

AEMS Board of Governors Meeting

August 19, 2026

Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: Michelle Angle; Peggy Baker; Eileen Blackstone; Marcia Barry, RN; Franco Castro-Marin; Doug Costal; Fernando Cortes; Nicola Crim; Garth Gemar; Cori Hayes; Jon Holmes; Steven Maher; Martin Murphy; Kristin Niehoff; Beth Ranney; Chris Riddle; Roy Ryals; Roy Ryals; Barbara Schaffer; Julie Smith; Casey Solem; Alyson Welch.

Distinguished Guests in Attendance: Shelley Bissell; Olivia (Alex) Brothers; Ligia Castro; Jarrett Cline; James Cunningham; Kendal Dold; Stephen Ferris; Joe Gibson; Christopher Hale; Kyle Henson; Shelley Henry; Adam Hoster; Cody Jordan; Manuel Montano; Sandra Nygaard; Heather Plytas; Vince Podrybau; Marc Puleo; Chris Riddle; Savannah Sandlin; Heather Santiago; Glenn Trainor;

- I. Call to Order and Introduction of Guests: 12:03pm
 - a. NOTE: Dr. Gemar chairing this meeting in Dr. Southworth's absence
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. MOTION: Approve the minutes as presented
 - b. ACTION: Passed without dissent or abstention
- III. Executive Director's Report
 - a. Monthly Activities: report provided including issuance of continuing education credits for recent educational events. Increase in RN registrants noted since AEMS development of credentialing relationship with the New Mexico Nurses Association.
 - b. AZDHS FY27
 - i. Rural health Education Training (Workforce Development) Funding: Review of ongoing meetings with AZDHS staff on deliverables/process and timelines. First year funding was anticipated prior to 9/30/26. Contract development is ongoing at this time.
 - ii. Needs Assessment with Rural Providers: AEMS will utilize processes developed for prior rural education funding distribution as a start point. Next steps will include development of needs assessment for rural agencies/providers.
- IV. Board Officers' Reports
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Financial Reports:
 1. Monthly Reports: overview provided. There were no questions regarding content.
 - a. MOTION: Accept the monthly financial reports as presented.
 - b. ACTION: Passed without dissent or abstentions.
 2. End of Year Report: Overview provided. There were no questions regarding content.
 - a. MOTION: Accept the End of Year Financial report as presented
 - b. ACTION: Passed without dissent or abstentions.
 - ii. Reimbursement of Board Member purchase of Central Region Temp App: situational overview provided. Board members responded to urgent need to secure App for support of agencies. App information needed for provision of patient care. Due to the timing of the need, there was no opportunity to obtain prior approval for the expenditure. Reviewed by the executive committee with recommendation to reimburse as this information is important for maintenance of a current website (as opposed to other expense categories). The executive committee is seeking board approval for the reimbursement.
 1. MOTION: Approve the reimbursement for Board Member expense. NOTE: individuals involved should recuse themselves from the vote.
 2. ACTION: Passed with no dissent and three abstentions.
 - iii. Fy 27-28 budget: deferred
 - b. Chair's Report
 - i. Executive Committee Report
 1. Discussion of reimbursement as noted above
 2. Discussion regarding need to update Functional Group Orders of Conduct.
 - ii. Survey/Outreach/Strategic Plan: This project being organized by Dr. Southworth so is deferred pending his return.

- iii. Regional Update Report
 - 1. Central Region EMS Medical Directors Consortium
 - a. Central Regional EMS Guidelines Updates: Reviewed guidelines/updates. Demonstration of app provided with notice that drug calculators are under development. Future steps outlined. Comments made to consider continued AEMS funding.
 - 2. ROCC: Feedback provided regarding lack of clarity surrounding access to current ROCC app. Reinforce that it remains available.
 - 3. Rural
 - a. County Reports: update regarding Banner Ironwood Medical Center expansion. No other reports provided
 - b. Arizona Fire District Association: No report
 - iv. Open Forum: No comments provided
- c. Board Transitions
 - i. Elections
 - 1. State Committee Vacancy: Pediatric Advisory Council for EMS (PACES) Committee: All nominees present offered opportunity to provide comments. Nomination forms distributed in advance of this meeting. There were no nominations from the floor.
 - a. ELECTED: Zoe Bushroe
 - ii. Vacancies: Listed on the AEMS website
- V. State Report
 - a. BEMSTS Activities and Updates:
 - i. Overview of Rural workforce development funding: Use of first year funds to be completed by 9/30/27. Update that contracting process under development. There will be ongoing meetings regarding the specifics of the funding opportunity and contracting process.
 - ii. Pediatric: Update on available educational opportunities. Car seat stickers are available at no cost.
 - b. State Committees: No reports
- VI. Functional Group Review
 - a. Planning & Outreach:
 - i. Education Committee
 - 1. EMS CE Fall Forum: 12/10/26
 - a. Schedule completed and will include trivia games based on positive feedback from the '26 Odyssey conference
 - 2. EMS Odyssey Conference: 6/10/27 Hybrid format
 - ii. Outreach: reminder to update contact lists
 - b. Patient Management
 - i. Categorization: Review of process related to stroke categorization and need to enable facilities to receive patients as part of their formal application process. Updates are being completed to the categorization questionnaire.
 - 1. MOTION: Approve the categorization of Honor Health Sonoran Crossing Medical Center as a PROVISIONAL Stroke Center.
 - 2. ACTION: Passed without dissent or abstention.
- VII. Program and Committee Reports: None
- VIII. Old Business: None
- IX. New Business: None
- X. Call to the Public: None
- XI. Adjournment: 1:37pm