

## MEETING MINUTES

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Friday May 11, 2001, 1:05 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**Call To Order:** Dr. Ed Racht, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Members present included: Ed Racht, MD; F. E. Shaheen III, EMT-P; Peter Wolf, EMT-P; Maxie Bishop, Jr., LP; Gary D. Cheek, RN, EMT; Ronald Stewart, MD; John L. Simms; Mario Segura, RN; Frederick N. Hagedorn, MD; Joan E. Shook, MD; Raymond P. Holloway; and Pattilou P. Dawkins. Members absent included: Lance Gutierrez, RN, LP; Rebecca Campuzano-Salcido; and Judge Arlene N. Marshall.

**Approval of Minutes:** *A motion was made by Pete Wolf and seconded by Maxie Bishop, to approve meeting minutes from February 16, 2001. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.*

**Chair Report:** Dr. Ed Racht asked the Council to consider how GETAC should respond to requests for input from the media, legislators, or other requestors that have short turnaround times. He also would like input on whether or not Standing Committee Chair/member appointments should be rotated; whether the state should implement "Trauma Facility" highway signs; and potential Council meeting dates for calendar year 2002. Dr. Racht asked that these issues be addressed at the next GETAC meeting. Finally, he reiterated the importance of continuing to utilize a consensus process to address difficult problems and thanked attendees for their continued interest and participation.

### **Stakeholder Organization Presentations / Educational Sessions:**

There were no stakeholder presentations.

Michael Wolf presented an educational session regarding the Operation Heartbeat/Operation Stroke programs.

**Department Staff Reports:** Richard Bays, Associate Commissioner for Health Care Quality and Standards, briefed the council on current Department issues including the on-going search for a new Commissioner of Health, the recent audit of TDH and resulting management review, status of pertinent legislative bills and FY02/03 funding requests. He reported that all the regulatory bureaus (Food & Drug Safety, Radiation Control, Professional Licensing & Certification, Emergency Management, and Environmental Health) will be combined into one Associateship under him on 7/1/01. He also notified the Council that it is likely that after 9/1/01 only consumer member travel will be reimbursed.

Kathryn Perkins, Chief, Bureau of Emergency Management (Bureau), reported on current Bureau priorities including the hiring of key staff; the status of the EMS test key errors issue; the status of FY02 EMS/trauma system funds distribution; specific proposed legislation that may impact the EMS/trauma constituency; and planning for GETAC meetings at the conference. Ms. Perkins also requested that GETAC review the Bureau's 1996 position paper regarding EMS personnel working in a hospital setting and consider revisions.

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

Friday May 11, 2001, 1:05 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Page 2

David Zane, Division Director of the Department's Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance (Injury) Program, discussed the status of the TRAC-IT project and issues surrounding the current essential data sets for hospitals and EMS. Mr. Zane asked the council for two volunteers to attend a strategic planning session regarding the data sets.

### **Staff Recommendations:**

The bureau recommended that the Board of Health (BOH) Packet, which includes revised §§157.33, 157.34, and 157.38 to implement the re-certification options plan be submitted to the BOH meeting with no changes. Staff noted that there is still further work needed on §§157.33 and 157.38.

### **Committee Reports:**

**EMS/ Education/ Medical Directors Combined Report** - Mr. Wolf reported that the combined Committee discussed the BOH packet which includes revised §§157.33, 157.34, and 157.38 to implement the re-certification options plan. The consensus was to submit the packet to the BOH with no changes. The committees also agreed that further work is needed on §§157.33 and 157.38. Mr. Bishop and Dr. Hagedorn concurred with Mr. Wolf's report.

**Trauma Systems** – Dr. Stewart reported that the Committee is reviewing the draft criteria for EMS/trauma systems. Other issues discussed included: possible creation of a diversion task force; the TRAC-IT project; finalizing a policy regarding use of telemedicine in designated trauma facilities; the concept of designating pediatric hospitals as trauma facilities; and the BAC Task Force findings to date.

**Injury Prevention** - Mr. Segura reported that the Committee discussed pertinent legislative bills that are pending and a project for collecting and collating information on injury prevention programs around the state.

**Pediatric** – Dr. Shook reported that the Committee discussed developing draft pediatric transfer guidelines for use by the RACs, the on-going survey of designated Level III and IV trauma facilities as to their capability to meet the current draft criteria for Pediatric Stabilization Facilities, the concept of designating pediatric hospitals as trauma facilities, and the status of implementation of PEPP statewide.

**Medical Directors** - Dr. Hagedorn reported that the Committee discussed the BOH packet and staff recommendations. The committee needs to do more work on the CCMP program for the next meeting.

**Rural Task Force Report** – Mr. Wolf reported the task force plans to develop an assessment survey for four constituency groups (First Responder Organizations, EMS Providers, EMS Medical Directors, and Hospitals). The task force will formulate a plan for a needs assessment (white paper) and will research potential solutions.

**Discussion of Reports:** GETAC members discussed the staff, Committee, and Task Force reports.

**Public Comment on Action Items:** Public Comment was heard on the BOH packet that includes revised §§157.33, 157.34, and 157.38 to implement the re-certification options.

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

Friday May 11, 2001, 1:05 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Page 3

### **Action Items:**

*A motion was made by Patti Lou Dawkins and seconded by Maxie Bishop, to recommend that the Texas Board of Health propose, for public comment, new rule 157.34 (Re-Certification) and revised rules 157.33 (Certification) and 157.38 (Continuing Education) with only the changes required to implement 157.34. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.*

**General Public Comment:** Public Comment was heard on the health care professionals equivalency issue and other general issues.

**General Council Discussion:** Dr. Racht stated that there is still work to be done on the rules related to certification, particularly 157.38 (Continuing Education). Dr. Racht requested that the Bureau research how other states address the health care professional equivalency issue and report back to the next GETAC meeting. Dr. Racht established a Diversion Task Force and appointed Eric Epley from the South Texas Regional Advisory Council as the Task Force Leader and Dr. Ronnie Stewart as the GETAC liaison. Finally, Dr. Racht asked the attendees for feedback on the work of the Council – it was positive.

### **Meeting Dates for 2001:**

August 23 & 24, 2001

November 18 & 19, 2001 (in conjunction with the EMS Conference)

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.