

# DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## TRAUMA SERVICE AREA – H

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Nacogdoches County  
Polk County  
Sabine County  
San Jacinto County  
San Augustine County  
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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 08, 2013 MINUTES

**Location:** Memorial Medical Center of East Texas – Lufkin  
**Time:** 5:00PM  
**Presiding:** Scott Christopher, DETRAC Chair

#### 1. Call to Order

Mr. Christopher called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

#### 2. Attendance/ Collection of Proxies

There were no proxies provided prior to the meeting and there were no verbal announcements offered.

#### 3. Introduction of Guests

Around the room introductions were made by all in attendance.

#### 4. Review of the minutes from March 20, 2013 Meeting.

Mr. Christopher stated that the minutes from the March meeting are not yet completed. Formal review and approval will be deferred to the July meeting.

#### 5. Dick Cooley

Mr. Christopher informed the group that Mr. Dick Cooley from the Polk County area has recently passed away. Mr. Cooley was one of the early founders and leaders for the DETRAC. A moment of silence was provided in honor of Mr. Cooley.

#### 6. Presentation - Agility

Presenter was not in attendance. Mr. Christopher stated that he learned at the last minute before this meeting that this was supposed to be a webinar type presentation and resources were not available to accommodate the presenter.

#### 7. Presentation – Air Ambulance Stat

Mr. Charles Dunn and Mr. Doug Sangster were present to give the overhead presentation. This provider is a fixed-wing asset based in Jasper, Texas. The target customer for the service is the small rural hospital providers. Each mission is staffed with two critical care certified EMT-Paramedics. Specialty equipment is on-board to accommodate for ventilated patients and obstetrical/newborn transports. The company practices no-balance billing, in that it does not bill the patient. Time was allowed for question/answers. The group agreed that our region was fortunate to have such an asset quickly available.

#### 8. Presentation – Operation Morning Star

Janay Gilbert, Sondra Wilson, Byron Stowe and Scott Christopher provided an overhead presentation on this recent multi-region preparedness response. The response was to establish medical readiness and response for the Kree Harrison homecoming in Woodville this past Saturday. The operation was predominately two-fold: one aspect was to establish a medical command and response for the downtown parade that day, where approximately 3,000 people gathered; and the second aspect was to provide back-up 911 EMS coverage for the Dogwood EMS during this event period. Four additional EMS units/crews were brought to the area from the SETRAC area through EMTF-6 coordination. SETRAC also provided their mobile medical command / treatment trailer. This asset was set up a block off the parade route, and later at the rodeo arena during the concert. The operation was successful, in that only one individual needed medical attention. Ms. Wilson went on to describe the collegial working relationship that was realized between the DETRAC and SETRAC personnel. Mr. Christopher noted that standing up and standing down the mobile response trailer twice that day was good practice

## 9. RN Strike Team Presentation

Mr. Christopher and Ms. Wilson informed the group that they both recently provided formal presentations at the HPP acute care and public health meetings in Austin. The presentation was a summary of strengths, weaknesses and opportunities identified during the RN Strike Team drill held last year at Ford Park in Beaumont. This drill involved RNs responding to Tyler County Hospital to function as support personnel. The presentations were very well received, and Mr. Christopher and Ms. Wilson have been invited to present the presentation at the Homeland Security conference in Galveston in October 2013.

## 10. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Stowe was present to provide a verbal report. The third installment of the tobacco grant is pending delivery. EMS/911 RAC and EMS/911 County funds have been received. Most of the EMS/911 funds have been distributed to the providers. A quickbooks report summarizing the revenue and expense activity for the period will be presented at the next and future DETRAC meetings. There were no questions directed to Mr. Stowe.

## 11. Local Projects Grant Update

Mr. Christopher informed the group that efforts are underway to complete and submit a 'regional' LPG application. The project will involve placing AEDs in non-clinical areas of our eight hospitals.

## 12. Grant Review Committee Recommendations

Mr. Christopher reviewed the recommendation of the Grant Review Committee. The handout was in the packet. A total of \$29,925 was awarded in the initial pass by the committee. There were four requests that will be moved to the second pass due to being very large amounts or needing additional clarification. There was no opposition from the membership on the committee's recommendations. The committee will meet again in mid-June to review requests for 2<sup>nd</sup> disbursements. Also under grants there are some educational opportunities. Mr. Christopher encouraged Grants request. He said please send bids with quotes.

## 13. Standing Report on General Assembly Member Attendance

A handout was provided to the attendees detailing the attendance for the members this past year. Representatives were asked to review the information for being correct.

## 14. Committee Activities

- a. Pre-Hospital Committee: Chris Collier was unable to attend. Mr. Christopher gave a brief update on the status of the Disaster Response trailer project.
- b. Hospital Acute Care: Jackie Laired reported that the committee has not recently met. She has no new information to report.
- c. Emergency Preparedness: Mr. Christopher stated that this group has not met since March 2013. He reported that there is a small group developing and implementing a spending plan for the grant funds that this committee deals with. One of the spending projects will be to provide EMS, hospitals and FROs with long spine boards, pulse oximeters and oxygen regulators as requested in previous General Assembly meetings.
- d. Physician's Advisory/QI – Mr. Christopher announced that this group has not met yet.
- e. Educational/Injury Prevention: - Tammy Hanson reviewed a 3-page listing of provider education opportunities and injury prevention resources. Several of the listings were specifically discussed by Ms. Hanson. She reported to the group that her plans to post and update this resource on the DETRAC web site continue.  
There were two educational offerings coming up announced.
  - TNCC course in Nacogdoches on June 28-29
  - Bob Page Multi-Lead Medic, Capnography, and Stethoscopy courses in Nacogdoches on July 22-23There were no additional educational or injury prevention announcements by the Assembly membership.

## 15. Executive Committee Report

Mr. Christopher provided a summary of the Executive Committee meeting held today. He reviewed the discussion held related to the vacant Executive Director position. Several projects continue to remain in development or update mode. The group reviewed the summary of two regional disaster drill / response efforts. The committee discussed the OASPR spending plan. And finally, relocating the DETRAC office was discussed.

**16. Texas EMS, Trauma & Acute Care Foundation Update (TETAF).**

Latest update is May 2013. A copy was in the packets and Mr. Christopher went over many areas. The members were encouraged to review the handout and contact Mr. Christopher if they had any questions on the material.

**17. Texas EMS & Trauma Registry Update**

Mr. Christopher commented that efforts to improve the functionality of the State EMS and Trauma Registry continue to be made by DSHS. There are still many opportunities for improvement. He reported that he recently sent a list of 13 troublesome issues with the hospital side of the registry. Providers were encouraged to report their issues to Mr. Christopher and/or the DSHS personnel.

**18. GETAC May Meeting Notification**

A copy of the meeting notification document from the DSHS web site was included in the packet. There was not discussion on the meeting schedule.

**19. Trauma Center Designation Update**

Mr. Christopher reported that Nacogdoches Memorial is in a re-designation year. Mr. Jerry Fears announced that Memorial Lufkin remains in active pursuit of designation. Ms. Wilson stated that she has her re-designation survey scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Shirley Naquin announced that Sabine County Hospital is preparing for re-designation.

**20. Stroke Center Designation Update**

Mr. Christopher announced that Nacogdoches Memorial is expected to be re-surveyed for their Primary Stroke Center certification at any time by the Joint Commission.

**21. Chest Pain Center Updates**

Mr. Jerry Fears stated that Memorial Lufkin was recently surveyed and that the review went very well. Ms. Serna commented that Nacogdoches Medical Center continues to build their formal Chest Pain Center program. Mr. Christopher announced that Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital was recently awarded the Get-With-the-Guidelines' Bronze Award.

**22. Stories for Texas EMS Newsletter**

The membership was encouraged the assembly to submit new stories to [Kelly.Harrell@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Kelly.Harrell@dshs.state.tx.us).

**23. Equipment (regulators, pulse ox, backboards, King Vision, Capnography)**

Mr. Christopher informed the Assembly members that these items have been recently ordered from Boundtree, Inc. Upon delivery, the items will be hand-delivered to the providers in the region.

**24. Other Announcements**

- a. Mr. Mark Sastre with EMTF-6 was present and gave a brief announcement of several activities and response efforts coordinated by his office. He reported that the maturation of the various components of the EMTF structure is developing very well. He used the example of rostering up many EMS units to accomplish a very timely evacuation of a hospital in the Houston area for a 'no-notice' event. He also briefly described the EMTF's assistance with a recent exposure event at Sabine County Hospital. Mr. Sastre encouraged the providers to actively participate in EMTF opportunities.

**25. Next Meeting**

Scheduled for July 2013. This will be the meeting for Board of Director re-elections.

**26. Adjourn**

With no further discussion or business, a motion was made by Mr. Bill Gates to adjourn the meeting followed by a second, from Forrest King. The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by S. Christopher*