

GETAC Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Task Force Minutes

November 19, 2007 1pm-3pm
Hilton Hotel, Houston, Texas

Topic	Discussion	Action	Person Responsible
I. Call to Order/Introductions	Meeting called to order at 1300 hrs by Eric Epley. Introductions of attendees		
II. Review of After Action Review Survey/Selection of priorities for next series of meetings	The group evaluated the survey results (attached) and chose several issues to make high priority. First, consolidating the State MOAs (Ambulance and personnel) and addressing any shortfalls that were found during the Hurricane Dean activation. Second, the emergency management processes for managing heal-related resources, and the DDC/MACS/RMOC roles in this process.	Group will meet in December to begin work on State MOA rewrite with DSHS staff	All
III. Ambulance Strike Team Leader course	Group had discussion with Tony Garcia from TEEX about revising the Ambulance Strike Team Leader course. The group agreed that the timeframe of 16 hrs is about right, but that there is old/outdated information in some of the sections. This course needs to be on a fast-track for the early spring, so we will need to meet in early January. There was discussion about seed money to get the course rolled out, there is a possibility that the TETAF Disaster Division could assist with some of the costs There was discussion that this course could be modified to address other strike team leaders, such as nurse strike teams.	Chris and Dudley will work with Tony to put a small workgroup together in January 08 to revise the curriculum. TF members interested should contact Chris or Dudley	Chris Callsen and Dudley Wait
IV. Texas WebEOC Interoperability Project (TWIRP)	Mr. Epley gave an overview of the current status. Initial visits are nearly complete, with only 3 RAC visits remaining. All of them should be completed in the next 45 days. TWIRP boards were used in Hurricane Dean. The State Significant Events board is up and running in the SOC and other regions now.	No action, info only	All members
V. Pan Flu issues, request from EMS Medical Directors committee	The EMS Medical Directors Committee made a request to the Disaster TF to consider addressing Pandemic Flu issues. This is a statewide issue and has wide implications. The group agreed this should be done, as it is consistent with our "all-hazards" approach. Further, it is important that we are consistent statewide with planning and operations during pan flu	Group will add Pan Flu to the agenda after the critical priorities are addressed in the early spring.	All members
VI. ALS bus Med Bags and AEDs	Mike Widfeldt briefed the group that DSHS has purchased and received 150 Med Bags and 100 3-lead AEDs. The group expressed concern about who would maintain the bags, and if they are used on an ALS bus, the medic assigned will still need to bring his own bags so he has the correct medications for his protocols, etc. There was discussion about simply issuing funds to agencies that sign the MOA in the future so those agencies can buy additional med bags and keep them in rotation so meds are current, etc. Also, at some point, these bags should be stored in multiple areas.	FYI, Info only	
VII. TxMAT teams	Good discussion was held about the Texas Medical Assistance Team (TxMAT) concept. Ideally, we could have 8 multi-RAC TxMAT teams that would have a field-deployable hospital,	Keep on Agenda, begin search for funding. Alternate Treatment Facilities	N/A

	an Amb-Bus and 5 ambulance strike teams (25 ambulances). This capability would allow for rapid deployment for "no notice" incidents and also be very useful for hurricane evacuations. The group felt this concept should be explored and funding pursued.	are a Level 2 Sub capability this year in OASPR guidance	
XI. Field Deployable Clinics/Nurse Strike Teams	Discussion on this resulted in general agreement that nurse strike teams should be sponsored from hospitals to make the reimbursement easier and ensure that the personnel have the necessary training and are properly credentialed. The TxMAT teams, if developed, could play a key role for these teams.	Assigned to hospital breakout group of Disaster TF Meeting	Hospital breakout group
OTHER BUSINESS			
XIII. Next meetings	Group felt that multi-day meeting process is effective and unanimously agreed to continue for the foreseeable future. Next meeting will attempt to be arranged at the GDEM Homeland Security Conference in San Antonio, the week of Dec 3-7 th . The date was not available now, but later in the week was preferable. The meeting will be posted on the email list as soon as it is known. If this meeting can't be arranged, we will convene in early January.	Next meeting of D/EP-TF to be announced on the Disaster TF email list.	Mr. Epley to confirm date and room availability at the GDEM Homeland Security Conference Dec 3-7, 07
XIV. Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 1500 hrs		