

Meeting Minutes

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

May 12th, 2017

9:00AM

Wyndham Garden Austin

3401 Interstate 35 Frontage Road

Austin, Texas, 78741

Disclaimer: Meeting minutes will not be official until approved at the August 18th, 2017 Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) meeting

Video recordings of GETAC quarterly meetings may be viewed at

<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/getac>. This webcast archive service is provided courtesy of the Texas EMS, Trauma, and Acute Care Foundation (TETAF).

Note: Due to several power outages, the video archive for the May 12th, 2017 Council meeting is incomplete.

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council member attendance at the May 12th, 2017 meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	COUNCIL MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Barnhart, Jeffery (Jeff)	X		Harbert III LP, Jodie		X
Beeson D.O., Jeffrey	X		Isbell, Robert		X
Clements, Michael (Mike)	X		Matthews LP, Ryan	X	
DeLoach, James (Mike)		X	Pickard RN, LP, Karen	X	
Dickerson, Linda W.		X	Scholz RN, Shirley	X	
Eastridge M.D., Brian	X		Tyroch M.D., Alan	X	
Faske, Sheila	X		Vezzetti M.D., Robert	X	
Greenberg M.D., Robert	X				
STAFF MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	STAFF MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Crocker, Colin	X				
Guerrero RN, Jane G.	X				
Huss, Jon		X			
Schmider, Joseph	X				

Welcome and Call to Order

Dr. Robert Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Dr. Greenberg:

1. Read the Vision and Mission statements;
2. Instructed Council members to introduce themselves;
3. Reminded attendees about the public comment sign-in sheet process;

4. Suggested the Council consider starting the August GETAC meeting at 8:00AM instead of 9:00AM. The Council approved an 8:00AM start time in August;
5. Asked the Council to consider dates for the upcoming GETAC retreat in October. The Council determined October 5th and 6th seemed to be the best days to hold the retreat. Dr. Greenberg said he would inform members as date, time and location details were finalized.

Public Comment

Melanie Tucker, PhD candidate, gave public comment regarding her dissertation study concerning EMS personnel turnover factors. She asked EMS personnel or entities interested in participating to contact her. Ms. Tucker agreed to present her findings to the Council, once completed.

Review and Approval of February 2017 Minutes

Minutes were approved pending correction of Dr. Tyroch's attendance.

State Agency Reports

Associate Commissioner Report, DSHS Division of Regulatory Services

Jane Guerrero, RN (Director, DSHS Office of EMS/Trauma Systems Coordination) reported the current number of trauma designated facilities was 289. She also noted the number of designated stroke facilities had increased to 154. Director Guerrero said revision of rules governing stroke, trauma, and regional advisory councils (RACs) remain a priority for DSHS.

Director Guerrero reported approximately \$550K of Extraordinary Emergency Funds (EEFs) are available and encouraged entities in need to apply.

Associate Commissioner Report, Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries Section

The presentation from Heidi Bojes, PhD (Associate Commissioner of Environmental Epidemiology and Disease Registries Section) was postponed until the August 2017 Council meeting due to a power outage which occurred at approximately 9:40am. Dan Dao (Manager, Texas & EMS Trauma Registries) gave an abbreviated report on National EMS Information System implementation. Mr. Dao reported implementation of the web services data submission client was still ongoing and the Council will be updated as the system evolves.

GETAC Committee Summary Reports

Air Medical Committee:

Ms. Shirley Scholz (committee chair) requested:

-Permission to develop an air medical quality improvement metrics working group. She said the intent was to make the metrics available to RACs, once finalized. Council approved the request.

-Permission to develop a joint working group with the Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee aimed at improving air-to-ground communications during disaster situations. Council approved the request.

Cardiac Care Committee:

Dr. Richard Smalling (committee chair) had no action items for the Council.

Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee:

Mr. Eric Epley (committee chair) requested:

-Permission to create a joint workgroup between the Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee, the Air Medical Committee, and Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) staff to develop statewide recommendations for improving air-to-ground communications during disaster situations. (Council approved the request earlier during the Air Medical Committee report.)

-Permission to create a workgroup between Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee and the TDEM Critical Information Systems group aimed at improving and assessing patient tracking and integration within Emergency Tracking Network. Council approved the request.

Education Committee:

Education Committee member Macara Trusty (reporting for Jodie Harbert, Chair) requested clarification regarding the scope of the Education Committee and EMS Committee's joint work group intended to examine the availability of paramedic and initial paramedic education in rural and frontier areas of Texas. The Council affirmed the scope of the workgroup is to focus on the availability of education opportunities. Ms. Trusty and Dudley Wait (EMS Committee Chair) acknowledged the Council's direction.

EMS Committee:

Committee chair Dudley Wait asked the Council for permission to continue to meet with TDEM personnel regarding development of a unified method of ambulance identification via two-dimensional barcoding. TDEM's primary interest lies with large-scale disasters but smaller multi-casualty incidents and mutual aid situations would likely benefit as well. It could also aid the general public in identifying EMS vehicles. The Council approved the request.

Injury Prevention Committee:

Committee member Courtney Edwards (reporting for Shelli Stidham, Chair) asked the Council to review and approve the Injury Prevention Committee's final version of the document *Evidence-Based Strategies to Prevent Distracted Driving*. Council approved the document.

Future agenda item; Courtney Edwards said she would email Colin Crocker the final version of the *Hospital-Based Injury Prevention Components* document for review and possible approval at the August, 2017 meeting.

Medical Directors Committee:

Chair Jeff Beeson, D.O, requested that a review of the workflow between the Council and committees be discussed at the October GETAC retreat. Council agreed to include the item on the retreat agenda.

Pediatrics Committee:

Sally Snow, RN, (committee chair) had no action items for the Council.

Stroke Committee:

Neil Rutledge, M.D., (committee chair) inquired as to the status of the Society of Neurointerventional Surgery's transport bypass guidelines previously approved and forwarded to DSHS for posting to the GETAC web page. Dr. Greenberg acknowledged the concern and advised he is still working with DSHS regarding the disposition of committee resource documents.

Dr. Rutledge noted DSHS administrative stroke rules had not been updated and encouraged the Council to urge the DSHS to make updating the rules a priority. The Council and DSHS acknowledged the request and will pursue.

Dr. Rutledge requested the Council recommend the Healthcare Quality Primary Stroke Center as an approved stroke certification agency. Council approved the request and made the recommendation to DSHS.

Trauma Systems Committee:

Jorie Klein, RN (committee chair) requested permission to assess the current state trauma systems performance improvement plan. According to Ms. Klein, this will be committee-level activity and not a workgroup function. The Council approved the request.

The Burn Center Work Group had an initial meeting earlier in the day. Ms. Klein asked the Council to consider endorsing burns as trauma. The Council agreed and recommended burns be regarded as trauma by DSHS. Jane Guerrero agreed to approach HHSC with the issue and report back to the Council accordingly.

Agenda item #21, “Review and possibly endorse The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s report *A National Trauma Care System: Integrating Military and Civilian Trauma Systems to Achieve Zero Preventable Deaths After Injury*” was discussed. Council endorsed the report.

Future agenda item; Ms. Klein requested a review and possible endorsement of the American College of Surgeons palliative care guidelines be added to the August 2017 GETAC agenda. Council approved the request.

GETAC Liaison Summary Reports

Texas EMS, Trauma, and Acute Care Foundation (TETAF):

Dinah Welsh presented a legislative update on bills concerning EMS and trauma. She said TETAF was also continuing to build their process for the neonatal intensive care unit survey process.

Emergency Medical Services for Children:

No update given

Preparedness Coordinating Council:

No update given

Other Council Actions:

Agenda item #7; “Review the final version of the *GETAC Strategic Plan for the Texas Emergency Healthcare System*” and #8, “Review and approval of the closing statement of the *GETAC Strategic Plan for the Texas Emergency Healthcare System*” were discussed. Dr. Tyroch asked titles identifying the year be added to graphical elements in the plan. Dr. Greenberg also suggested the term “heart” be used instead of “cardiovascular”. Colin Crocker agreed to make the changes. The Council approved the document.

Agenda Item #12; The Council approved continued endorsement of task force efforts to examine the scope of mental health/behavioral health issues in emergency healthcare.

Agenda item #17; The Council endorsed the Advance Practice Paramedic Task Force document Final Report of the Joint Committee for Advanced practice Paramedic Task Force.”

Agenda item #20; “Review and possibly endorse the Texas Hospital Association’s Plain-Language Emergency Codes Workgroup findings <http://www.tha.org/plainlanguagecodes>” was discussed. A motion was made to approve the work group findings and carried.

Agenda item #21; The Council endorsed The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s report *A National Trauma Care System: Integrating Military and Civilian Trauma Systems to Achieve Zero Preventable Deaths After Injury.*”

Agenda item #22; The Council endorsed a sample medical directors agreement designed to address the gaps and/or differences between the Texas Medical Practice Act in Title 3, Subchapter B of the Texas Occupations Code, Texas Medical Board rules in Title 22 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 197 entitled: “Emergency Medical Service”, and the Texas Department of State Health Services Emergency Medical Services rules in 25 TAC Chapter 157.”

Agenda item #29; “GETAC Taskforce on Freestanding Emergency Departments and Alternative Care Sites request to consider the possible designation or verification of all emergency departments, regardless of affiliation” was discussed by the Council. Jeff Barnhart made a motion to develop a task force to investigate the issue further. Mike Clements volunteered to assist and will be the Council liaison to the ad hoc committee. No task force lead was named. Council approved the development of the ad hoc task force.

Agenda item #30; The Council endorsed the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) *Appropriate Interfacility Patient Transfer* document.

Dr. Greenberg announced the GETAC committee selection process would open approximately two weeks early this year on August 21st. The application period will be from August 21st – September 17th. Committee selections will be deliberated in early October.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Dr. Greenberg adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:00 noon.