

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

TRAUMA SERVICE AREA – H

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Angelina County
Nacogdoches County
Polk County
Sabine County
San Jacinto County
San Augustine County
Tyler County

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEETING

JANUARY 22, 2014

MINUTES

Location: MMCET LUFKIN – Community Conference Rooms A&B

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 – Collection/Announcement of Proxies**

An attendance sheet was distributed. All were reminded to be sure and sign-in.

Proxies: Chuck French (Angelina College, Cushing VFD) to Forest King

3. **Introduction of Guests**

Around-the-room introductions were made. There were many new faces in attendance. Mr. Joey Ancelet from the Dept. of State Health Services was in attendance.

4. **Review/Approval of November 13, 2013 Minutes**

A draft copy of the November meeting minutes were included in the handout packet. These minutes were unanimously approved without any recommended changes on a motion made by Paulette Wood, with a seconded provided by John Moore.

5. **Treasurers' Report – Justin Cude**

Mr. Cude provided the report by giving the current balances in each of the checking accounts.

Preparedness Fund Account Balance – \$32,272.45

Project Fund Account Balance – \$8,224.61

Trauma Funds Account Balance - \$57,350.31

Mr. Christopher explained that the balance in the Preparedness account will soon be moved as repayment to the Project and Trauma accounts. Mr. Christopher gave a brief explanation of the various historical and current funding streams (tobacco, 911 County, 911 RAC, and OASPR) for the DETRAC. He further described the no-restriction on spending for the Project funds. There were no questions directed to Mr. Cude or Mr. Christopher.

6. **2013-2014 Calendar**

The attendees were reminded that the DETRAC annual calendar is posted on the website. The 3:45 – 4:45 time slot will be for sub-committee meetings. Until further notice, a 1-hour EMS continuing education will be provided by Nacogdoches Co. EMS during the bi-monthly Pre-hospital sub-committee meeting.

7. **2013-2014 Agency Representatives**

Mr. Christopher reminded the group of the need to have a current representative form on file. He stated that he was unable to obtain an updated submission report from Peyton Ware prior to the meeting. The Representative Form is available for download on the DETRAC web site (www.detrac.org).

8. Standing Report on General Assembly Member Attendance

A spreadsheet reflecting each entity's attendance pattern since September 2013 was included in the handout packet. Members were asked to review the document for accuracy. Mr. Christopher briefly explained the conditions for DETRAC "participation" for the new members in attendance. He noted that a compliance rate of 50% attendance, with an allowance to use a proxy once, each 12 month period.

9. Committee Activities – All encouraged to attend

◆ Pre-Hospital – The members were informed that the Executive Committee has chosen to open the sub-committee's Chair to a replacement leader. Mr. Christopher stated that there is an individual who has expressed interest in assuming the Chair position. Mr. Christopher stated the Executive Board will need to decide on process (appointment, nominations, elections, etc.) to replace the Chair position.

◆ Hospital Acute Care – No Meetings/ No Reports

- HPP NORTH CORRIDOR – Mr. Ken Jobe presented this report to the members. Mr. Jobe reported that the first Regional Healthcare Planning Committee (RHPC) North Corridor meeting recently held at the Tribal Nation was a success. He stated there was a well-rounded group with participation from multiple disciplines and jurisdictions. The attendees discussed the major goals of RHPC for next year. The group discussed the capabilities and made suggestions to what our region needed to achieve. The group then voted on what was needed most and developed the following five areas to focus their efforts.

- Redundant communications,
- Disaster triage training,
- Physician integration,
- Rapid disaster notification processes, and
- Volunteer management.

The group established their meeting schedule for 2014. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 12th at Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital. Their meetings will be opposite months from the DETRAC meetings. Mr. Jobe also informed the group of a new CMS announcement that states if a provider accepts Medicare payments, then the entity must participate in emergency preparedness planning.

- COMMUNITY COALITION COMMITTEE (CCC) – Mr. Jonathan Vance announced that the TSA-H (plus Jasper and Newton Counties) CCC recently met and objectively chose submitted projects to fund with dollars assigned to TSA-H. Mr. Christopher described the CCC review and project approval process. CCC members were asked to identify themselves, and several were in attendance. Additional funds will likely be identified for which the TSA-H CCC will need to determine the best utilization. SETRAC is looking for additional informal regional-focused project proposals. These proposals should be sent to Mr. Vance as soon as possible.

- REGIONAL EXERCISE – Staff from SETRAC was in attendance and announced a regional drill being planned for April 7-10, 2014. The drill will simulate 72 hours before and after a hurricane hitting the Texas coast line. Agencies wanting to participate should fill out an "extent of play" form. This form will be distributed again on the DETRAC list serv tomorrow. A handout with information on this exercise was provided in the packet.

- EDUCATION – Mr. Vance cited MIST, ASTM training opportunities will be available in Galveston on February 18-19, 2014.
- BED / ILI REPORTING – Mr. Vance also reminded entities that a daily bed report is being collected through EMResource on current hospital status related to the increase in Influenza cases.
- ◆ Physicians Advisory / QI – Mr. Christopher announced that the current Chairwoman for this sub-committee has changed her career focus. The Executive Committee has chosen to open this Chair position also. As with the Pre-hospital sub-committee Chair position, the Executive Board will decide on the process to replace the Chair position. The members held discussion related to involving Dr. Nylund in the Quality Improvement process in the Region. Dr. Nylund is an EMCARE resource and functions as the ED Director at several of the hospitals in the region. Steven Bennett will approach Dr. Nylund.
- ◆ Education / Injury Prevention
 - INJURY PREVENTION – Ms. Tammy Hanson stated there are pages of information on the website related to prevention and wellness opportunities.
 - EDUCATION
 - Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals & Healthcare Organizations within the Community Infrastructure – A handout on this opportunity was provided in the packet. The offering will be held in Houston, Edinburg, and Temple.
 - Ms. Hanson invited the membership to visit the DETRAC web site for over 20 current education opportunities. Ms. Hanson encouraged the membership to let her know if they identified educational needs.
 - Ms. Hanson announced that the TNCC course held earlier this month was a success, with 21 nurses obtaining the 4-year certification. She asked the group to be sure and provide a ‘thank you’ to Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital and SFA Nursing for their asset and financial contributions to the TNCC course.
 - Ms. Hanson reported a recall for the Phillips AED. Information is posted on the DETRAC web site.

10. **Executive Committee Report**

Mr. Christopher reported that this group met earlier today. He briefly announced that subjects discussed in their meeting included: the TETAF RAC Initiative to educate legislators on the RACs and the need for additional RAC funding, physician participation solutions, the need for a By-laws review, and a review of the 1st Quarter Tobacco report to DSHS. Mr. Christopher commented that he felt that the physician participation should be focused at the QI committee level to provide their expertise in system’s performance.

11. **Texas EMS, Trauma & Acute Care Foundation Update (January 2014)**

A copy of the January 2014 edition of the TETAF Update was included in the handout packet. Members were encouraged to review the document and contact Mr. Christopher if they had any questions. Mr. Christopher did expand on the page 2 topic of this document titled “Injury Prevention News Conference Scheduled”. He informed the group that TETAF is rolling out a texting & driving campaign called “Just Drive”. TETAF will be approaching the providers in our area soon to adopt and present this pre-made program in our region.

12. Texas EMS & Trauma Registry Update

Mr. Christopher informed the group that the state-level workgroups continue to develop and mature the State EMS & Trauma Registry.

- ◆ Data Management Course – San Antonio – 1.30.14 – Information available on the TETAF web site.

13. GETAC February Meeting Dates

The next GETAC meeting dates are February 12-14, 2014 in Austin. A handout of the sub-committee schedule was included in the handout packet.

14. GETAC November Meeting Notes

The members were informed that Mr. Christopher was unable to attend the November 2013 TTCF, TETAF and GETAC meetings. He was able to watch and take summary notes of the GETAC Stroke and Cardiac sub-committee meetings on the TETAF web cast recording. These notes were included in the handout packet.

15. Trauma Center Designation Update- Hospital Representatives

Connie Russell announced that MMSET Livingston has their survey scheduled. Ms. Russell was unaware of who would be the TETAF surveyor for her review. Ms. Russell denied any survey readiness needs at this time. She was encouraged to let the DETRAC know if anything was identified. Steven Bennett confirmed that MMSET Lufkin remained in pursuit of designation and anticipates an on-site review in a couple of months. He also did not identify any needs from DETRAC.

16. Stroke Center Designation Update – Hospital Representatives

There were no announcements from the members. Members were asked to let DETRAC know if they identified any needs for obtaining or maintaining Stroke Center designation. Mr. Christopher commented that he was recently made aware of a national group that is performing the equivalent of Level III Support Stroke Center surveys and certifications. He stated that the validity of this organization is being investigated by TETAF and DSHS. He will report more when known.

17. Chest Pain Center Designation Update – Hospital Representatives

There were no announcements from the members. Members were asked to let DETRAC know if they identified any needs for obtaining or maintaining Chest Pain Center designation.

18. EMS-Children Survey Participation – Pediatric readiness survey.

The pre-hospital members were reminded that many of them were selected to complete this survey. Mr. Christopher stated he met with Sam Vance with EMS-C last night. He reported that the survey is currently closed. EMS for children is a federal program to assist pre-hospital and hospital providers be ready to meet the standard of care for pediatric illness and injury, regardless of where the child presents in Texas. Mr. Vance will be invited to present at the next meeting.

19. DETRAC Trailer Home

Ken Jobe confirmed that Tyler County is going to house and maintain the large disaster trailer (RT-1).

20. Oxygen Cylinder Inventory

The members were informed that Peyton Ware will be contacting them soon to identify if and how many oxygen cylinders they possess. DETRAC has identified the need to complete and maintain an accurate inventory on the DETRAC-distributed oxygen cylinders in the region.

21. Normal Saline (IV) Shortage

The members were informed that two hospitals have reported some shortages in their supply of IV Normal Saline. Providers were encouraged to monitor their inventory and possibly use alternative solutions when indicated.

22. Texas Notifiable Conditions

Mr. Christopher stated that he provided a handout in the packet that lists the current DSHS reportable conditions, along with the time frame required to report. He stated this information is primarily for the hospital providers. Pediatric deaths are mandatory as a reportable condition.

23. Influenza

Mr. Christopher and Sondra Wilson announced that they were fortunate to hear a presentation on the current state of Influenza disease in Texas and the Harris County area last night from the Public Health physicians in RAC-Q. Mr. Christopher informed the members that the flu season goes into May, and that it is not too late to get the flu vaccine. Mr. Christopher also stated that there is a theory that the flu is killing the middle-aged more than the elderly, because most elderly likely obtained vaccine or exposure to the H1N1 strain back in the 1970's and have stronger immunity to that particular strain. Dr. Vera Luther commented that she senses that the peak in the number of influenza cases being seen at her facility is in the early declining stage. Members were reminded of standard strategies to avoid the seasonal influenza.

24. Announcements

- ◆ Steven Bennett introduced Elizabeth Wilhite as the new ED Director at MMSET Lufkin. Ms. Wilhite was welcomed to the DETRAC.
- ◆ A handout was made available to the members by Mr. Jerry Fears announcing the Healthcare Networking Association meeting scheduled in Lufkin on January 23, 2014.

25. Next Meeting

The members were informed that the next General Assembly meeting is planned for March 12, 2014 at Lufkin Memorial. Mr. Bennett will confirm meeting space for that date.

26. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 18:08 p.m. on a motion made by Tommy Woods and seconded by Connie Russell.

*Minutes Recorded by:
Sondra Wilson
Scott Christopher*