room 1106, 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223

Committee Members Present: Ms. Diane Simon – Chair; Dr. Erik Evans, Dr. Laurie Johnson (arrived at 10:14am), Mr. Darin Robinaugh, Dr. James Sauto, Jr., Dr. Michael Shannon, Dr. Rajan Thakkar, and Ms. Julie Warholic

Committee Members Absent: Dr. Michael Beltran, Dr. Marco Bonta, Dr. Kent Harshbarger, Ms. Deanah Moore, Mr. Joseph Natko, and Ms. Rachel Velasquez

DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Mr. Rob Wagoner, Executive Director; Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director; Mr. Eric Mays, Research and Analysis Chief; Mr. Daniel Swords, Deputy Director; Mr. Joseph Stack, Rules, and Ms. Robin Burmeister, Support Staff

Public Present: Cynthia Beaulieu, PhD, The Ohio State University College of Medicine; Ms. Kelsey Brown, Ohio Hospital Association (OHA); Ms. Roxanna Giambri, Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS); Ms. Abby Hagemeyer, Ohio Department of Health (ODH); Dr. Nathan Heinzerling, Akron Children’s Hospital; Ms. Sherri Kovach (COTS); Mr. Jayson Rogers, ODH; Ms. Danielle Rossler, Northern Ohio Trauma System (NOTS); and Ms. Monica Rozzell (COTS)

Welcome and Introduction

Chair Simon welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. She asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Roll Call

Dr. Michael Beltran	Absent	Mr. Darin Robinaugh	Present
Dr. Marco Bonta	Absent	Dr. James Sauto, Jr.	Present
Dr. Erik Evans	Present	Dr. Michael Shannon	Present
Dr. Kent Harshbarger	Absent	Ms. Diane Simon, Chair	Present
Dr. Laurie Johnson, Vice-Chair	Present	Dr. Rajan Thakkar	Present
Ms. Deanah Moore	Absent	Ms. Rachel Velasquez	Absent
Mr. Joseph Natko	Absent	Ms. Julie Warholic	Present

A quorum was present.

9/11 Remembrance - Chair Simon read a poem in remembrance of September 11, 2001 and the responders and citizens who lost their lives. This was followed by a moment of silence.

Education Presentation – Cynthia L. Beaulieu, PhD, ABPP-CN, The OSU College of Medicine, Dept. of PM&R, Associate Professor-Clinical; Topic: Coma and Unconsciousness: Local, National, International Projects. Presentation focused on coma and traumatic brain injuries and was well received.

Approval of Minutes - Chair Simon requested a motion to approve the May 10, 2023 Trauma Committee meeting minutes. The minutes were accepted with one typographic correction.

ACTION: *Motion to approve the Trauma Committee minutes of the May 10, 2023, meeting with typographic correction.* Ms. Warholic – First. Dr. Thakkar – Second. None opposed. None abstained.
Motion approved.

Current Status of Trauma Administration in the DEMS – Executive Director (ED) Wagoner introduced Daniel Swords, the newly appointed Division of EMS (DEMS) Deputy Director and informed the committee that Mr. Swords would be working closely with the Trauma Committee in the future.

ED Wagoner provided an update on new DEMS positions (two in data and one in investigations) and noted that these additions will greatly assist the division. He also notified the committee that there are currently ten open positions within the DEMS that are in various stages of the process to get them filled.

ED Wagoner then reported that, despite receiving over 2M data submissions for EMSIRS, approximately 700,000 records were not usable due to conflicts and errors made by the submitters. The two new staff that are being added to the Data Section will be instrumental in assisting data submitters how to properly submit data so that errors will decrease, resulting in more useful data.

Trauma Center Status/Name Confirmations – A list of changes to Trauma Center statuses received from the American College of Surgeons (ACS) between May 10 and September 13, 2023 was provided to the committee. No questions were brought forth. Two centers remain in “provisional” status. Many of the centers have had ACS visits but are still awaiting the review reports. ED Wagoner reminded members to review facility names and submit any needed changes to DEMS staff as hospital mergers may have occurred and updates are needed.

Committee Member Status – ED Wagoner reported that Seat 16 is now open due to the removal of the seated committee member due to not meeting the attendance requirements. There are now ten open seats on the Trauma Committee.

Data Submission – Extension of the deadline for first quarter data submissions is September 30, 2023. Guest attendees commented that they are still encountering issues with data submissions as systems are encountering errors when loading data. This is resulting in a need for corrections and resubmissions which is time consuming. There is also a shortage of registrars at some hospitals, which is also causing issues and delays. Any future extensions for data entries will be determined. Software updates were recently completed by ESO so many facilities have just received them. As such, it is expected that there will be a flurry of data submissions by September 30th. Mr. Mays reported that with NEMESIS version 3.5, vendors must have and maintain NEMESIS certification. Submission has to be maintained. This will affect smaller vendors who never had this requirement in the past. Once a facility upgrades to version 3.5, they will not be able to use the version 3.4 as that data cannot be accepted.

New Legislation and Trauma Committee Legislative Needs – ED Wagoner reported that the budget bill was signed on July 3, 2023 and the appropriations of the EMS Division have been moved to the Operational Budget.

This is the first increase for the division in four years and will allow the division to increase needed staffing. The seat belt fines will now be appropriated to the Grants program. Research dollars will be available.

SB33 is changing how open seats for both the EMFTS Board and Trauma Committee can be filled. The process will be easier as it addresses eliminating the requirement for nominating agencies to submit a minimum of three individuals. Also, it allows the Department of Public Safety Director to appoint members to the Trauma Committee. The Governor appoints individuals to the EMFTS Board. An additional forward step is that more than one person from a hospital system may now be appointed. Thus, on October 4, 2023 and thereafter, nominations for vacant seats can begin to be received and move forward in the selection process.

EMFTS Board - ED Wagoner reported that under SB33, the Governor can appoint an individual to the Board if no nominees are received by a nominating organization. There is also a 3-year term extension if the seated individual wishes to remain seated and no other nominations are received.

ED Wagoner gave a report on the removal of the Assistant EMS Instructor and Assistant Fire Instructor credentials that occurred in April 2023. Certificate holders could not renew those certifications. However, SB33 allows them to be recertified if they were unable to do so. After October 3, 2023, no new Assistant EMS and Fire Instructor certifications will be issued. The DEMS is working with the IT Department on how to create software to accommodate these changes.

For EMS transportation services, new vehicle orders are experiencing a 2 to 3-year delivery delay. The K-specifications are updated from a past law, which was amended under SB33, which only allowed one of the manufacturer's vehicle designs to be used in Ohio. There are three manufacturers that build ambulances that meet specifications under Ohio's requirements. All three manufacturers' vehicles will be allowed for use in Ohio effective October 4, 2023.

The board has approved a December 14, 2023 focus group meeting to begin the development of the 2024-29 strategic plan. Names for consideration for the group can be submitted to ED Wagoner, Mr. Swords, Ms. Simon or support staff.

Regarding the Volunteer Firefighter Task Force, ED Wagoner reported that there are two issues at the forefront. First, preliminary work has begun with the State Fire Marshal's office regarding uploading training information into a learning management system (LMS) as recommended by State Fire Marshal's office. Review is taking place on how the DEMS can access the records so that it can be applied to a certification holder's firefighter credentials. If this can be accomplished, random audits could be reduced or eliminated. This will have a positive impact to the investigation section. Secondly, staff met with stakeholders and legislative staff to review firefighter training and education to provide courses in a number of ways in addition to an in-person mode, such as virtual and hybrid courses that conform to NFPA standards. Discussion is underway about creating a portfolio that can be given to the student to take to a prospective employer for review.

The ODPS is focusing on response times and investigating ways to improve pre-arrival care and to teach bystanders how to effectively administer CPR or simple interventions prior to the arrival of responders. The DEMS had a booth at the state fair and gave simple instructions on the performance of CPR, treatment of open wounds, application of tourniquets, and use of an AED. It was well received by the public. More information will be forthcoming about this with public service announcements in the upcoming weeks.

Medical Director Report – Dr. Cunningham (Dr. C) reported that the RPAB chairs will be meeting after the Trauma Committee meeting after a hiatus during the summer. The EMSC Committee has finished its draft of the State of Ohio Pediatric EMS Guidelines and Procedures Manual, and it be presented at the October 2023 EMFTS Board meeting. Tactical emergency care guidelines were updated to comply with the guidelines that were passed

by the Committee for Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (C-TECC) Board in July. Communication guidelines for working with autistic children as well as active shooter guidelines were also added.

The EMS Medical Director's Conference will be held on November 8th at the Columbus Fire Training Academy. The topics and speakers have now been announced. Two speakers from GM's OnStar® will be presenting on lithium-ion batteries. Regarding telehealth, there will be a presentation on cybersecurity. Mental health resiliency will have a presenter. Continuing education will be available for physicians and EMS providers that includes one hour of CME on substance use disorder, a new education requirement for physician DEA license renewal. The conference registration link is active.

Ohio Department of Health (ODH) – Ms. Hagemeyer reported that a double car seat order was placed that will supply low-income car seat programs in each Ohio county. A booster seat campaign is under development. The ODH is working with local communities to do a targeted implementation of this initiative. Four balance and mobility trainings will be offered in 2024. The next round of child injury grants opens on October 1st. The ODH website has more information at odh.ohio.gov.

Mr. Rogers addressed the upcoming state requirement pertaining to licensing hospitals. He informed the committee that Ohio is the 50th state to move to hospital licensure. This change was posted for public comment, which closed at the end of August. There are several units within a hospital that have been licensed by the ODH. These will be rolled into ORC 3722, which should streamline those into the new licensure of a hospital. Re-licensure will occur every three years for areas already holding licenses. ORC 3722.02 states what is not considered a hospital (e.g., psychiatric centers). Hospitals need to obtain licensure by September 30, 2024. ED Wagoner asked how the new licensure law will coordinate with provisional trauma centers that are seeking certification with ACS (ORC 3727.101), which is a combined effort between the ODH and the DEMS. The ODH is targeting completion of the licensure development process by January 1, 2024, so that hospitals can begin submitting licensure applications. ED Wagoner will work with the ODH regarding hospitals seeking trauma center approval that may not be awarded licensure under the new law.

Workgroup Reports

HR Ad Hoc Committee – No report due to no meeting held.

Performance Improvement Workgroup – Mr. Mays reported that the focus for the 2022 Annual Report will cover penetrating injuries and separate out stabbings versus gunshots.

Scope of Practice Ad Hoc Committee – No report due to no meeting held.

Trauma Registry Advisory Workgroup – Ms. Simon read a report from Deanah Moore who could not attend today's meeting. The workgroup will be meeting on September 20th and reviewing the 2024 Ohio Dictionary changes for submission to the registry vendor by the end of September. In addition, the group will discuss the Ohio Trauma Registry system status for receiving 2023 data submissions and further review for a potential new TRAW registry project/educational opportunity based on adequate content.

EIS Evaluation/EMS/Rehabilitation Workgroups – These three workgroups remain on hiatus.

Resource Assessment/Competent Workforce – No changes. They will continue to monitor education for physicians, nurses, and EMS providers throughout the state. The Level III Subcommittee of the Ohio Society of Trauma Nurse Leaders (OSTNL) continues to work on creating a flash program for the critical care hospitals that has a Level III instructor going to those hospitals for a 4-hour course of what to do with the patients until they can be transported to a trauma center. The subcommittee has a target date of December 2023 to complete its program development.

System Oversight (ORTOC) – The paper is written and submitted regarding the Need for Trauma Intervention (NFTI) project.

OLD BUSINESS

EMSIRS – Mr. Mays reported that the IT Department submitted a test file to the organization that was accepted. The state will likely not be making the transition to version 3.5 until sometime in 2024.

New Trauma Strategic Plan – Ms. Simon reported that the EMFTS Board is working on its plan and that there may be information that will carry over to the committee to incorporate into an updated trauma plan.

Trauma Dashboard Prototype – Mr. Mays reported that the project is on hold pending the need to be able to suppress categories for low number reporting so that no patient can be connected to a report. IT Data Security has not been able to work on this project further due to other commitments.

Rules – Mr. Stack reported that there are no updates to trauma rules. The next 5-year review date is June 1, 2027. However, if a need arises, proposed rule changes can be submitted prior to that date. ED Wagoner explained that exclusionary language guidelines were changed per Joe Kirk’s explanation that the ODPS should not be bound by that requirement (i.e., for every “shall” added, two must be removed from rules).

AIS 2015 Reporting Software Deadline – Chair Simon reported that by the end of 2024 all data must be submitted by AIS 2015v and no data will be able to be submitted through older software versions. Training is available for all registrars. Costs may be prohibitive for smaller trauma centers and critical care hospitals. Both in-person and virtual courses are being offered. Information is on the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine’s (AAAM) website as well as the Trauma Quality Improvement Program (TQIP). A book is available for purchase.

Burn Centers – Chair Simon reported that burn centers were having to input data twice, once for the state and once for the ABA. A review was underway to try to interface them so that data would only need to be input once. Mr. Mays reported that the ABA likely will not release data to Ohio. The ABA may make Ohio a special annual report, but only three of four burn centers in Ohio report to the ABA so it would not be a comprehensive report. However, it would be just be an aggregate report and could not be included in Ohio’s burn data. Generally, outpatient data would not be included in the reports. The information would be fragmented and therefore, is cost-prohibitive based on the information that would be received.

The ODH’s burn surge plan has been drafted and Chair Simon reported that she has been included on the list to attend its plan meeting in November.

AIS 2015 Deadline Letter – Discussion took place about notifying hospital CEOs of the December 31, 2024 deadline to upgrade to the 2015v software. After discussion, it was the general consensus of the committee to not send notification letters at this time. If it is found that facilities are not able to meet the upgrade timeline, the option to send letters can be readdressed.

NEW BUSINESS

Scope of Practice Ad Hoc Committee – ED Wagoner informed the members that the SOP Ad Hoc Committee circulated a letter in June asking for suggestions for competencies to be considered for inclusion from each committee (i.e., trauma care recommendations from the Trauma Committee). Added competencies would not be required for every responder at any given certification level. The medical director would be responsible for the QA, QI, oversight, continuing education, and the training for the added skills. The EMFTS Board would have to

approve any proposed additions. A list of skills that should not be included is also being developed. ED Wagoner invited the committee members to send suggestions of what competencies to include or not include to DEMS staff.

Post-Crash Care Federal Grant Funds – Chair Simon reported that a review of post-crash care is under review by the National Roadway Safety Strategy and the core strategy of a safe system approach. Over 42,000 deaths were reported in 2021. Initial reviews of the data showed a potential decrease of deaths that year if there had been optimal emergency and trauma care. Approximately one-third of crash victims were not transported to a Level I or II Trauma Center. Two of five crash victims were alive when responders arrived but later died from their injuries. There was a 25 percent increase in survival for patients treated at a Level I or II Trauma Center. Dr. C said state EMS offices are being encouraged to work with their state transportation departments on crashes and post-care crashes. There is an allocation of funds available for each state. Dr. C reported that Ohio’s portion was \$16M and only \$3M in funding requests was received due to lack of submitted grant applications. The unused \$13M rolled over into the second year. There needs to be an informational notice to EMS agencies to apply for the funds. Some grant requests are required to come from local government agencies. Dr. C suggested that the Trauma Committee make recommendations to EMS departments for their consideration to present to their local governments for consideration. Dr. C will provide links to Ms. Burmeister for distribution to the Trauma Committee members and guest meeting attendees.

State Grant Funds – Chair Simon reminded committee members that the state offers Priority 2-5 trauma-based grant funds. Each one applies to different medical aspects. The research grant is underutilized and committee members could come up with research focus ideas when the grant applications open.

OPEN FORUM – Members discussed the continual need to update software and train registrars and costs related to same for data reporting. This is a software-related company issue and cannot be controlled by the state.

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS

1. Send approved May 2023 minutes to webmaster to post to website. – Burmeister
2. E-mail Scope of Practice Ad Hoc Committee information request for competencies to committee members. – Burmeister
3. E-mail EMS & Post-Crash Care article to committee members. – Burmeister
4. Send links regarding grants and post-crash care to Ms. Burmeister to distribute to committee members and guest attendees – Dr. Cunningham
5. Priority Grant research suggestions to Ms. Simon. – All Members
6. Email Dr. Beaulieu flyer to committee members. – Burmeister

ACTION: *Motion to adjourn the Trauma Committee meeting at 12:30p.m.* Dr. Shannon – First. Dr. Sauto – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE: November 15, 2023, 10am-1pm.

Prepared by: Robin Burmeister, Trauma Committee Support Staff