



**RHPC Board Meeting**  
SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council  
1111 North Loop West, Suite 160  
Houston, Texas 77008  
January 4, 2019



**Call to Order**

Toni Carnie called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

**Approval of Minutes (C101)**

Ms. Carnie requested review and approval of the November minutes. Kris Parker made a motion to approve the minutes, Dena Daniel seconded the motion, and the coalition members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

**New Business**

• **SETRAC CEO Update**

Darrell Pile reported the SETRAC clinical committees will be reorganizing and electing three people to oversee each committee with two-year terms. These three co-chairs will be made up of a physician, EMS and hospital representative and, from these three, the committees will decide who will be their chair person.

He advised SETRAC is in very strong financial shape, and there are upcoming grant-funding opportunities available. There are concerns with the upcoming legislative session that the Drivers' Responsibility Program could be eliminated which creates revenue that funds the trauma system of care in Texas. If this funding source goes away, funding for RACs, trauma hospitals, and EMS agencies would be reduced. SETRAC is in a position to raise funds in other ways; however, SETRAC is hoping another Bill will be passed to keep funding flowing for trauma hospitals, EMS agencies, and RACs.

SETRAC will undergo a buildout this year which has been put on hold until the results of the legislative session are announced. The buildout includes a larger conference center with the capacity to hold 100 people for meetings and trainings.

He also reported SETRAC is aware of the mental health issues and those issues will probably be addressed this year. SETRAC will help to bring everyone together to talk through these issues.

• **Aircraft Accidents and Patient Accounting Procedures (C101)**

*Deferred to March*

• **Crisis Standards of Care Annex Draft (C101)**

Lori Upton distributed and reviewed the Crisis Standards of Care Annex draft and advised this is a required deliverable. After in-depth discussion, the coalition members agreed to start a Crisis Standards of Care workgroup to review the draft. This workgroup will provide updates at the RHPC meetings.

**Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities**

• **Radio Discussion (C203)**

Chris Collier reported SETRAC recently went through a radio interoperability gap analysis in the region and about 80 percent SETRAC issued radios are not operable or will not be operable on the radio system. Motorola

will not support radios at their “end of life”. Some of the facilities/agencies have updated to the new compatible radio that is operable on the radio system. The overall goal is to hopefully identify funds so SETRAC can make the bulk purchase of radios and distribute them; however, with decreasing grant funds this may not be a reality. SETRAC has not been approved and/or identified a funding stream to be able to purchase the radios. The best step for the facilities/agencies to take, if your facility/agency has one of the older Motorola XTS-2500 radios, is to contact their SETRAC coordinator for details and information on purchasing a newer digital radio.

SETRAC is looking for other solutions through applications and using the device that ties into the radio system. There will be policies and procedures that go along with this option, but it will allow the organizations, that cannot currently access the radio system, to participate in radio checks. Mr. Collier advised the coalition members this is not a secure solution yet and SETRAC is not saying to replace their radios with this option until it becomes a more secure solution. However, it will assist in keeping their facility/agency connected and communicating with CMOG outside the radio.

- **Long Term Care Update (C102)**

Hilal Salami reported John Wingate has completed the After Action Report for the Texas Soaker Exercise held on October 1<sup>st</sup> for the special populations group (nursing homes, home health, dialysis, assisted living, etc.). He shared some of the highlights of the report with the coalition members. SETRAC will share the report as soon as it is approved by the state. As these facilities are being inspected there are gaps being found in emergency management and the regional DADS office is referring them back to SETRAC. The facilities are then joining the coalition and SETRAC is helping them address their plans. If they are missing any exercises during this period, SETRAC is sharing the Texas Soaker scenario with them and giving them a crash course on how to conduct an in-facility tabletop and full-scale exercise, if needed. There are now fifty plus facilities that have joined the coalition out of 202 in the region. After contacting the Vice President of Emergency Management of Fresenius Kidney Center (FKC), SETRAC conducted a tabletop for the twenty-two facilities that missed the Texas Soaker exercise. He shared some of the highlights from the FKC tabletop, as well as their available assets. FKC will be conducting a full-scale exercise with SETRAC at the end of January 2019.

SETRAC has two EMResource trainings scheduled (January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>) for the LTC population as well as the dialysis personnel. Mr. Salami will be hosting the quarterly meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup> at the SETRAC office. One of the hot topics is Home Health and the new Community Paramedicine Program. He gave a brief overview of the program and stated the end goal is to help reduce hospital readmission rates within thirty days of discharge.

There are four exercises scheduled for the special population group in 2019; two tabletops and two full-scales. There will also be focus on active shooter training in 2019.

- **Training and Exercise Update**

Trameka Jewett distributed and reviewed the upcoming training and exercise schedule (document filed with the minutes). She announced there will be three exercises conducted this year, the RHPC Functional Exercise (May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019), Surge Tool Functional Exercise (TBD – must be completed by June 2019), and the Medical Countermeasures Full Scale Exercise (October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>).

Anyone interested in serving on the annual regional exercise planning committee should contact Mr. Wingate at [john.wingate@setrac.org](mailto:john.wingate@setrac.org) or Trameka Jewett at [trameka.jewett@setrac.org](mailto:trameka.jewett@setrac.org).

## **Sub-Committee Updates**

### **RHPC Award of Excellence Committee (C104)**

Ms. Carnie announced Angela Smith (Texas Children’s Hospital) is the co-chair for this committee. The committee is requesting a representative from the LTC group to assist in developing the award criteria. She encouraged the coalition

members to keep tracking their requirements, participation and accomplishments to have everything ready to submit their 2019 application.

### **Symposium Planning (C104)**

The first planning meeting is scheduled for the end of January for the 2019 symposium (October 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>) at the Galveston Convention Center. This year a “refer a friend” incentive will be available (\$30 off registration) to the person(s) referring someone who has never attended the RHPC symposium. Anyone with feedback or suggestions for 2019 topics and/or speakers/presentations can contact Lori Upton at [lori.upton@setrac.org](mailto:lori.upton@setrac.org) or Lisa Spivey at [lisa.spivey@setrac.org](mailto:lisa.spivey@setrac.org).

### **EMTF Update (C306)**

Mark Sastre reported the Medical Unit Rehab Crew (MUR-C Team) was deployed to multiple fires across Texas in 2018. In October 2018, Chief Kidd held the initial TDEM/TIFMAS/TFS/EMTF meeting to discuss EMTF becoming the State's Medical Unit component for wildfires. A survey is currently available at “survey.setrac.org” to assist in assessing current regional EMS wildland fire capabilities.

Fort Bend County’s AMBUS is almost completed (MPV-603) and should be in-service by spring, and Acadian’s AMBUS (Beaumont) should be completed and in-service by the summer.

Initial training for the Infectious Disease Response Unit (IDRU) was held in mid-December 2018. Another training session for a hospital augmentation team will be held in spring 2019 at SETRAC. The training will consist of high consequence infectious disease, proper PPE (donning and doffing) and situation simulation. Attendees should consist of RNs, doctors, and paramedics.

On January 31st, a small group will create a standardized load plan for the MMU supply/equipment cache.

100 TDEM iPhones have been assigned to the EMTF6 region for deployment upon state mission activations. The phones are equipped with the asset track, ETN, and Motorola WAVE app.

### **Corridor Updates (C101)**

1. **Downtown Corridor** – Amy Lopez reported the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled due to weather. The next meeting is scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup> at MD Anderson.
2. **South Corridor** – Lisa Spivey reported today’s RHPC meeting is taking the place of their January South Corridor meeting.
3. **East Corridor** – Vicki Tarnow reported John Wingate conducted decon training at her facility (Medical Center Southeast Texas). The next East Corridor meeting is scheduled for January 18 at Chambers County
4. **West Corridor** – Dena Daniel reported their last meeting was held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at Houston Methodist The Woodlands where they discussed hot topics for 2019. The next West Corridor meeting is scheduled for January 11 at HCA West Houston where Ms. Jewett is conducting EMTrack training overview. Ms. Daniels stated one of this year’s goals, discussed in their corridor leadership meeting, is to try and get more engagement from those facilities that are currently not participating and to bring in different agencies that have never attended the meetings to increase the numbers.
5. **North Corridor** – Ms. Spivey reported the next North Corridor is scheduled for February 13 at CHI St. Luke’s Livingston.

### **Partner Updates (C101)**

#### **Public Health**

Bobbiejean Garcia (DSHS) reminded the coalition members to make sure their Emergency Rooms stay on top of possible Ebola symptoms.

### **Harris County OEM**

Mark Sloan reported Harris County has a new Director of Homeland Security and Risk Management, County Judge Lina Hidalgo. She was sworn in at the Harris County OEM on January 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:01 am. They are in the process of reviewing hurricane plans. Rain is a hot topic with two to three inches of rain causing anxiety on the roadways. There is the possibility of another 30 to 45 days of rain. There is also concern, should we get an Artic blast, we can be susceptible through the mid-February timeframe for potential ice and winter weather.

Disaster recovery continues from Hurricane Harvey and will be ongoing. There is a lot of mitigation and money should be coming in to help our partners. Hopefully this will be implemented soon as well as the flood mitigation funds from the bond. There will be a lot of work on the creeks, streams and bayous with some already ongoing. Flood control is working to ensure the construction do not cause additional problems as we get into Spring.

### **Texas City OEM**

Orlando Munoz reported Galveston County has a new Emergency Manager, Chris Boyce. Texas City is beginning to work on their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Nursing Home Summit. Our summit triggered the spinoff of quarterly lunches with the nursing homes/dialysis centers to begin recognizing their needs and work with SETRAC to resolve issues now instead of mid-hurricane season. Texas City is getting an IAP tool that will incorporate, not only medical, but nursing homes to start closing that gap and helping them with those resources.

### ***UASI/RCPI***

No update.

### **EMS**

Mr. Collier reported the Regional Medical Incident Plan is currently being updated. The plan should be finalized by the end of February. He also reminded the coalition members, with upcoming cold weather forecasted, to review their plans for helipads to ensure winter weather procedures as are in place.

### **FBI**

Joel Holmes, FBI Special Agent, reported the Bureau was scheduled to host a Joint Criminal Epidemiology Workshop on January 15-16, 2019 at Rice University Research Library. As of today, it is still scheduled however, they are awaiting an email from headquarters on January 10<sup>th</sup> to confirm or cancel.

### **Open Discussion/Other**

No other business discussed.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business or discussion, Ms. Carnie adjourned the meeting at 3:04 pm. The next RHPC meeting is scheduled for Friday (March 1, 2019) at the SETRAC office.

### **Attendees**

Warren Porter, Tom Munoz, Toni Carnie, Hilal Salami, Dena Daniel, Paul Cross, Elgie Cleaver, Scott Barnwell, Kevin Schulz, William Banks, John Fleming, Gary Cotton, Chuck Russell, Kris Parker, Lisa Spivey, Amy Lopez, Robert Stoll, Jim Bunch, Liz Brewer, Cheryl Hankinson, Mark Sloan, John Franks, Lesa Cordova, Erik Zugner, Bobbiejean Garcia, Danny Shine, Fritg Kueble, Scott Barry, Lori Upton, Mac McClendon, Mark Sastre, Joel Holmes, Mike Mastragelo, Candice Ellington, Aaron Velasquez, Harold Sias, Justin Wells, Ike

Akanu, Roxie Ward, Chris Collier, Trameka Jewett, Juan Carmona, Kent Cavender, Mario Garcia, Mary Nicholson, David Olinger, Cynthia Quinones, Tina Rose, Tanner Moore, Vicki Tarnow, Reginald Wasson, Thomas Wilbur, Dawn Wood