

COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES & INSURANCE

MONICA J. LINDEEN
COMMISSIONER



OFFICE OF THE MONTANA
STATE AUDITOR

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Jesse Laslovich, Chief Counsel
DATE: February 24, 2016
RE: Air Ambulance Working Group

Pursuant to the letter dated February 5, 2016, from the Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC), the following are designated as members of the Air Ambulance Working Group established by the EAIC.

1. Amy Thomson (Butte), who will be the Consumer Representative
2. Chad Cady of St. Vincent Hospital (Billings), who will serve as the member of an air ambulance company which is a part of a hospital.
3. Russ Hancock of NW MedStar (Missoula), who will serve as the member of an independent air ambulance company.
4. Clay Berger of NE MT STAT Air (Malta, Glasgow, Wolf Point, Poplar hospitals), who will serve as the member of a rural hospital that has an air ambulance service.
5. Ron Dewsnup of Allegiance (Missoula), who will serve as the member of the insurance industry.
6. Marilyn Bartlett of State of Montana (Helena), who will serve as the self-funded employer representative.
7. Jesse Laslovich of the State Auditor's Office, who will serve as the facilitator of the working group.

In addition, the following people are also welcomed and encouraged to participate in the activities of the working group:

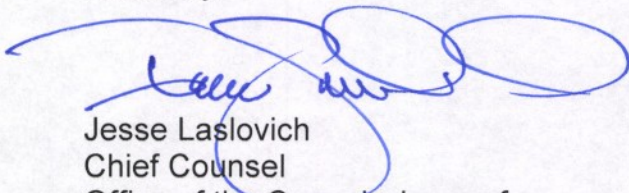
8. Carson Coryell of Kalispell Regional Medical Center.
9. Dr. Randy Thompson of the Billings Clinic.
10. A designee of Benefis Health System – Mercy Flight.
11. Bill Bryant of REACH Air Medical Services (formerly Summit).
12. A designee of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana.
13. A designee of PacificSource Health Plans.
14. Connie Welsh of the Montana University System.
15. Bill Warden, on behalf of Bozeman Deaconess and St. Peter's Hospitals.

The first meeting of the working group will take place on Friday, March 18, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. in Room 152 at the State Capitol. If you cannot attend in person, please advise the undersigned and we will attempt to arrange telephonic arrangements.

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Depending on how the discussions go, we will attempt to meet again prior to the EAIC's next scheduled meeting on April 14, 2016. Please come prepared to discuss possible solutions, legislative or otherwise, to the balance-bills Montanans are receiving as a result of transportation being provided by non-hospital-based air ambulance providers. The State Auditor's Office will update the EAIC on the status of our work at its April 14 meeting. Thank you to all of the foregoing for your willingness to serve on the working group.

Sincerely,



Jesse Laslovich
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cc: The Honorable Ryan Lynch, Chairman of EAIC and State Representative
The Honorable Tom Facey, State Senator
The Honorable Vince Ricci, State Representative
The Honorable Mike Lang, State Representative
Mr. Jim DeTienne, Department of Public Health and Human Services