



Emergency Medical Services & Injury Prevention System Branch

State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC)

Monday, November 20, 2023

9:30 am – 11:30 am

Leahi Hospital (3675 Kilauea Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816)

MEETING MINUTES

Recording Link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/ KY6-d9Lub13BKmeIMRzgmew7KToA1o7_ur1E0_FwQ3ov8u9w1M564WRZuNpLrW5.8VfovQWIRpd4_V19](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/KY6-d9Lub13BKmeIMRzgmew7KToA1o7_ur1E0_FwQ3ov8u9w1M564WRZuNpLrW5.8VfovQWIRpd4_V19)

Committee Members Present: Maren Anka; Cody Bonilla; Elizabeth Char, MD; Sean Covant, DO; Peter Di Rocco, MD; Major General Kenneth Hara; Michael Jones; Michael Lam; John (Jack) Lewin, MD; Max Matias; Jacob Minei; Stacey Oho; Kyle Perry, MD; Darren Rosario

Committee Members Absent: Michael Hayashi, MD; Edwin Sniffen

- I. **0:00 Call to Order/Roll Call:** Robert Lau called meeting to order at 9:32AM. Roll call of members and quorum established at 9:35AM.
- II. **5:12 Moment of Silence – Lahaina Fires**
- III. **6:40 Approval of 7/19/23 Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve was made by Cody Bonilla and seconded by Darren Rosario. Minutes were approved with no corrections.
- IV. **7:34 EMSAC Positions:** New board members, Elizabeth Char, MD and p and Captain Michael Lam, MICT Hawaii Island were welcomed. The challenges of meeting quorum and complying with Sunshine Law requirements were discussed. It was noted that no more than two members may discuss EMSAC issues or represent its views outside of an official public meeting.

More information about Sunshine Laws may be found: [Office of Information Practices \(OIP\)](#)

Discussion to be continued at January meeting.

- A. **11:48 Vacant EMSAC Positions:** Consumers (3): Honolulu, Kauai, Maui; Allied Health (1): Maui. Discussion for possibility of a smaller selection committee pending conversations with Office of Information Practices (OIP) to abide by Sunshine Laws. Seeking community and allied health input for identifying members for remaining committee positions and chair election; participation in upcoming meetings encouraged for discussing of the selection process. Applications can be submitted to EMSAC at: <https://boards.hawaii.gov>. Suggestions for the EMSAC Chair position or anyone interested in the Chair position should contact EMSIPSB and also be available in upcoming meetings for discussing of the selection process.
- V. **14:25 Request for Information (RFI)/ Request for Proposals (RFP) Process:** New RFIs and RFPs will be issued for 911 emergency ground ambulance service for Kauai and Maui counties. DOH has been advised by the Ethics Commission that employees of or anyone with a vested interest in or becoming a provider for these services should recuse themselves from discussions on these topics at EMSAC meetings due to a conflict of interest. Official members of this committee who have a conflict will have the opportunity to communicate their opinions, questions, concerns, through the RFI process. If further clarification of this guidance is needed, it was recommended that individuals reach out directly to the Ethics Commission for additional information.
- VI. **21:33 Request for information:** Matt Wells asked if they could be provided with a list of official board members and their titles and roles on the future agendas. EMSAC support staff acknowledged the request and will provide the information.

VII. Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch (EMSIPSB)

- A. **23:30 Paramedic Stipend Program Update:** The stipend contract was not cancelled. A new MOA is executed annually and due to a staff vacancy, the person who usually handled this was not employed with the EMSIPSB so MOA was created for the current FY2024. The quickest route to remedy this, was to extend the FY2023 MOA, which is in process. EMSIPSB is seeking input on eligibility criteria for the stipends and asks EMSAC if this topic can continue to be discussed at another meeting.
- B. **28:34 National Emergency Medical Services Information System (NEMSIS) 101:** An overview and history of NEMSIS 3.5 was provided. Presentation included data flow and dashboards for EMS offload times, COVID surveillance, non-fatal opioid overdoses, traffic crashes, etc. in Hawaii. NEMSIS is funded by NHTSA and creates Universal Unique Identifiers across EMS, trauma, and emergency department data.
- C. **51:28 State Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) P.25 Radio Standards:** An overview of radio communications across emergency responders was provided which included a roadmap for the P.25 statewide system, HIWIN radio system, and creating interoperability. The goal of P.25 is radio standards that all counties should be participating in to improve public safety.
- D. **1:10:50 Discussion on administration of Epinephrine and Narcan for EMTs:** Overview of how Hawaii state law affects mobile intensive care technicians (MICTs) versus emergency medical technicians (EMTs). Hawaii's Standing Orders currently mandate protocols for MICTs, not EMTs. EMT protocols are mandated by individual EMS agencies and their medical directors. Hawaii state law currently does not allow EMTs to administer drugs (except for naloxone/Narcan which is allowed by statute) or do anything "invasive." Members discussed the "stocking," "assisting," and "administering" of medications. It was recommended that there be future discussions on possible revisions to the Hawaii Revised Statutes and/or Standing Orders to include EMTs.
- E. Legislative Update
1. **1:25:45 DOH plans to introduce a bill** to address neighbor island air ambulance needs. Because the issue was time sensitive, DOH submitted draft language as placeholder. Current language in the bill can be changed and DOH will be soliciting input from neighbor islands partners.
 2. **1:26:45 Update of Hawaii Administrative Rules related to EMS:** Interim rules to implement Act 140, SLH 2019 were drafted (attached for

committees convenience), but never adopted. These interim rules established fee schedules for 1) treat/no transport, 2) transport to an alternative destination and 3) a community paramedic visit. Cody Bonilla and Maren Anka proposed there be further discussion at the nethe revamping of the proposed interim rules or submitting as-is.

- F. **1:17:02 (included in VII.D discussion) EMS Standing Orders Updates:** Standing Orders 2023 revisions have been completed and agencies have reviewed the latest draft. Discussion on future revisions possibly including EMT protocols to be held. Publishing of current revision and report out on changes will be addressed at a future meeting.
- G. **1:41:45 2/3 voted “yes” to skip:** Health Data Exchange (HDE) Update – skip if covered under Section V.B. NEMSIS 3.5

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- H. **11:40 (included after IV.A discussion) / 1:41:54 Update on Request for Proposals (RFPs) for 911 Ground Ambulance Maui & Kauai**
1. Contract Extensions for current provider – A procurement exemption has been approved for a nine month contract extension (contract with current provider will be extended until the end of September 2024).
 2. Requests for Information (RFIs) – RFIs will be initiated for both Maui and Kauai emergency ground ambulance services in the next few weeks. This process provides the opportunity for everyone to share their insights about the services and give feedback. All recommendations will be taken into consideration.
 3. New RFPs will be issued for Maui & Kauai.
- I. **1:46:45 Update on Ambulance Vehicle Licensing Status & Deadlines:**
Vehicle licensing has been completed for Kauai and most of Maui. Six units on Hawaii island still need to be inspected and Honolulu will start inspections next week.
- J. **1:47:25 EMS for Children (EMSC)**
1. Pre-hospital 2023 Children’s Survey results: National survey to measure readiness to care for children.
 - a) 50% of Hawaii’s EMS agencies have a Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator (PECC). 2024 Goal: 100% of agencies have identified a PECC
 - b) On a 12-point scale measuring frequency of skills training on pediatric-specific equipment: 66% of Hawaii’s EMS agencies scored 2 points and 33% scored 0 points. 2024 Goal: 60% of agencies will reach the national objective of 6 points.
 2. Pre-hospital Pediatric Readiness Program (PPRP) 2024 Assessment: Survey launching in May with disaster planning measure.
 3. Handtevy Update: currently in provider training phase. Recognition of AMR Maui and Hawaii Fire for provider training and utilization in Maui.
- K. **1:53:20 Injury Prevention Updates & Events**
1. 9/30 - ‘Imi Pono Culture & Wellness Fair, 10/07 – We Are Kalihi Fair
 2. September – Suicide Prevention Awareness Month & 11/18 – International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day (ISOSL)
 3. Hawaii Governor’s Challenge (HI GC) to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families is renewed for another year by Gov. Green
 4. National Fall Prevention Awareness Week (Sept. 17-23), TV PSAs, flyer distributions, and pharmacy medication reviews
 5. Tai Chi instructor re-certification workshop in September 2023

6. Grants & partnerships: EMSIPSB is currently looking and applying for grants and establishing new partnerships. Please reach out if you have or know of resources available.

VIII. 1:56:10 Quality Assessment and Assurance

- A. Discussion on EMSAC meeting agenda template, board roles, and direction for committee. Discussion to lay groundwork to encourage more dialogue and facilitate EMSAC meetings better.

IX. 1:56:52 Department / Committee Updates

- A. Trauma & Hawaii Trauma Advisory Council: HTAC will be held on 12/8/23. Please send any agenda items by December 1st. Open call for HTAC chair.
- B. Air Medical
 1. **1:58:20 Committee Report:** No recent meeting. Historically the committee has been providers and Dr. Jones (committee chair). Call for consumers and trauma programs to join the committee and share their input. No more than two EMSAC members may join the air medical committee due to Sunshine Laws.

- C. **2:03:00 EMS Medical Directors and County Provider Reports:** Agency reports are posted on the EMSIPSB website. No additional comments/updates from county medical directors or agencies.

- X. **2:03:40 Future Meeting Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 9:30AM. Board members please RSVP “yes” or “no” by December 15, 2023. Meeting cannot be held without a quorum.

- XI. **2:06:00 Final Reminders:** Please send in EMSAC chair nominations and suggested agenda items for the next meeting. Consider and let the branch know if there are any objections to removing EMSAC as a legislative mandate placing it under Sunshine Law.

- XII. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:38AM