

MEETING MINUTES

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Friday, August 23, 2002, 10:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Call To Order: Dr. Ed Racht, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Members present included: Ed Racht, MD; F. E. Shaheen III, EMT-P; Peter Wolf, EMT-P; Maxie Bishop, Jr., LP; Ronald Stewart, MD; John L. Simms; Mario Segura, RN; Joan E. Shook, MD; Gary D. Cheek, RN, EMT; Frederick N. Hagedorn, MD and Raymond P. Holloway. Members absent include: Rebecca Campuzano-Salcido; Pattilou P. Dawkins and Judge Arlene N. Marshall.

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Maxie Bishop and seconded by Mario Segura, to approve meeting minutes from May 31, 2002. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.*

Chair Report: Dr. Ed Racht introduced Dr. Eduardo Sanchez, Commissioner of Health. Dr. Sanchez discussed five priorities of the Texas Department of Health (TDH), Bureau of Emergency Management's (BEM) exceptional item, meeting with the Texas Board of Insurance regarding Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) testing, and the West Nile Virus. He returned later to the meeting to answer questions from attendees. Dr. Racht stated that he would discuss the strategic planning document at the agenda item. Dr. Racht discussed the new provisions to the draft revisions GETAC Procedural Rules in regards to times of meetings and a combined Standing Committee meetings process for discussion. He stated that the Governor's appointment office do not have the new GETAC members appointed and will be working to get them by the end of this year.

TDH Staff Reports: Richard Bays, Associate Commissioner for Consumer Health Protection, sent his apologies to the council for having to leave the meeting.

Kathryn Perkins, Chief, Bureau of Emergency Management, reported on implementation of National Registry testing for initial Texas certification/licensure; Legislative Interim studies related to EMS; adoption of §157.38 Continuing Education; status of the comment period on proposed §157.40 Licensed Paramedic; strategic planning; the TDH exceptional item for EMS; and the BEM legislative initiative regarding elimination of statutory fee and administrative penalty caps.

David Zane, Director, Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance (Injury) Program, discussed the TDH exceptional item for registries and the status of the TRAC-IT project. He also clarified the specific requirements relating to patient name reporting for EMS (a variety of responses to that field are acceptable including unknown).

Standing Committee/Task Force Reports:

Pediatric – Dr. Shook reported that the committee would like to see children represented more specifically in the strategic plan. Dr. Shook also stated that the committee endorsed the American College of Emergency Physicians and the American Academy of Pediatrics, Care of Children In The Emergency Department: Guidelines For Preparedness (Annals of Emergency Medicine. April 2001; 37:423-427) minimum standards for pediatric emergency care and would like GETAC to vote to adopt these standards at their next meeting. They would then like to see minimum standards adopted into the Hospital Licensing rules. They also plan to begin looking at minimum pediatric standards for EMS.

Combined EMS/Education– Mr. Wolf and Mr. Bishop reported that the committee members discussed various possible options for initial EMT-B training clinical requirements and for ECA testing. BEM will be developing documents for them to discuss at the next meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

Friday, August 23, 2002, 10:00a.m. – 3:15p.m.

Page 2

Injury Prevention - Mr. Segura reported that the committee continued work on the Injury Prevention Resource Manual and have started looking at the concept of developing an Injury Prevention strategic plan. Mr. Segura stated the committee will be sharing a booth with the "Think Child Safety" program at the 2002 Texas EMS Conference. He also stated that Kate Martin, M.Ed., will be working on an injury prevention plan "white paper".

Trauma Systems – Dr. Stewart reported that the committee discussed the issues of pre-transfer diagnostics; mid-level practitioners in Level IV trauma facilities; hospital-to-hospital transfers to higher levels of care, including children's hospitals; massive transfusion protocols for Level III and Level IV trauma facilities; and the roles of surgical services in Level IV trauma facilities.

Medical Directors - Dr. Hagedorn reported that a update of the Comprehensive Clinical Management Program (CCMP) was given and components of this program are currently being piloted by a number of EMS providers. The committee is extending the pilot until 3/31/03 to be able to get more extensive input. He also reported that the committee discussed possible options for ECA testing and "brain-stormed" prospective subjects for GETAC "Position Papers". The committee decided to discuss the issue of "What is a patient?" at their November meeting.

Funding Task Force Report – Mr. Simms, Mr. Shaheen, and Dr. Stewart reported that the Task Force discussed financial needs of the EMS/Trauma System. They plan to coordinate closely with a coalition being facilitated by the Texas Hospital Association and provide a proposal to GETAC at the November meeting.

Rural Task Force Report – Mr. Wolf reported the Task Force heard reports from organizations that serve the rural areas of the state (e.g. Office of Rural and Community Affairs and TEEEX). They also reviewed the current draft of the GETAC Strategic Plan.

Discussion of Reports/ Public Comment on Action Items: GETAC members discussed the staff, Committee, and Task Force reports. Public comment was heard on the above issues, the majority of which was regarding EMS/Trauma Registry issues.

Action Items:

A motion was made by Maxie Bishop and seconded by F.E. Shaheen to recommend to continue to move forward with final adoption §157.40 - Licensed Paramedic, presented by staff, and be sent to the Texas Board of Health for adoption. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.

A motion was made by F.E. Shaheen and seconded by Mario Segura, adoption of the revised GETAC procedural rules. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Ronny Stewart and seconded by Dr. Joan Shook, to re-activate the Air Medical Task Force to evaluate the current situation in Texas and make recommendations. All council members were in favor; the motion passed. Dr. Racht appointed Dennis Hebner as leader and Gary Cheek as interim GETAC liaison.

MEETING MINUTES

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

Friday, August 23, 2002, 10:00a.m. – 3:15p.m.

Page 3

A motion was made by F.E. Shaheen and seconded by Gary Cheek to request Dr. Ed Racht to send a letter to the Commissioner of Health that encourages the inclusion of all appropriate EMS/Trauma Systems entities (e.g. EMS Providers, Fire Departments, and Regional Advisory Councils) in the state Bioterrorism preparedness planning and implementation. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.

A motion was made by Pete Wolf and seconded by John Simms to approve the draft objectives and strategies, with the input from attendees. All council members were in favor; the motion passed

General Public Comment: Public comment was heard on EMS Regulation and Trauma/Emergency Health Care Systems in 2010 and other general issues.

Meeting Dates for 2003 to be decided on November 24, 2002 meeting.

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