

MEETING MINUTES 5/27/2005

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Friday, May 27, 2005, 1:00p.m – 4:15 p.m.

Call to Order: Chair Ed Racht, MD, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Members present included: Ed Racht, MD, Marti VanRavenswaay, Frederick N. Hagedorn, MD, Vance L. Riley, Gary D. Cheek, RN, EMT, Lindon "Mike" Click, RN, F.E. Shaheen III, Ronny Stewart, MD, Pete Wolf, Vice Chair, Joan E. Shook, MD, Mario Segura, RN, Hector G. Longoria, Kris J. Gillespie and Shirley Scholtz, RN. Members absent: Maxie Bishop, Jr.

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Marti VanRavenswaay and seconded by Pete Wolf to approve meeting minutes from February 11, 2004, with a request by Mario Segura to make a minor grammatical change. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.*

Chair Report: Dr. Ed Racht welcomed everyone to the meeting. He announced the appointment of Mike Click, RN, Rural Trauma Facility representative and Hector G. Longoria, General Public representative. Both members introduced themselves to the Council.

Dr. Racht reported that the committees all have new appointments, which are listed on the DSHS website. Dr. Racht explained that a decision was made by Pete Wolf and himself to only allow a person to serve on one (1) committee. Dr. Racht stated that if minor changes were needed to any of the committee members, he would work with the committee chair to fill and/or change any moves needed.

Dr. Racht announced a change in dates for the August GETAC Meeting. It will be held on August 30, 2005, September 1 and 2, 2005 at the Airport Hilton Hotel, 9515 New Airport Drive, Austin, Texas. Dr. Racht stated that the committee meetings appeared to run smoothly at the Airport Hilton. He stated that some groups want to explore expanding the venue at the GETAC meeting to include possible vendors and educational presentations (CEs). Dr. Racht asked if anyone had any ideas to contact him or Kelly Harrell who will be exploring this idea.

Dr. Racht discussed the Scope of Practice Draft 2.0. He stated the public comment portion for Draft 2.0 was rapidly closing. Dr. Racht mentioned that the Advanced Paramedic was removed from this draft. Dr. Racht informed the members that there would be a meeting on the Scope of Practice Draft 2.0 in Washington, D.C. on June 12-15, 2005.

Dr. Racht informed the council that the Stroke Center Bill is "still active and alive." If it passes, it will be the first bill that creates a Committee for GETAC. The legislation defines the members, i.e., number and makeup, of that committee. Dr. Racht would like to start getting people interested in this possible committee.

Dr. Racht announced that there is not a formal vehicle for input on the Council from the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs). Dr. Racht places the question in the open as to how this can be fixed.

Dr. Racht asked if a council member could send a proxy to the GETAC meeting if they cannot attend? Rick Bays, Assistant Commissioner Division for Regulatory Services and Kathy Perkins, Director Health Care Quality Section and Marc Connelly, legal Council discussed and Mr. Connelly stated that a Council member could NOT send a proxy to the GETAC meetings.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Staff Reports: Richard Bays, Assistant Commissioner for the Division for Regulatory Services, reported on the Rules Process, which is a lengthy 14-step process. Mr. Bays reported that there are only three (3) days left in the legislative session where DSHS tracked approximately 300 bills. Mr. Bays states that there was a 5% reduction across the board for Appropriations.

Kathryn Perkins, Director for Health Care Quality Section, introduced Mr. Marc Connelly who is the new Legal Council for OEMS/TS. Mr. Connelly replaces Mr. Don Jansky, who retired recently. Ms. Perkins provided an update on Legislative Bills that were currently being heard in the Legislature that relate to OEMS/TS.

Steve Janda, Director Office of EMS/Trauma Systems Coordination (OEMS/TS) provided an update on personnel changes in OEMS/TS. Mr. Janda reported that the 2005 Texas EMS Conference is scheduled for November 18 - 23, 2005 in Austin. Mr. Janda reported that the 2006 and 2007 Conference might be held in Dallas, Houston or Austin. Information with the final determination will be reported soon. Mr. Janda stated the 2005 Star of Texas Award is accepting nominations through July 7, 2005. Mr. Janda also informed the Council that Draft Rule Revisions that will be occurring soon. Mr. Janda also reminded the Council that Extraordinary Funds are available for emergency situations.

Linda Jones, Program Manger, State EMS/Trauma Registry, reported on staff changes and issues and items that will be occurring in her department. Ms. Jones reported that the Trauma Registry was working on forming partnerships with various organizations in order to apply for grants. She asked anyone who might want to partner with TR to contact her office.

Change in Agenda:

Comprehensive Clinical Management Program Task Force – Leigh Anne Bedrich, Co-Chair reported the Implementation of the CCMP. Three sites have been preliminary selected for the Pilot Program.

Standing Committee/Task Force Reports:

EMS Committee – Chair Pete Wolf reported that the EMS Committee discussed and approved to have a letter sent to GETAC for approval to be sent to the Scope of Practice Model Task Force. The EMS Committee discussed the addition of Pediatric Equipment to be placed in §157.11, which was referred to them by the Pediatric Committee. The EMS Committee voted on and approved the addition of the Pediatric Equipment to be added to §157.11.

Education Committee – Chair Jodie Harbert III reported that the Education Committee discussed and approved changes in the Continuing Education requirements dealing with Pediatric issues. Mr. Harbert reported that the Education Committee approved a change in the CE content areas to take hours out of the “Additional Units in Any Approved Category” and to

add a section titled “Pediatrics”. The hours of CE in Pediatrics in ECA, EMT-B, EMT-I and EMT-P will be 3/6/9/12 respectively. These hours will be taken out of the Additional Units category. The Education Committee discussed in depth the “fail & bail” rate for NREMT testing. The Scope of Practice Draft 2.0 was also discussed and approved to have a letter sent to GETAC for approval and to be sent to the Scope of Practice Model Task Force.

Trauma Systems Committee – Chair Ronny Stewart, MD reported the committee approved rule changes to Level 3 & 4 Trauma Facility Criteria. The Trauma Systems Committee also discussed §157.131 Designated Trauma Facility and Emergency Medical Services Account. Dr. Stewart also reported that the EMS Foundation has been formed and is moving forward.

Injury Prevention Committee – Chair Mario Segura reported that the committee was working on mission, goals and plans manual. Committee member Molly Wilkins will be presenting a QPR – Question, Persuade and Refer course, regarding Suicide at the Texas EMS Conference. The Committee will have a booth at the Conference where they will distribute Injury Prevention information. Dr. Kesling has created the “Injury Prevention – White Paper” Draft. Dr. Kesling and the committee will continue to work on this.

Pediatric Committee – Chair, Joan Shook, MD reported that the Pediatric Committee discussed the actions regarding Pediatric Equipment taken by the EMS and Education Committees. They also had discussions of pediatric committees within the RACs. The committee also discussed what they would like to accomplish.

Medical Director Committee – Chair Steve Ellerbe, DO reported that the Scope of Practice Draft 2.0 was discussed and the committee voted to send a letter to GETAC for approval to be sent to the Scope of Practice Model Task Force. The Medical Director Committee discussed the Comprehensive Clinical Management Program. The Texas Medical Director Course was discussed and developing. GETAC Position Papers were also discussed and the Committee will bring position papers to GETAC soon.

Air Medical Committee – Chair Shirley Scholtz reported that the new committee discussed Rule changes where hospitals would need to notify AMP and RACs within 120 days of any change, further clarification of Air Medical Access and Air Medical Providers need to notify DSHS and RACs of starting business or any changes in business within 30 days. The Air Medical Committee also discussed CAMTS Accreditation Draft Rule Language and this should be going through soon.

Data, Informatics and Research Task Force - Chair Mario Segura reported on the Data, Informatics and Research Task Force. He reported that Dr. Folden and Dr. Kesling would be working on definitions with the DSHS Trauma Registry.

Discussion of Reports/Public Comment on Action Items:

DSHS Preparedness Coordination Council – Leon Charpentier reported that they are working on information for preparedness. He feels that the PCC is doing similar work as the Orchard Marketing Group.

Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council – Todd Maxson, MD reported that the TBI Council is working on the development of a plan with unique identifiers of TBI.

DSHS Hospital Licensing Rules Review Workgroup – Jim Parisi reported that this Workgroup has had a lot of discussion about hospital licensing to include Emergency Services at all hospitals where there are “Hospital Signs” along the roads. The next meeting will be June 1, 2005.

General Public Comment: Public Comment was heard on a number of issues.

Action Items:

A motion was made by Pete Wolf and seconded by Marti VanRavenswaay to package §157.14, §157.33, §157.34 and §157.40 into one topic to vote on. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mike Click and seconded by Frederick Hagedorn to send the package to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ronny Stewart and seconded by Mario Segura to send §157.125 to HHSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ronny Stewart and seconded by Marti VanRavenswaay to send §157.131 to HHSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ronny Stewart and seconded by Pete Wolf to send the letters received from the EMS, Education and Medical Director Committees to the Scope of Practice Draft 2.0 Committee with a cover letter to be written by Dr. Ed Racht, GETAC Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ronny Stewart and seconded by Vance Riley to form a new RAC Committee within GETAC. After lengthy discussion by the Council and public, Dr. Stewart withdrew his motion.

Meeting Dates for 2005: August 31, September 1 and 2; and November 19th – 21st in conjunction with the 2005 Texas EMS Conference were announced.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.