Disclaimer: These meeting minutes will not be official until approved at the 02/25/2011 Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) Monday, November 22, 2010, 6:05 p.m. – 8:04 p.m.

Council Members:

Attendance	Name	Position
X	Vance Riley, LP	Fire Chief, Chair
	Nora Castaneda-Rivas	Public Member
	Mike Click, RN	Rural Trauma Facility
X	Linda W. Dickerson	Public Member
	Luis G. Fernandez, MD	Trauma Surgeon or Nurse
X	Jodie Harbert III, LP	EMS Educator
X	James Randall Loflin, MD	Emergency Physician
X	Ryan Matthews, LP	Private EMS Provider
X	Donald G. Phillips, DO	EMS Medical Director
X	Shirley Scholz, RN	EMS Air Medical Service
X	John D. Smith, Lieutenant	Fire Department
X	Robert Vezzetti, MD	Pediatrician
X	Ronald M. Stewart, MD	Urban Trauma Facility
	Marti VanRavenswaay	County EMS Provider
X	Pete Wolf, EMT-P	EMS Volunteer

Department of State Health Services Staff:

Attendance	Name	Position
X	Kathryn C. Perkins, RN	Assistant Commissioner for the Division of
		Regulatory Services
X	Jane G. Guerrero, RN	Director of the Office of EMS and Trauma Systems
		Coordination
X	Adolfo Valadez, MD, MPH	Assistant Commissioner of Prevention and
		Preparedness
X	Maxie Bishop, LP, RN	State EMS Director

Item 1: Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

The meeting commenced at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, November 22, 2010, at the Hilton Austin Hotel in Austin, Texas. A quorum was present.

Item 2: Approval of minutes

A motion was made by James Randall Loflin, MD, and seconded by Donald Phillips, DO, to approve the meeting minutes from August 20, 2010. All council members were in favor; the motion passed.

Item 3: Chair Report

Chair Vance Riley, LP, requested that as each committee report is being presented, any action items committees would like the council to take action on be included in the report. As the action items are presented, public comment and voting on the presented action item should take place instead of waiting for the conclusion of all the committee reports.

Item 4: Regulatory Division Report

Kathryn C. Perkins, Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Regulatory Services, presented the division report. She advised that several bills have already been filed for state analysis and the primary concern is associated costs with these bills. Ms. Perkins advised that the 82nd Legislative Session officially begins the second week in January and there may be a special session this year. The Legislative Budget Board continues to work with state agencies on the requested budget cuts.

Item 5: State EMS/Trauma Systems Report

Jane Guerrero, Director of the Office of EMS/Trauma Systems Coordination, presented the report from the Office of EMS/Trauma Systems. Ms. Guerrero presented the 2011 GETAC meeting dates as follows: February 23-25; May 11-13; August 17-19; and November 18-20 in conjunction with the Texas EMS Conference. The 2011 scheduled meetings will be held in Austin, Texas.

Ms. Guerrero introduced a new nurse trauma designation coordinator for the department, Elizabeth Stevenson, RN. All trauma designation coordinator positions are filled and the department can support stroke designation and will begin surveying for support stroke designation in 2011. DSHS continues to work with Texas EMS, Trauma, and Acute Care Foundation (TETAF) on the stroke designation process and they now have seven trained stroke surveyors.

Current hospital designation: 258 are designated as trauma facilities, with 13 in active pursuit; 57 are designated as primary stroke centers.

Funding: The Local Project Grant (LPG) funding coordinators received 114 applications and 101

were approved for funding \$1.3 million. From the 3588 monies, \$71.5 million has been distributed, and \$381 million has been distributed since the fund's inception. The Extraordinary Emergency Funds (EFF) currently has \$900,000 remaining and has only funded one EFF at this time.

Item 6: State EMS/Trauma Registry and Preparedness Report

Adolfo Valadez, MD, MPH, Assistant Commissioner of Prevention and Preparedness, presented a progress report. Dr. Valadez stated that the vendor selection process has been completed and Cosilience has been named the as the selected vendor to replace the current Trauma Registry. A vendor demonstration was held in San Antonio and tentative vendor demonstrations are being scheduled in Dallas and Houston.

Update from the Trauma Registry Solutions Workgroup: final documentation should be signed by December 1, 2010, and the selected vendor officially starts on January 1, 2011.

Linda Jones is no longer with the Trauma Registry section and that department has been moved under John Villanacii's group.

Item 7: Standing Committee/Task Force Reports

Air Medical Committee

Committee Chair Shirley Scholz presented the report. The committee continued working on proposed draft rules and will wait for a concept draft before moving forward. A workgroup has been created to review issues related to billing and recommendations will be brought back to the committee at a future date. There will be a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) workgroup created to review the FAA rules. No action items were presented.

Cardiac Care Committee

Chair David Persse, MD, presented the report. Committee member Robert Wozniak, MD, presented a report on data points to be collected from EMS and hospitals to easily report to RACs as requested by regions throughout the state. The committee will work on developing a "how-to" guide for RACs on how to collect data. The committee will work with stakeholders to identify available funding sources for future projects. No action items were presented at this time.

Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Committee

Chair Eric Epley presented the report. The committee discussed the current DSHS Memorandum of Agreement (MOAs) for providers and the need to consolidate these documents with the MOAs for personnel that respond during the time of a disaster. The committee is developing a hospital funding survey to evaluate how much is being spent from grants versus monies provided by the hospital. The committee is developing a distribution plan for wristband identifications for use during a disaster. Both the RACS and HPP will work on this endeavor. No action items were

presented.

Education Committee

Chair Jodie Harbert presented the report. The committee discussed the GAP analysis template and the National Curriculum update. The committee met with the Medical Directors Committee and EMS Committee to discuss possible revisions. The committee will review and vote on the updated EMS training manual at the next scheduled meeting. The committee is aware of the concerns regarding national accreditation by 2013 and will work with stakeholders to make the best decision for Texas.

EMS Committee

Chair Dudley Wait presented this report. The committee reviewed the draft rules at 157.1, 157.4, and 157.5 and only one change was made to 157.4 for GETAC to review. The GAP analysis was briefly reviewed and discussions will resume at the next tentatively scheduled meeting in January. The draft narcotic control white paper was reviewed and edits were suggested which should be completed by the next GETAC meeting in February. The committee has reviewed the topic of national accreditation and looked at other states to determine their plans for the future. The committee has concluded that Texas stakeholders have not been formally asked if they support national accreditation of paramedic education programs. The committee presented the following action items: to ask the GETAC chair to form a task force made up of 3 people and the chairs from the Education Committee, EMS Committee, and Medical Directors Committee plus 4 additional stakeholders not on the committees, to evaluate whether Texas wants to pursue mandatory accreditation of all paramedic education programs? If so, by what time line should that be accomplished in order to best meet the needs of Texas?

Injury Prevention Committee

Chair Rick Moore presented the report. The committee reviewed the existing laws for adult fatality review and determined that current laws do not cover what the committee is seeking to accomplish. Efforts will be made to work with the Trauma Systems Committee to develop possible language for inclusion in health code statutes.

At the previous meeting, the committee asked GETAC to pass a resolution to support red light cameras as an injury-prevention tool. Since then, more information and statistics have been presented; the committee would like to give further consideration to the additional information and will continue to discuss this topic at a future meeting.

The committee established a routine meeting schedule and will proceed as: the fourth Friday of each month prior to each scheduled GETAC meeting with locations to be announced throughout the schedule. No action items were presented.

Medical Directors Committee

Committee member Donald Phillips, DO, presented the report. The topic regarding medical

direction for pediatrics will be further discussed by the group at the next meeting. The POLST position statement was tabled for the next meeting. The committee evaluated the need for a state EMS director and will create a workgroup to develop possible guidelines. The GAP analysis template will be further reviewed with the Education Committee to provide guidelines and comments at a later date. No action items were presented.

Pediatrics Committee

Chair Charles Macias, MD, presented the report. Discussions were held about the EMSC review team and their participation in the national performance survey. The required 80% participation was met for this survey. The topics of ambulance equipment guidelines and Level III trauma center designation for pediatric hospitals will be discussed at the next meeting. The topic on the 2009 joint position statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), and Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) "Guidelines for Care of Children in the Emergency Department," now has a checklist available. The committee presented the following action item to the council: asked GETAC to approve the checklist as a standard for pediatrics emergency care for pediatric emergency departments in the state of Texas.

The motion was made by Robert Vezzetti, MD, and seconded by John Smith. Ronald Stewart, MD, made an amendment to table the request for consideration at the next GETAC meeting. The amendment was seconded by Jodie Harbert. At the chair's request, the action item will be placed on the next GETAC agenda.

Stroke Committee

Chair Neil Rutledge, MD, presented the report. He provided an update on the possible stroke registry and advised that efforts will continue with DSHS on this endeavor. Dr. Rutledge stated that TETAF has started certifications for stroke surveyors and these surveyors are anticipated to start surveying stroke centers early next year. DNV has applied to perform the primary stroke center certifications for the state of Texas and the committee is awaiting a response from DSHS subsequent to their review. Criteria for Level I Stroke Centers is not available, but the committee has begun working on developing this criteria. No actions items were presented.

Trauma Systems Committee

Chair Ronald Stewart, MD, presented the report. The committee heard from TETAF, which provided an update and voiced concerns about the Texas Driver Responsibility program. Discussion points from the committee meeting held in October were discussed regarding the review of the ACS document. Dr. Stewart advised that the revision of trauma rules will commence in May 2011 and the committee will use the ACS review statement as a template for the rule revisions. Lastly, interest was expressed by the RACs to develop a workgroup to focus on the ACS review recommendations. No action items were presented.

Item 8: GETAC Liaison Summaries

DSHS Preparedness Coordination Council – No report

Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council – No report

DSHS Hospital Licensing Rules Review Workgroup – No report

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

Dinah Welsh, CEO of TETAF, presented the report. She advised that a coalition to protect trauma care had been formed and informed stakeholders of the website: protecttraumacare.org. Ms. Welsh invited everyone to become members (individual and organizations welcomed). She stated that the upcoming session will be tough and have anticipated budget cuts. She advised that everyone must work together as a broad-based community to show support for trauma funding. Ms. Welsh advised that the coalition was reviewing the ACS document and noticed there were a couple of items that can be pursued as legislative initiatives. She stated that TETAF will be working on this issue. Ms. Welsh informed stakeholders that the first legislative watch list had been released and to be looking for regular updates on their website. She advised that stroke surveyors had completed training. Ms. Welsh stated that the TETAF Board was looking at the organization to ensure that it can grow, continues to have a solid foundation and can be maintained. They recently established new stroke and trauma survey fees. New officers have been elected as follows: Jorie Klein, Chair, and Jim Parisi, Treasurer. There will be a strategic planning session in early January.

Item 9: Discussion and possible actions items

The Council reviewed the following items: DSHS staff response to GETAC's pending motion regarding the official support of the red light camera program to serve as an injury prevention tool based on data provided by the Department of Public Safety; and DSHS staff response to GETAC's pending motion on a position statement to officially support the legislative efforts by the MADD organization for sobriety check points in Texas. Per discussion with DSHS legal department, it was noted that these action items would surpass GETAC's legal authority and GETAC would not be able to draft language in support of either of these items. After further deliberation, it was decided to revise the language in these items and to allow the chair to represent the council in a response to both due to time constrictions and the upcoming legislative session. A vote was not needed on this item.

Item 10: Public comment on committee, task force, and liaison summaries and proposals

Wanda Helgesen commented on the development of an ACS review recommendation workgroup. The potential workgroup should have two initial charges: to evaluate RAC components of the report and to review the ACS's recommendations related to RACs and provide recommendations as deemed appropriate. Ronald Stewart, MD, nominated Wanda Helgesen to chair this potential workgroup and she accepted the nomination.

Item 11: Action items

A motion was made by Jodie Harbert and seconded by Ryan Matthews to request that GETAC create a taskforce that would include the Education Committee Chair, EMS Committee Chair and Medical Directors Committee Chair; two members from each of these committees; and three or four members who are not committee members. The taskforce will be asked to answer two queries by July 2011: Does Texas EMS want to pursue mandatory accreditation for all paramedic education programs; and how will this goal be accomplished? The motion passed unanimously.

Item 12: General public comment

None.

Item 13: Review and list agenda items for next meeting

GETAC meeting dates for 2011 are as follows: February 17-19; May 11-13; and August 17-19 at the Austin Hilton Airport Hotel. November 18-20, in conjunction with the Texas EMS Conference in Austin, Texas.

Item 14: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.