Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)																
EMS Sub-Committee																
Meeting Minutes																
May 15, 2014																
Name	**AUG 2010**	**NOV 2010**	**FEB 2011**	**MAY 2011**	**AUG 2011**	**NOV 2011**	**FEB 2012**	**MAY 2012**	**OCT 2012**	**NOV 2012**	**FEB 2013**	**MAY 2013**	**AUG 2013**	**NOV 2013**	**FEB 2014**	**MAY 2014**
Dudley Wait	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lucille Maes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eddie Martin	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Brian Petrilla	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Lon Squyres	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Justin Boyd		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tami Kayea						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Juan Adame											X	X	X	X		X
Jorge Ruiz, Sr.											X	X	X		X	
Christopher Alexander															X	X
Walter Kuykendall															X	X
Anthony Gilchrest (Off Feb. 2013)		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X						
Larry Rascon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X						
Kevin Deramus	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X			

1. **Meeting called to order at 14:30.**

2. **Review Local Project Grant processes and guidelines to develop recommendations for improvements and updating processes.**

Joe Schmider - The problem has been addressed. The amount of money for the grants has not increased but the amount allowed for individual items has been adjusted to reflect current costs whether that was an increase or decrease. Also, these amounts will be reviewed on an annual basis. There is also an emphasis for safety in grant applications. The grants should be out in about 2 weeks.

3. **Review recommendations and best practices regarding service animals and other animals encountered during ambulance transportation.**

Dudley Wait – This was brought to EMS Committee by a provider looking for a policy or best practice. This has not been a widespread issue at this point but may be seen more as service animals are being used for more illness and diseases. Need to look at Austin/Travis County as they have done some work on it and bring back information for next meeting.

4. **Review proposed revisions to Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Section 157.11 regarding changes mandated by House Bill (HB) 3556 and Senate Bill (SB) 8 of the 83rd Legislative Session, 2013.**

Rules are going through final approval. Expect to be in place by late June. Moratorium will end since it would require legislation, and they are not in session. There is still the moratorium in effect for the Houston/Harris County area for Medicare.

5. **Recommendations to DSHS, as required by Senate Bill 8 of the 83rd Texas Legislative Session, 2013, regarding the laws and policies related to the licensure of nonemergency EMS transportation providers that would reduce the incidence and opportunities of fraud, waste and abuse.**

DSHS has responded by letter to the feedback received. The final report is available on the website. The EMS Committee Stakeholder Report was included in those recommendations in total as an Appendix.

6. **EMS for Children (EMSC) update.**

Sam Vance – Workgroup put together to set up a recognition of EMS agencies based on equipment and protocols, CE, and community outreach. Those meeting standards would receive decals and certificates, and it could be used as a positive PR opportunity. RAC A has volunteered to pilot it. Wednesday, May 21, will officially be the Pediatric EMS Day by gubernatorial decree.

7. **Update on status of revisions to the EMS and Trauma Systems rules in Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 157.**

Jose Schmider - Making great progress and hope to have finished to present in August at GETAC. Will then hit the road to get stakeholder feedback. Will be put on all the GETAC Committees' agendas for August.

8. **Report from the workgroup examining the language in 25 TAC Section 157.11, Requirements for an EMS Provider License, and 25 TAC Section 157.13, Fixed-wing Air Ambulance Operations, regarding patient care issues when EMS ground and air providers are present.**

Justin Boyd - Concerns over the relationship between ground and air providers, working with air providers from other states, and quality performance oversight. This is especially a concern for agencies bordering other states because an agency has to be licensed by Texas to transfer a patient unless it is an official request for mutual aid.
Joe Schmider - Take away message is that unless something is so wrong it could be harmful, go ahead and take care of patient and proceed with transfer; then report the issue to DSHS. Walter Kuykendall said the New Mexico air provider in their area became licensed in both states. This might be a good option for other providers.

9. **Update from Emergency Medical Task Forces (EMTF).**

No one present for update due to TDEM meeting in San Antonio.

10. **Update on issues on drug shortages and pharmaceutical compounding of drugs**.

Joe Schmider - FDA approved a Denmark company to send saline which has greatly improved the supply of saline in the US.

11. **Trauma Systems Committee Registry Workgroup (TSCRW) Update.**

Update given as part of item 12 by Metzger and Drucker.

12. **Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) / American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry's (ACC-NCDR) coding of percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) in the CathPCI Registry following cardiac arrest and the potential effect on patient outcomes by David Persse, MD**

Dr. David Persse - Science shows that people with ROSC taken to cath lab directly from prehospital do better than predicted even if do not show STEMI on ECG. The problem is in the "business" of healthcare. Reimbursement is somewhat based on performance so some cardiologists are not wanting to take these patients or at least not all of them. It has created a conflict of interest. AHA and other cardiac societies have stated that these patients not be part of the morbidity rates or some other action be taken to make it easier for these patients to go directly to cath lab and payment not be decreased. Wanted to make sure everyone was aware of the situation. The Medical Directors are considering possible action to try to help address the problem.

13. **Review of summary reports generated from the Texas EMS/Trauma Registry data by Kristi Metzger, PhD.**

Dr. Metzger gave a PowerPoint presentation on the trauma registry and gave information on how to access many reports on the DSHS Injury web site. There are State level reports and RAC reports. Asked for stakeholder feedback on what data is desired, how it could be used, and how the data should be presented (tables, graphs, etc). Send any comments or requests to the email on the web site. Justin Boyd stated it would be beneficial to be able to get data that compares service areas with similar run volume.

Chris Drucker – Presented actual data and reports taken from the trauma registry; EMS Summary Reports for 2013. However, only 53% of licensed agencies are reporting. The 34 page document will be available on the Injury web site soon.

Justin Boyd asked Jane Guerero when the agencies not submitting data will be held accountable. Jane said they are going to first break down reporting agencies by RAC and provide that to the RAC Chairs. Affidavits will soon no longer be allowed. It will be stated in upcoming July's newsletter.

14. **General Public Comment**

Ryan Matthews – Medical transport provider program has involved wheelchair and handicap accessible vehicles and term them as non-emergency for reimbursement purposes. However, non-emergency has different meaning in EMS. In the State of Texas, anyone needing to be transported by ambulance must be done in a Texas licensed ambulance by legislation passed in 2007. However, Medicaid is looking to allow transport in a non-licensed ambulance with no medical equipment and no certified personnel. It was done as a cost savings measure but may have very strong negative repercussions. There is NO malicious attempt but just a lack of understanding of how the change impacts patient care and contradicts Texas law. There is a meeting May 22, 10:00-12:00 at Stephen F. Austin State Office Building in Austin to discuss the issue.

Tami Kayea – Education Committee discussed the development of curriculum for Advanced Paramedic/Community Paramedic. Requested that EMS Committee also be part of that process as it is a very impactful change to the provision of EMS.

Justin Boyd – Asked for status on reciprocity in the State of Texas. Currently a person must be certified in another state and have National Registry to get reciprocity. However, some people in the panhandle have to go across state lines to take a course. They are not certified in that state, however, so then they can't get certified in Texas. Per Schmider – They are working on that issue as well as oether issues brought up having to do with crossing state boundaries. There is a national EMS compact being developed and is very similar to the nurses compact. It will have to go through legislation so it will be a couple of years to get it passed. Have also been working with other southern states to create a means of working between states. The southern states are meeting June 1-2 to discuss these issues.

15. The meeting was adjourned at 16:00.

Dudley Wait, EMT-P
EMS Committee Chair