

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

TRAUMA SERVICE AREA – H

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

July 12, 2023

MINUTES

Location: CHI St. Luke's Health, Memorial Hospital, Livingston

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Presiding: Scott Christopher, DETRAC Chair

1. **Call to Order-** Scott Christopher called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
2. **Attendance – Review of Attendance Spreadsheet / Collection / Announcement of Proxies**

A recollection of attendance to all General Assembly Meetings during the fiscal year was included with the agenda packet.
3. **Introduction of Guests**

A few new guests introduced themselves at today's meeting.
4. **Medical Case Review Presentation – Mohamad Ezzeldin, MD, HCA Kingwood**

Ms. Connie Bryant with HCA Hospitals in Houston coordinated the presentation by Dr. Ezzeldin. His message was an introduction of the medical specialty of Neurointerventionalist / Neuroendovascular Surgery. He explained this was a relatively new field in the USA. He spent time explaining and illustrating how mechanical thrombectomy (ME) is being used for ischemic stroke. He reviewed criteria for performing ME, and he stated the time window for performing ME for ischemic stroke is now 24 hours. He quickly reviewed three ischemic stroke cases where ME successfully and significantly improved the neurological outcomes. He spent the remainder of the presentation explaining and demonstrating how Neuroendovascular Surgery is becoming the standard of care for addressing many other conditions, such as: intercranial atherosclerosis, vasospasms, aneurysms, stenosis, etc. The 50-minute presentation was well received.
5. **Review / Approval of May 10, 2023 Minutes**
 - Attendees reviewed the May minutes prepared by Scott Christopher. Landin Meyer and Bryan Loudenslager made motions to approve the minutes and there were no objections. The minutes will be posted to the website and filed.
6. **Review/Approval of Treasurers' Report**
 - ◆ Status of Various Funding Sources (EMS County, EMS RAC, Sys&Dev, and Senate Bill 8)
 - Members viewed the P&L reports for each funding stream and Carmen Stuck discussed the expenses. There are a few grant awards that need to be deducted from Systems & Development. The deadline to submit receipts for EMS County Pass Through is July 31st. Two EMS scholarship applications are pending and DETRAC has almost depleted all scholarship funds.
 - ◆ Legislative Exceptional Item (EI)
 - Mr. Christopher announced that DETRAC will receive \$150K additional funds this year. Members may submit suggestions on how the money should be spent. Some possible expenses may include a portable stop the bleed pack for RAC meetings, membership to the RAC Data Collaborative, Mannequins, new O2 bottles, 2 TNCC courses, and injury prevention giveaways.
 - ◆ Needs Assessments- May 2023 – Review of Awards
 - DETRAC awarded close to \$15k in Needs Assessment Grants during round 2. A new way of determining awards may be implemented next year to make the process fairer. This was discussed in more detail during the Executive Committee Report.
7. **Sub- Committee Activities**
 - ◆ Pre-Hospital – Jonathon Walker
 - Jonathon Walker met with the pre-hospital committee today and discussed LVO screen tool preferences.
 - EMS agencies reported that diversion is not an issue at this time.
 - ◆ Hospital Acute Care – Max Iguess
 - The Acute Care Committee met today and discussed community health fair opportunities and hospital designation practices.
 - ◆ Perinatal / Maternal – Melanie Miller
 - The Perinatal Committee met today and shared survey experiences. The Perinatal Chair position will now rotate every 2 years.
 - Mrs. Miller announced that the DETRAC participation letters for maternal designation must now include the percentage of perinatal sub-committee meetings attended by Maternal and Neonatal Medical Directors.
 - ◆ Emergency Preparedness / HPP / North Corridor – Gary Litton / Stephen Bennett / Janay Yancey
 - The HPP North Corridor met today and a guest speaker from Texas Children's Hospital gave a presentation on chlorine contamination. The group discussed emergency management survey recommendations.
 - ◆ Physicians Advisory / QI
 - There was a new committee announced at GETAC called Systems PI and the RACs will be asked to help collect data for this committee.
 - ◆ Education / Injury Prevention – Landin Meyer
 - Landin Meyer asked members to send educational opportunities and safety event announcements to be posted to the website.
 - DETRAC will purchase injury prevention giveaways such as bike helmets for upcoming safety events.
 - Mr. Christopher discussed educational courses planned for the coming year including 2 TNCC courses, ABLS, and ATLS.
 - Agents from Pulsara will present at the next General Assembly.
 - Members were encouraged to book their hotels for the EMS Conference.
8. **Executive Committee Report – Scott Christopher**

- SB8 Report - Carmen Stuck announced that there have been 43 scholarships given out in our region (\$289,000) since September 2022. There is a small amount of funds left that may be transferred from incentives to scholarships.
 - Nomination / Elections – Mr. Christopher announced that the Board Vice Chair and Board Treasurer positions were both up for election. Sondra Williams was re-nominated for Vice Chair and Justin Cude was re-nominated for Treasurer. There were no other nominations. All were in favor of the nominees and both Mrs. Williams and Mr. Cude will serve another 2 year term.
 - The Executive Board met in May to discuss a new allocation system for the Needs Assessment Grant Awards. This new system will be discussed further before the 2024 Needs Assessment review and any changes will be added to the bylaws.
 - The DETRAC office will be moving from the current location to the Fire Administration Building later this year.
9. **Texas EMS, Trauma & Acute Care Foundation Update – Scott Christopher**
 - Legislative Session Success – There were no big gains or significant losses this year.
 - Education – Texas Quality Care Forums for all service lines.
 - A Hospital Data Management Course is coming up in November 2023.
 10. **Texas EMS Trauma Newsletter** – Spring 2023 Edition is available online and everyone is encouraged to view it.
 11. **Texas EMS & Trauma Registry Update**
 - Mr. Christopher stated that the registry has good leadership which includes clinical and non-clinical representatives.
 12. **GETAC Meetings** – June 7-9 Notes Review
The typed notes of the June GETAC meetings attended by Scott Christopher were included in the handout. Mr. Christopher spent time addressing several specific portions of these notes.
 - The utilization of the APP Pulsura throughout the State of Texas. Will invite for presentation at future DETRAC meeting.
 - Proposed Trauma designation rules are causing some angst at many levels. The example of requiring ICS 300 for Trauma Coordinators was discussed.
 - Reviewing, determining and providing best practice for the 'time-out period' of EMS patient hand-off to the ED personnel (MIST report).
 - The improvement to patient care and outcomes by participating in the EMS-Children Pediatric Readiness self-survey process.
 - There is \$161K of Extraordinary Emergency grant funds still available for qualified needs.
 - EMS/County funds will be allowed to be 'pooled' for regional projects in the future.
 - Common trauma designation survey criteria deficiencies were provided: PI gaps, credentialing, registry submissions / gaps.
 - State-level SB8 activities have added 1,300 additional certified personnel in Texas over past 7 months.
 - A preliminary report at minimum must be left with the patient receivers at the time of EMS transfer of patient care. Being policed more at DSHS.
 - Communications between DSHS EMS and DSHS Epidemiology continues to improve. Current reports provided for registry deficient providers.
 - Today's Hunter presentation by Texas Parks & Wildlife. Age requirements, most common injury mechanism and most common violation.
 - EMS wall time continues to be studied for potential improvements / solutions.
 - Best practice solution for meeting new Legislation allowing Fire Fighters to transport patients to hospital prior to EMS unit arrival.
 - Telecommunicator CRP requirement passed this Legislative session does not meet intent of the original bill.
 - Three most probable RAC metrics to report to GETAC PI System Committee: Pediatric Readiness Score, % hospitals participating in RAC, and % EMS agencies participating in RAC.
 13. **Trauma Center Designation Update / Announcements** - Hospital Representatives
 - Nacogdoches Memorial and CHI Lufkin both have conditional designations and will re-survey in 18 months.
 - HCA Kingwood recently received level 2 verification.
 14. **Stroke Center Designation Update / Announcements** – Hospital Representatives
No new updates.
 15. **Chest Pain Center Designation Update / Announcements** – Hospital Representatives
No new updates or announcements to report.
 16. **Perinatal / Maternal Systems Designation Update / Announcements** – Hospital Representatives
 - Nacogdoches Medical Center had their survey in June.
 17. **Pre-Hospital Provider Update / Announcement** – Agency Representative
 - Mr. Christopher encouraged EMS members to submit nominations for the EMS Conference Awards. They are due on September 15th.
 18. **Other Announcements**
 - The 4th Annual Carlos Bullock Golf Tournament will be on August 18th in Kingwood. Anyone can sign up to play golf or donate toward the cause.
 19. **Next Meeting**
 - The next General Assembly meeting will be September 13th at the Pitser Garrison Civic Center in Lufkin.
 20. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.