

**Staff Report**  
**Board Meeting Date: July 24, 2025**

**DATE:** July 1, 2025  
**TO:** District Board of Health  
**FROM:** Andrea Esp, Preparedness and EMS Program Manager  
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**THROUGH:** Dr. Chad Kingsley, District Health Officer  
775-328-2415; [CKingsley@nnph.org](mailto:CKingsley@nnph.org)  
**SUBJECT:** Discussion and Possible Appointment of Dr. Nicholas Von Foerster, Emergency Room Physician Representative to the Regional Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board for a three-year term effective July 24, 2025.

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**SUMMARY**

The Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Oversight establishes a Regional EMS Advisory Board (EMSAB). The Regional EMSAB includes two District Board of Health (DBOH) appointed positions, an Emergency Medicine physician, and a Hospital Continuous Quality Improvement Representative.

Dr. Von Foerster has indicated his willingness to serve as the new Emergency Medicine Physician for EMSAB. As Dr. Von Foerster was well-qualified and interested in serving, no other candidates were sought. The EMS Oversight program, on behalf of EMSAB, is requesting that the DBOH approve the recommendation to appoint Dr. Von Foerster.

**District Health Strategic Priorities supported by this item:**

**4. Impactful Partnerships:** Extend our impact by leveraging partnerships to make meaningful progress on health issues.

**PREVIOUS ACTION**

The ILA for Regional EMS Oversight was approved by the governing bodies of Reno, Sparks, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Washoe County, and the Washoe County Health District on August 26, 2014.

Article 2 of the ILA establishes a Regional EMS Advisory Board. The EMSAB is composed of the following members:

- a. City Manager, Reno
- b. City Manager, Sparks
- c. County Manager, Washoe County
- d. District Health Officer

- e. Emergency Room Physician (DBOH Appointment)
- f. Hospital Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Representative (DBOH Appointment)

On May 29, 2025, EMSAB approved a revision to its bylaws, removing the requirement that the Emergency Room Physician representative also serve as a member of Pre-Hospital Medical Advisory Committee (PMAC).

On September 26, 2024, DBOH re-appointed Dr. John Hardwick to fill the position of the Emergency Room Physician on the EMSAB.

On October 26, 2023, DBOH reappointed Joe Macaluso to fill the position of the Hospital Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Representative on the EMSAB.

On April 22, 2021, DBOH appointed Dr. John Hardwick to fill the position of the Emergency Room Physician on the EMSAB.

### **BACKGROUND**

The EMSAB is responsible for electing a chair and vice-chair and for establishing bylaws. The EMSAB must meet at least once each fiscal year to review reports, evaluations and/or recommendations of the Regional EMS Oversight Program, and discuss issues related to regional emergency medical services. The EMSAB may make recommendations to the District Health Officer and/or DBOH.

The EMSAB created bylaws, which became effective in March 2015 and was last revised in May 2025. Detailed within the bylaws are the terms for the DBOH appointed positions. The Emergency Room Physician appointment is for three (3) years, with an eligibility of reappointment for two additional two (2) year terms. The bylaws also state that upon the resignation or expiration of the DBOH appointee's term, the member shall continue to serve until his/her successor qualifies and is appointed.

Dr. Von Foerster has indicated his willingness and desire to serve on the Board, and his CV is attached.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board appoint Dr. Von Foerster, Emergency Medicine Physician, to the Regional Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board for a three-year term effective July 24, 2025.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with the staff recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to appoint Dr. Von Foerster as Emergency Room Physician Representative to the Regional Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board for a three-year term effective July 24, 2025."

### **ATTACHMENTS**

DBOH – 7-24-2025 - Dr. Von Foerster CV

DBOH – 7-24-2025 - EMSAB Emergency Room Physician Representative Application