

**NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES of January 8, 2026; 9:00 am**  
Tele/videoconference

Members Present: Jamie Armbruster, Michelle Armstrong, Lexi Bandt, Jenny Blenker, Krissy Binvensie, Kortni Brevik, Heather Butcher, Dr. Michael Clark, Dawn Everson, Joel Fetterer, Adam Finn, Robin Geiger, David Graven, Sarah Guzinski-Sherman, Jamie Haring, Andrea Hebert, Del Horn, Sue Janquart, Jason Joling, Sandra Koch, Andrea Krantz, Liz, Kracht, Adam Meshak, Rachel Milkey, Heather Rhodes, Kari Rickett, Heather Rhodes Andrienne Schroeder, Tina Stephanus, Rachel Symons, Amanda Tabin, Robert Towne, Linda Vollmar, Julie Williams, Ashley Yusten, Ty Zastava

Others present: Don Kimlicka, Margaret Wogahn, Carissa Brunner

Chairperson: Sara Steen

NCRTAC Coordinator/ Recorder: Michael Fraley

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| Introduction and Welcome | Sara Steen welcomed attendees.   |
| November Meeting Minutes | Motion by Hebert to approve the November 13, 2025 meeting minutes as posted. Second by Rikert. Unanimously approved.   |
| Correspondence           | None.  |
| NCW HERC Update          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decon training is being planned</li><li>• Hospital ICS training is being planned for May 8</li><li>• MRSE exercise will be at Central WI Airport and involve a plane crash with a surge of patients across the region. April 8</li><li>• CMS exercise involving public health and hospital infectious disease will be April 2</li><li>• Marathon County EM is hosting Multiple Casualty Incident Responder training (WEM W422) and will be held at the Lake View Conference Center in Wausau on March 21, 2026, from 8:00 to 4:30</li></ul>  |
| State Trauma/ STAC       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• STAC met in December</li><li>• Injury Prevention<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Discussion on e-bike and e-scooter crash data and related IP projects</li></ul></li><li>• Data<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Reviewed process to set up facility-defined questions in ImageTrend</li><li>○ Discussion on e-bike and e-scooter crashes and coding</li><li>○ Discussion on coding behavioral health admissions/transfers</li><li>○ Discussion on coding hospice discharges</li></ul></li><li>• Trauma coordinators<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Mentor program was open for enrollment until Jan 7</li><li>○ Discussion on e-bike and e-scooter crashes and TTA</li><li>○ Reviewed resource plan</li><li>○ Margaret presented the DHS trauma education plan for 2026</li><li>○ Discussed FAST exams and issues with charges, viewing images and saving images to charts</li></ul></li></ul> |

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|                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance improvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Reviewed criteria highlights and best practices</li> <li>◦ ED LOS evaluation tool</li> <li>◦ TQIP roundtable discussing the new chest wall injury guidelines and medical examiner interactions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• STAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Approved the State Trauma Plan</li> <li>◦ DHS 118 revision is underway. An advisory committee has been formed and DHS is working on a draft of the changes to be forwarded to the committee.</li> <li>◦ DHS presented a 2025 wrap-up</li> <li>◦ DHS presented some items coming in 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Education plan</li> <li>▪ DHS 118 progress</li> <li>▪ More “in pursuit” facilities</li> <li>▪ 2026 meeting dates set</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ ACS Consultation Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussed bringing ACS back for a consultation visit</li> <li>▪ Very expensive</li> <li>▪ Instead, STAC will review previous visit report and guides posted by ACS</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ CRC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No major trends, reviews are going well</li> <li>▪ 2026 visits are scheduled</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ Hospital and EMS communication related to trauma alerts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussed at the recent EMS Board Meetings</li> <li>▪ Hospitals and EMS agencies need to have good communication about alerts and activations and EMS should be aware that an alert from them may not always result in an activation at the hospital but the alert is still important</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ Next meeting is March 4 and will be online only</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| State EMS Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The updated EMS Communication Plan is approved and published and can be <a href="#">downloaded HERE</a></li> <li>• Service and provider renewals will be open soon</li> <li>• FAP money is going out to services</li> <li>• Next EMS Board meeting is March 17-18</li> </ul>  |
| RTAC Coordinator | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael reviewed the Expense/ Budget worksheet</li> <li>• Michael submitted RTAC and Coordinator reports to DHS</li> <li>• The regional trauma plan update remains in progress. The Executive Council approved the Needs Assessment</li> <li>• NCRTAC-WI.org has been rebuilt on a new platform. Comments are welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ DHS Trauma Program information will be added</li> <li>◦ Position statements will be added</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The request for Mid-Year Project Funding form has been posted and includes details about applying and deadlines.</li> <li>• Michael reviewed the PI Confidentiality agreement sign-offs and compared the list to the meeting attendees for 2025. Those that did not sign were contacted and all but 5 have done the sign off. 2 of the 5 have moved into other jobs or left and will not be attending in the future. Michael will check with the other 3 to be sure they sign for 2026.</li> </ul>  |

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| TXA Position Statement        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group reviewed TXA position statement at the last meeting and endorsed changing the including a 2 gram bolus dose. The previous statement was a 1 gm bolus followed up by 1 gram infusion.</li> <li>The updated document was circulated to the level II trauma centers that gave input including pediatric dosing as well as making the 2 gm dose a preferred dose.</li> <li>The updated statement was posted for review prior to the meeting</li> <li>Motion by Dr. Clark to approve the position statement as posted. Second by Horn. Unanimously approved.</li> </ul>                                |
| Process improvement committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rachel Milkey and Robin Geiger presented a case</li> <li>Group updated the PI plan at the last meeting</li> <li>PI and TPMs will meet after the general meeting and special guest will be Carissa Brunner from EMS-C to talk about the upcoming ED assessment survey</li> </ul>   |
| Out of Hospital Committee     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MCI/MPI course offerings</li> <li>Triage ribbon color</li> <li>Discussing PHTLS in the region</li> <li>Spinal motion restriction education on hold</li> <li>DMIST education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| Injury Prevention Committee   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple child passenger safety technician trainings will be available in the area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-person course in Minocqua, Apr 20-23</li> <li>In person course in Grand Chute (near Appleton), Asp 13-16</li> <li>Hybrid course starting Apr 30 and running through Jun 16</li> <li>Contact Amanda for more details</li> </ul> </li> <li>Four different fall prevention fliers/ hand-outs were printed and available from Michael. Check out the "<a href="#">Catalog of Injury Prevention Displays and Products Available</a>" for more information.</li> <li></li> </ul> |
| Conference Planning Committee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning is ongoing</li> <li>Looking for several more session speakers</li> </ul>   |
| Other business                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>   |
| Future Agenda Items           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>   |
| Announcements/ Training       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Congratulations to several people from our region for winning 2025 Wisconsin EMS Association awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Director of the Year - Robert Kirkley (Aspirus MedEvac)</li> <li>Educator of the Year - Will Isham (NorthCentral Technical College)</li> <li>Paramedic of the Year - Adam Meshak (Amherst Fire District)</li> <li>AEMT of the Year - Jackey Postuchow (Plum Lake EMS)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>See Calendar at NCRTAC-WI.org for more events and details</p>  |
| Adjournment                   | Meeting adjourned.   |

Next Meeting:  
 Thursday, March 12, 2026  
 9:00 am – Noon

Online Only – Zoom