

# DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## TRAUMA SERVICE AREA – H

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

January 11, 2023

### MINUTES

Location: CHI St. Luke's Memorial Lufkin  
Time: 5:00 p.m.  
Presiding: Scott Christopher, DETRAC Chair

#### 1. Call to Order-

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Mr. Scott Christopher

#### 2. Attendance – Review of Attendance Spreadsheet / Collection / Announcement of Proxies

Proxies include Scott Christopher for Stephen Bennett and Kaylee McDaniel for Deb Harkins. Mr. Christopher is representing Excel ER & will be added to the sign in sheet. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and their agency. A reconciliation of attendance was performed and the DETRAC General Assembly Attendance Record will be maintained in the DETRAC office.

#### 3. Representative Forms Due – A copy of the form was included in the agenda packet for anyone who still needs to complete one. The primary signer needs to be someone of authority in the organization.

#### 4. Introduction of Guests

There were many new attendees in today's meeting.

#### 5. Review / Approval of November 16, 2022 Minutes

Attendees reviewed the minutes prepared by Carmen Stuck. A motion was made by Jimmy Ragsdale and Ricky Taylor to approve the minutes. There were no objections and the minutes will be added to the DETRAC website and filed in the RAC office.

#### 6. Review/Approval of Treasurers' Report

##### ◆ Status of Various Funding Sources (EMS County, EMS RAC, Sys&Dev, and Senate Bill 8)

All attendees received a copy of the profit and loss reports for each funding stream. Mr. Christopher explained the spending activity this fiscal year and went over each expense. The balance in each account at this time is as follows: EMS RAC - \$19,619.72, Sys & Dev - \$55,276.04, EMS County \$85,778.00 & Senate Bill 8 (EMS Recruitment) - \$146,350.32. Carmen Stuck announced that DETRAC has distributed 5 scholarship checks so far and has about 18 applications pending. All EMS Recruitment funds must be spent by Dec. 2024.

##### ◆ EMS County Distribution Amounts 2022-2023

Mr. Christopher shared that DETRAC and DSHS are developing a formula in which to split the Angelina County funds between Allegiance and Lufkin Fire Dept. These 2 agencies will be notified of the portion that they will receive as soon as a decision is made. Both agencies must submit a written attestation of the number of runs they made in Angelina County in 2022.

##### ◆ DSHS Audit

Mr. Christopher reported that DETRAC has sent a check to DSHS for \$341 to cover the 2 deficiencies that were noted during the audit.

##### ◆ Needs Assessments

Mr. Christopher announced that needs assessment forms will be sent out this week and are due by February 28<sup>th</sup>. The ad-hoc meeting to decide on needs assessment grants will be mid-late March 2023. Skip Strauss and Jimmy Ragsdale made a motion to approve the deadlines.

#### 7. Committee Activities – All encouraged to attend

##### ◆ Pre-Hospital – Jonathan Walker

Mr. Walker held an EMS CE class today which covered the topic of mental health for EMS and first responders. There were 10 people in attendance. It was requested that DETRAC send out calendar invites for subcommittee meetings. Carmen will begin sending the invites.

##### ◆ Hospital Acute Care – Thomas Brown

Mr. Brown reported that the Acute Care Committee met today and discussed ways to enhance the committee. There was discussion about electing a committee co-chair as well as the possibility of having separate chairs to represent stroke and trauma. Gary Litton spoke to the group about EMResource.

##### ◆ Perinatal / Maternal – Pam Sprague

Pam Sprague introduced herself as the new chair for the Perinatal Committee. Fourteen nurses attended her meeting today. The group discussed Maternal Rule revisions and challenges. Trainings coming up include a S.T.A.B.L.E course on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> and an Intermediate Fetal Monitoring Course on Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. The TX Collaborative for Healthy Moms and Babies will be in Austin Feb. 16-17, 2023.

##### ◆ Emergency Preparedness / HPP / North Corridor – Gary Litton / Stephen Bennett / Janay Yancey

Gary Litton reported that the North Corridor met today and had very high attendance. Mr. Litton led an MCI Response Exercise. The next meeting is March 8<sup>th</sup> and will include a table top exercise over radiological response. A functional exercise is planned for April 12<sup>th</sup>.

##### ◆ Physicians Advisory / QI – Scott Christopher

Nothing new to report.

##### ◆ Education / Injury Prevention – Position open (Scott)

- DETRAC needs an Education and Injury Prevention Chair. The position entails looking into education/ injury prevention opportunities in the area.
- The December TNCC course was a success and 40 nurses attended and passed the exam
- Mr. Christopher will follow up with representatives at Parkland and Medical City Dallas on the prices of their ABLIS course
- The TX EMS Medical Director Course is April 3<sup>rd</sup> in Round Rock and the Trauma Medical Director Course is Feb. 9-10 in Austin
- Mr. Christopher announced that DETRAC can refund up to \$500 on ATLS courses
- Connie Bryant reported that HCA will be conducting Mobility Grand Rounds on Web Ex for CE hours

#### 8. Executive Committee Report – Scott Christopher

- ◆ **RAC Data Collaborative-** DETRAC is considering joining the RAC Data Collaborative (RDC) and plans to have a representative present on the program at the next General Assembly Meeting. The San Antonio RAC heads the RDC and the program covers both STEMI and cardiac. There is a fee for RDC membership.
  - ◆ **RAC Dues** – RAC dues will begin soon and all hospitals and EMS agencies will receive an invoice and cover page explaining the benefits of membership. Dues are based on \$10 per licensed bed for hospitals and \$250 per EMS agency. Volunteer fire departments will not be required to pay dues. RAC dues will be deposited to the DETRAC “Project Account” and will cover expenses such as TETAF dues, sales tax and food / beverage expenses for meetings and courses.
  - ◆ **EMS Scholarship Program** – Carmen Stuck informed the group that DETRAC has given out 5 EMS scholarships and has around 18 applications in the works.
  - ◆ **OB Training Equipment Purchase-** The Executive Committee voted to approve the RAC to purchase OB equipment needed for Jamie Lee to conduct the Fetal Monitoring Course. The equipment will cost around \$1300.
9. **Texas EMS, Trauma & Acute Care Foundation Update** – Scott Christopher
    - TETAF recently conducted board elections. Election results and a representation of disciplines were handed out.
    - Mr. Christopher explained the intent and funding requests of TETAF at the Texas 88<sup>th</sup> legislative session (2023) and a handout covering the TETAF legislative priorities was included in the agenda packet.
  10. **Texas EMS Trauma Newsletter** – Winter 2023 Edition  
Mr. Christopher encouraged members to review the publication online. A page from the newsletter was included with the packet. Uncompensated funds are going down.
  11. **Texas EMS & Trauma Registry Update** – Scott
    - ◆ Jia Benna is the new director for the registry. Ms. Benna shows promising leadership and is a great fit for this position.
  12. **GETAC Meetings** –  
Mr. Christopher attended the November GETAC meetings. The meeting notes were included in the agenda packet and the following topics were discussed in detail.
    - Designation updates and changes in stroke levels (changed from 3 to 4)
    - Senate Bill 8 activities are going well and there has been an increase in EMS education student enrollment
    - After January, RAC's will have the ability to move SB8 funds between RACs if needed
    - HB 624 was implemented in reference to an Oklahoma firefighter transporting a patient due to delayed EMS response
    - House Bill 93 covers consequences of 2 or more DUI arrests made by EMS personnel.
    - A retention survey was discussed during the conference
    - The Texas Pediatric Committee is working to improve pediatric readiness in hospitals / Pediatric Readiness Survey
    - The Texas Wristband price increased. New features make it more functional. Mr. Christopher reminded hospitals not to cut the bands off.
    - EMS CE requirements and plans to improve the process
    - ACS Trauma Field Triage vs CDC Guidelines
    - NEMSIS will require wristband number in next version
    - EMS Agency Pediatric Readiness
    - Trauma Rules timeline
    - Cardiac Care activities and plans
    - 2023 GETAC meeting schedule
  13. **Trauma Center Designation Update / Announcements** - Hospital Representatives
    - The Uncompensated Care Application is due Feb. 10, 2023
    - Planned surveys include Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital on Jan. 22 & 23<sup>rd</sup> and CHI St. Luke's Livingston on Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>
    - Connie Bryant announced that HCA Conroe had no deficiencies during their survey and were re-designated at level 2
  14. **Stroke Center Designation Update / Announcements** – Hospital Representatives
    - Connie Bryan reported that HCA Conroe is progressing in pursuit of Comprehensive Stroke Certification
  15. **Chest Pain Center Designation Update / Announcements** – Hospital Representatives  
No new updates or announcements to report.
  16. **Perinatal / Maternal Systems Development** – Hospital Representatives
    - Nac Medical Center will have their perinatal survey in June
  17. **Pre-Hospital Provider Update / Announcement** – Agency Representative
    - EMS Staffing waivers are due by Feb. 10, 2023
    - The National Registry Exam Fee increased on January 1,2023
  18. **Other Announcements**
    - Wristband order information was given to members
    - EMS wall-time Issues at some of our hospitals were discussed
  19. **Next Meeting**  
Mr. Christopher announced that the next DETRAC meetings will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup> at Tyler County Hospital in Woodville
  20. **Adjourn** – 6:10pm