

Interim Committee Minutes

Emergency Medical Services Funding Task Force

The second interim meeting of the Emergency Medical Services Funding Task Force was called to order by Senator Tim S. Reed at 9:00 AM on August 24, 2026, in Room 413 of the State Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota.

A quorum was determined with the following members answering roll call: Rep. Emery, Rep. Fosness (remote), Rep. Hughes (remote), Rep. Peterson (Drew), Rep. Weems, Sen. Jensen (Kevin), Sen. Larson (remote), Sen. Otten, Sen. Peterson (Sue) (remote), and Sen. Reed. Rep. Hunt was excused.

Staff members present included Matthew Server, Research Analyst; Bill Douglas, Fiscal Analyst; and Michelle Deyo-Amende, Administrative Specialist/Page Advisor.

NOTE: For the purpose of continuity, the following minutes are not necessarily in chronological order. All referenced documents distributed at the meeting are hyperlinked to the document on the Legislative Research Council website. This meeting was live streamed. Each section contains a hyperlink to the time stamp pertaining to that item in the archived live stream available at sdlegislature.gov.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Ernie Otten moved, seconded by Representative Keri K. Weems, to approve the minutes of the [June 17, 2026, Emergency Medical Services Funding Task Force meeting](#). The motion prevailed on a voice vote. [\(1:25\)](#)

An Analysis of Ambulance Fee Schedules, Billing Practices, and Expenses

Louis Meyer, South Dakota Emergency Medical Services Agency; presented the results of the South Dakota Emergency Medical Services Survey. [ambulance-provider-assessment-report-august-2026 8 24 26 Ambulance Provider Assessment Report \[\\(5:21\\)\]\(#\)](#)

Melissa Magstadt, Department of Health (DOH); responded to the data that was shared regarding response time of ambulance crews. [\(23:04\)](#)

The Committee asked questions regarding the data presented. [\(21:20\)](#)

The Regionalization of Emergency Medical Services

Emily Kiel, Department of Health (DOH); and Marty Link, DOH; presented the Department of Health report. [DOH EMS Regional Hubs Presentation \[\\(1:14:27\\)\]\(#\)](#)

Continued Discussion on the Regionalization of Emergency Medical Services

The Committee discussed the need for regionalization of services and possible challenges in achieving this goal. [\(1:41:23\)](#)

Emergency Medical Services in Spink County

Eric Schueth, Spink County Ambulance; presented his overview of the operations and efforts in Spink County. [Spink County Ambulance Presentation \[\\(2:39:59\\)\]\(#\)](#)

The Committee discussed the information presented on the operations of emergency medical services in Spink County.

Public Comments

The following individuals offered public comments: [\(3:15:49\)](#)
Maynard Konechne, South Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association

Don Rowland, Watertown Fire Rescue
Stacie Fredenburg, South Dakota foundation For Medical Care
Jerome Harvey, Pennington County Fire
Nicole Neugebauer, South Dakota EMS Association
Dustin Willett, Pennington County
Robert Rendon, Rapid City Fire Department / South Dakota Ambulance Association
Scott Larson, Hand County Ambulance

Task Force Discussion and Directives

The Committee discussed next steps and future meetings needed to conclude the work of the Emergency Medical Services Funding Task Force. [\(3:49:52\)](#)

Adjournment

Representative Keri K. Weems moved, seconded by Senator Ernie Otten, that the Emergency Medical Services Funding Task Force be adjourned. The motion prevailed on a voice vote. (4:21:54)

The Emergency Medical Services Funding Task Force adjourned at 3:14 PM.