



## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Location:** French Lick Resort

8670 W. State Rd. 56

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

Matthew Shady – *Training Institution*

John Zartman – *Paramedics*

Andrew Bowman – *Emergency Nurses*

Mary Ann Dudley – *Volunteer EMS*

Lori Mayle – *Air Medical Services*

**Members Present Online:** Jerry Harder – *EMTs*

Dr. Sara Brown – *Trauma Physicians*

Dr. Jim Nossett – *Medical Director*

Joel Thacker – *Executive Director of Indiana Dept. of Homeland Security*

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

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

**Members Not Present:** Brian Herwig – *Hospital EMS*

Darin Hoggatt – *Municipal Fire*

Matthew McCullough – *Volunteer Fire EMS*

**Others Present or Present by Teleconference:** Stan Frank, Robin Stump, Emily Castor, and other members of the EMS community.

Complete video of this meeting can be viewed at the following link:

<https://acadisportal.in.gov/acadisviewer/Registration/ListOfAvailableTraining>

## **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Meeting was called to order at approximately 1:00pm 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 the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, session.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman to approve the minutes from the previous meeting listed above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mayle. Roll call vote was taken:**

**G. Lee Turpen: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes Jerry Harder: Yes  
John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes  
Mary Ann Dudley: Yes Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes  
Joel Thacker: Yes**

## **HONORARY CERTIFICATES**

- 1) *EMS Director's Award*: Charles "Chuck" Valentine.
- 2) *EMS Star of Life*:
- 3) *Certificate of Remembrance*: David Phelps.
- 4) *Certification of Appreciation*: Jeremy McKim, Susan Allen, Michael Poole, and Diana L. Poole.
- 5) *Stork Award*: Zach Simms, Paige Bush, Reya Henson, Kaci Purdy, Kristopher Luce, Steven Breedlove, Jacy Parnin, Nissa Moore, Eli Burns, Isaac Richert, and Ethan Breach.
- 6) *Cardiac Saves*: Bradley Howell, Zachary Aveline, Jacob Burriss, Tim Winger, Bob Cash Jr., Kolten Cromwell, Aaron Hutchens, Calvin Chaney, Christopher Grandstaff, Patrick Williams, and Jamie Macy.
- 7) *Retirement*:

## **INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

- 1) Trauma System Update— Director Kinney stated that the representative for Indiana Department of Health trauma is unable to present today but did announce that the State Trauma Committee has now become the State Trauma Commission and now has appointees by the Governor's office. They had their first meeting recently with Executive Director of IDHS, Joel Thacker, representing EMS on the commission as he has a strong background in EMS, additionally, Dr. Elizabeth Weinstein will be representing Emergency Services for Children.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

- 1) Director Kinney stated that there are no formal updates at this time.

## **EMS FOR CHILDREN**

- 1) Director Kinney, on behalf of EMSC, reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Midwest EMS Prehospital Tech Symposium was held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. A total of 164 Indiana EMS providers

were in attendance and it was the largest of any state that participated. Director Kinney stated that he also attended and that the education credits for those that participated are in the process of being entered into Acadis. It was also noted that Dr. Elizabeth Weinstein and Dr. Greg Burris will be presenting at the upcoming state in-service, hosted by Dr. Eric Yazel, on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and Director Kinney encouraged all to attend if able.

### **INDIANA FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION**

- 1) Chief Sights stated that the only update he has at this time is finalized dates for the 2024 Indiana Emergency Responder's Conference. It will be from October 2<sup>nd</sup> to October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and will be held at the Embassy Suites in Noblesville, IN. There will be more information about this to come.

### **INDIANA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (IEMSA)**

- 1) Nate Metz started by thanking everyone for their attendance to the IEMSA/ ENA conference. Mr. Metz then reported that the IEMSA has finalized the date for the upcoming Golden Siren award banquet, it will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The nominations for this award will open in January. He then conceded his remaining time to Mr. Evan Wilson, a Coordinator with the Armed Forces Benefit Association. Mr. Wilson explains the state sponsored life insurance or, SSLI, and how after the events on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, this previously exclusive military program was then opened but to those in public safety. Those that work in public safety typically will have civilian life insurance policies which include exclusions such as terrorism. This made it difficult for those impacted by the events of 9/11 to receive compensation due to insurance denials. Mr. Wilson then explains that the AFBA was then made open to public safety personnel, which has zero exclusions or restrictions. For more details on these benefits, you can go to <https://www.afba.com/>.

### **EDUCATIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

- 1) Commissioner Zartman stated that there is no official report at this time, but he will be meeting with Kari Lanham, EMS Training and Education Coordinator, to discuss the psychomotor skills of the Advanced EMT scope as well as looking into the EMT- Basic. Commissioner Zartman anticipates a meeting of this committee in the coming weeks. There will be more information to come on this in the future.

### **MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH COMMITTEE**

- 1) Director Kinney stated that the Mobile Integrated Health Committee met at MADE in Plainfield on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. During the meeting the IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital program gave a presentation on their MIH/ CP program which they have linked to their cardiac unit within the hospital. Director Kinney then states that there is a program spotlight at every MIH Committee meeting and that the meetings do have a virtual link for all those that are interested in attending, just contact MIH Coordinator, Emily Castor. Director Kinney reports that the MIH Subcommittees have had several productive meetings with the goal of bringing forward rules and education guidelines to better structure MIH in Indiana.

- 2) Emily Castor presented the new MIH program that are up for consideration: Greenwood Fire Department and St. John Fire Department.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman to approve all MIH programs as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shady. Roll call vote was taken:**

**G. Lee Turpen: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes Jerry Harder: Yes  
John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes  
Mary Ann Dudley: Yes Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes  
Joel Thacker: Yes**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) Director Kinney reported that the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association would like to host an EMS Commission meeting. This meeting would be on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and Director Kinney states that an option would be to do a roundtable discussion with maybe three commissioners alongside himself and Dr. Yazel, due to the commissions upcoming meeting schedule, this would be the best option as to not interrupt the future meetings.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Bowman to schedule a roundtable discussion on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with the IVFA. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zartman. Roll call vote was taken:**

**G. Lee Turpen: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes Jerry Harder: Yes  
John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes  
Mary Ann Dudley: Yes Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes  
Joel Thacker: Yes**

- 2) Director Kinney presented on the Mobile Integrated Health Grant for the 2024 Fiscal Year. There was a total of fourteen organizations applied totaling \$933,000.00, due to the statute on the Notice of Funding Opportunity, four of them were not eligible to receive grant funding at this time. Those not eligible were Good Samaritan Hospital, Eaton Emergency Medical Technicians INC., Putnam County EMS, and Pulaski County EMS. For the remaining eligible programs, there were priority areas they needed to meet such as new program or program expansion, community need, cross-disciplinary cooperation to address community need and programs that propose matching funds. The remaining programs that are recommended for approval are as follows: St. John Fire Department, City of Fishers Fire and Emergency Services, Carmel Fire Department, Wabash Township Fire Department, Bloomington Fire Department, South Bend Fire and EMS, White River Township Fire Protection District and City of Richmond Fire Department.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Bowman to deny the ineligible MIH programs grant applications as well as Gas City Fire, Modify Wabash Township Fire award to**

**\$37,125.00, and award all other applicants fully as requests. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zartman. Roll call vote was taken:**

**G. Lee Turpen:** Yes **Matthew Shady:** Yes **Jerry Harder:** Yes  
**John Zartman:** Yes **Dr. Sara Brown:** Yes **Andrew Bowman:** Yes  
**Mary Ann Dudley:** Yes **Dr. Jim Nossett:** Yes **Lori Mayle:** Yes  
**Joel Thacker:** Yes

- 3) Robin Stump reported on the upcoming 2024 Solar Eclipse. This will be on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from approximately 1:45pm to 4:30pm. During this presentation Ms. Stump points out the areas that will be most impacted by the Solar Eclipse, as it is predicted to go through most of the state other than the upper northwest corner. Ms. Stump stated the importance of attending the local briefings regarding the upcoming eclipse as most areas are to have record numbers of eclipse viewers. For resources and additional information on the 2024 Solar Eclipse you can visit <http://www.in.gov/dhs/solar-eclipse-2024/>. On the website you can find resources such as Eclipse Basics, Exercise in a box (typically an hour to go through), the path of totality, eye safety, education booklist – K-12, and travel preparedness. If you have any questions, please reach out to IDHS or your local EMA director for further information.
- 4) Dr. Eric Yazel presented on the EMS Scope of Practice. Dr. Yazel reviewed the newly updated Frequently Asked Questions document for providers that may have some questions regarding operating at the top of their licensure. Dr. Yazel states that this list is not a change to the current Scope of Practice at any level and all should use this document as more of a quick reference guide. Dr. Yazel then reviews a few questions that are on the document such as, “Is IM Glucagon allowed at the EMT level?” and, “Is BIPAP allowed at the EMT and AEMT level?”. Moving forward Dr. Yazel states that this document will be updated quarterly and brought before EMS Commission for acknowledgement.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1) Director Kinney updated on Health First EMS Readiness, previously referred to as EMS Readiness. During legislation in the spring, EMS was awarded \$6,450,000.00 for FY2023-2024 and \$8,200,000.00 for FY2024-2025, this is the first direct funding of EMS in the state budget that EMS is aware of. With this funding the focuses are equipment, training, and instructor development. Director Kinney then explains the EMS Education grant lead by Zach Westfall. This grant received 120 applications totaling \$8,177,184.63 in funding requested. A total of 44 grant awards were given, 36 organizations total, for \$1,402,753.65, and approximately 44 organizations were denied.

Director Kinney reviewed the upcoming EMS education equipment grant, led by Stan Frank the grant states that preference will be given to those offering coverage to areas of rule, counties, underserved areas for EMS, education, training, institutions, upgrading that have three or more years in service with cognitive examination past rates above the Indiana average at the EMT level. Additional preference will be given to those applications, offering

coverage to the whitest variety of educational opportunities. This grant should be used for training institutions and is limited to equipment used for initial education, not continuing education and things of that nature. The application period will be December 1, 2023, and closing December 31, 2023, at midnight.

Director Kinney reported on other upcoming EMS funding projects, such as EMS online education, courses, Bowen Center continued funding for workforce initiatives, Rapid, interfacility transfer pilot, EMT student electronic testing preparation package for all EMS students, ACADIS funding, and instructor development.

- 2) Hannah Maxey, with the IU Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy, gave an update on the EMS Workforce Study. Mrs. Maxey gave a quick summary of the Bowen Center and States that a large part of what they do with the state of Indiana is currently funded through contract with the Indiana Department of health and partners with the state with the department of health, and with the professional licensing agency to develop and implement survey questions that collect supplemental workforce data from licensed healthcare professionals in the state of Indiana, meaning our physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, etc. With the recent governor's public health commission, it was recommended to do an EMS workforce assessment and they now partner with IDHS to provide technical assistance on this project for the state of Indiana.

Mrs. Maxey then explained that the EMS workforce assessment project has four major activity areas such as sustainable EMS workforce tracking, county level needs assessment, Pipeline assessment, and retention assessment. She also states that the survey tool was finalized by the department of Homeland security, and that the Assessment questions have now been embedded as part of the renewal process for our EMS certified and licensed professionals. Mrs. Maxey States that due to our renewal process, which happens every two years, it will take two years for the Bowen Center to get the supplemental data from the entire workforce. Their team is currently in discussions with IDHS regarding future, potential work to prepare ongoing routine reports that supply reports on the characteristics of the EMS workforce to track and monitor the workforce moving forward. In closing, Mrs. Maxey states that the final technical report will be shared with IDHS and DOH by December 30 and the graphic design full report will be finalized and published to the Bowen centers portal.

- 3) Deputy General Counsel, Hillary Egan, addressed the commission regarding the EMS commission rules, title 836, will be expiring this current cycle and set to expire on January 1st, 2025. The office of general council must file a notice of intended readoption to notify all the legislators that the EMS commission intends to readopt the rules, and this must be filed by January 1, 2024. Miss Egan further explains that the entire rule is not expiring, but in particular, it is 836 IAC 1-2.1 but to be more concise they would like to move forward with the entire title at this time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman motion to approve notice of intent to readopt Title 836 rules. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bowman. Roll call vote was taken:

G. Lee Turpen: Yes Matthew Shady: Yes Jerry Harder: Yes  
John Zartman: Yes Dr. Sara Brown: Yes Andrew Bowman: Yes  
Mary Ann Dudley: Yes Dr. Jim Nossett: Yes Lori Mayle: Yes  
Joel Thacker: Yes

## ASSIGNMENTS

- 1) No assignments to report.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

- 1) Waiver Orders
  - a) Personnel Waiver
    - I. 836 IAC 4-9-5: Allows this individual to submit paramedic continuing education after expiration date of 9/30/23.
      - a. Huffman, Michelle
  - b) Provider Waiver
    - I. 836 IAC 2-2-1 (g): Allow non 24/7 at paramedic level.
      - a. Rushville Fire Department
      - b. Danville Fire Department
    - II. 836 IAC 2-2-1 (h): Allow ALS response to transport with a EMR or FF with medical training to staff the ambulance with a paramedic during transport.
      - a. Warren County EMS
    - III. 836 IAC 2-7.2-3: Denied waiver asking for ADV EMT's to administer morphine.
      - a. New Chapel EMS
- 2) Discipline Orders
  - a) Personal
    - I. Letter of Reprimand
      - a. Huber, William
      - b. Jones, Rhiana
      - c. O'Grady, Annmarie
      - d. Rosenberger, Roy
      - e. Simpkins, Jerel
      - f. Yoder, Cody P.
    - II. Probation—2 Years
    - III. Suspension—Emergency Order
      - a. Fort, Mikel
    - IV. Revocation
      - a. Mitchell, Christopher
  - b) Provider
    - I. None at this time.

## STAFF REPORTS

**1) Data Registry – Robin Stump**

Robin Stump stated That EMS reporting for September 2023 we are at 94% and fire at 80%. Ms. Stump also states that they will be moving forward with Nemsis 3.5, and it will go into effect on Friday. The deadline for this transition is January 1st, 2024.

**2) Operations Report – Robin Stump**

Robins Stump reported that the office is catching up on all provider, training, institutions, as well as Ken Foster, our data manager recently attended a report writing class through ImageTrend. Ms. Stump also reports that Stan Frank and Jason Smith will be traveling to Florida to work with them on their disaster portable mortuary unit.

**3) Certifications and Compliance Report – Kraig Kinney**

Director Kinney reported on the most recent end of quarter number. He states that as of September 30, 2023, the total number of EMS certifications is 24,725 clinicians. He then reports that audits from July 1, 2023, through September 30 of 2023 or 191 and of those audits only 22 were incomplete with no response to request for additional information, which is about 11.5%, And 13 certification dishonesty Sanction administrative orders were issued for the third quarter. Of the EMS violation statements, 92 individuals have checked yes notifying us of an arrest or conviction during the third-quarter of 2023, 73 of those individuals have been resolved with either clearing or a sanction issued, 19 have had further information requested nine have pending criminal cases, and zero are scheduled for team review next week.

**4) EMS Education and Training – Kari Lanham**

Kari Lanham reported that the most recent past rates for EMT were low compared to previous numbers, but states that the paramedic pass rate seems to stay in line with previous reports. Mrs. Lanham then states that for just 2023 the EMT pass rate from the beginning of the year to current date is about 59% on the first attempt and it is about 70% within the first three attempts, the advanced EMT is pretty similar at 57% on the first attempt and 70% within the first three attempts and finally paramedic is usually around 79% on the first attempt in 91% within the first three attempts.

**STATE EMS DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

- 1) Director Kinney reported on the Indiana EMS 2025, which is a work group of EMS stakeholders that will foster an assessment and dialogue of EMS in Indiana and formulate recommendations for where EMS should be. Director Kinney states that these meetings are public for those interested in participating. He states that the ultimate goal of this work group is to create a “white paper” with recommendations to stabilize and improve EMS that can be used by IDHS, the EMS commission, the governor’s office, and the Indiana legislature. So far there have been two meetings in 2023 and there are three scheduled for 2024 with the ultimate goal of having a written report by June 1, 2024. The six main discussion, topics are EMS funding, EMS, workforce, EMS, education and careers, EMS, safety, EMS operations and EMS essential function. At the last meeting, they discussed safety and operations, and a lot of good ideas came from that discussion. Director Kinney reports that the future meeting dates are Thursday, January 18, 2024, Wednesday, February 14, 2024, and Tuesday, March 5, 2024. If you are interested in attending these



meetings reach out to IDHS for more information. Director Kinney also reports that Himself and Robin Stump, Kari Lanham, Emily Castor, and Ken Foster attended the NASEMSO regional meeting In Kalamazoo, Michigan at the end of October. He also reports that crash responder safety week was November 13 through the 17th, As we have had some line of duty deaths from public safety officials, and in those instances, they appeared to not be wearing seatbelts so with this initiative, it was important That are providers throughout the state, maintain their safety first as well as their patients.

### **STATE EMS MEDICAL DIRECTORS REPORT**

- 1) Dr. Yazel reported that he is working on some legislation that was passed dealing with mandating, mental health support and training for first responders. This is to ensure that we are not just doing the bare minimum and looking out for our providers. Some key components that have been identified our preemployment support, training, peer support, both virtual and in person, therapy, options, and critical incident, stress management, as to have a full continuum of options. He then reports that his whole blood project has now partnered with Crawfordsville Fire Department and St. Vincent Ascension. At this time, they are ready to go live and will be able to do full blood transfusions in the field at the ground EMS stage. So far This has been used on 100 patients.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REORT AND DIRECTION**

- 1) Commissioner Turpen thanked the EMS staff for all their effort to improve quality and timeliness within the state office. He then discussed the NA MSP, that comes out in January 2024, as well as the Eagles conference in June 2024, which will be hosted in Hollywood, FL. Commissioner Turpen also reiterated the importance of solar eclipse preparation in everyone's local areas, primarily those in the path of totality.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Next EMS Commission meeting will be on Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, beginning at 10:00am at MADE at Plainfield, 1610 Reeves Rd, Plainfield, IN 46168.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Zartman to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:31pm.

These minutes were reviewed and approved by the EMS Commission at their January 19th, 2024, meeting. Emily Castor, Secretary.