



RHPC Board Meeting
SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council
1111 North Loop West
Houston, Texas 77008
Conference Center
March 6, 2020



Call to Order

Dr. Kevin Schulz called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

RHPC Board Roll Call

Dr. Schulz called roll for the Board members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes (C101)

Dr. Schulz requested review and approval of the January minutes. Aaron Freedkin (Texas Children's Hospital) made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Jim Bunch (HCA Houston Healthcare North Cypress) seconded the motion, and the coalition members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

New Business

• **Coronavirus**

Dr. Schulz lead a discussion on the developing COVID-19 issues. There was in-depth discussion regarding screening processes, triggers, EMS transport criteria, and PPE. Lisa Spivey reported another PPE survey is coming out from the state and stated it is very important everyone take the time to complete and return it to SETRAC as soon as possible.

• **Clean Space Respirator Presentation**

Carl Modrick (Director of Sales, Healthcare/Clean Space Respirators) gave a presentation and demonstration of the Clean Space respirators to the coalition members.

Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities

• **Long Term Care Update (C102)**

Kat Samuel reported SETRAC continues to engage with Long Term Care (LTC) facilities and increase stakeholder participation. The number of LTC facilities continues to grow every day. EMResource education is offered onsite and online and they are also included in SETRAC exercises. Ms. Samuel and Hilal Salami will be meeting with dialysis center leadership to discuss their plans for COVID-19 next week. Boot camps are being planned with one scheduled for June in Texas City. A Nursing Home Infection Control Preventionist training in collaboration with the City of Houston Epidemiology is scheduled for April 2nd.

• **Training and Exercise Update (C104)**

John Wingate distributed the training schedule (*document filed in minutes binder*) and highlighted the COVID-19 to be held in each corridor and the two HCEID PPE trainings scheduled for March 12th from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm -4:00 pm in the SETRAC conference center. The regional exercise "Operation Thunderstruck" is scheduled for April 21st and 22nd.

Adam Lee announced a WebEOC/EMResource training is scheduled for March 17th from 8:30 to 11:30 am in the SETRAC conference center. Registration for these classes may be full, but he recommends adding your name to the waitlist. Ms. Upton added these classes will be videoed and added to Brain Shark on the SETRAC website for “just intime” training for those that are unable to attend in person.

At the request of several LTC facilities and EMS agencies, SETRAC is also working to schedule a date for fit testing in the SETRAC conference center.

- **EMTF Update (C104)**

Chris Collier reported there are several trainings going on throughout the region right now: MIST (one to be held in the Houston area) and Ambulance Staging Management Team in the Austin/Dallas areas. EMTF sent some people (trained with the RETA Team) to San Antonio to assist augment the cruise shipment situation.

Sub-Committee Updates

RHPC Award of Excellence Committee (C101)

Tonie Carnie reported the revised packet should be ready soon.

Symposium Planning (C101)

Lori Upton reported the symposium registration is scheduled to open on Monday morning (March 9th). There has been a change to the regular beach party normally held as a Thursday night event; it is now going to be held at the Pleasure Pier from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. The pier will be open to the public from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and then will remain open from 8:00 to 10:00 pm for the symposium attendees only. A Pleasure Pier pass is included in the registration price (also for Wednesday and Thursday one-day tickets). Food is included with two drink tickets per person, and cash bar after tickets are used. If you would like to purchase Pleasure Pier pass for guests/family to attend the event, those tickets can be purchased separately on the registration site or onsite at the symposium through Thursday (10/15) at 5:00 pm.

Clinical Advisory Committee (C101)

The Clinical Advisory Committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 9am. The next meeting is on 3/19/2020. The meeting topic was going to initiate Regional Burn Surge Planning; however, recent suggestion from ASPR is leading us to transition this committee to focus on a Regional Highly Contagious Infectious Disease (HCID) Plan for 2020. Please contact Tina.Rose@HoustonTx.gov to be included in the email distribution for this committee.

PEMS TTX - The Regional PEMS TTX was conducted on February 6, 2020 with 88 attendees. Participant feedback was received and consolidated into a summary report attached to this email. The Regional PEMS After-Action Report and Improvement Plan meeting was conducted on March 5, 2020. This document needs input and is open for comment/edits to the capability summaries and areas for improvement observations/analysis on pages 9-21. All suggested revisions are due to Tina.Rose@HoustonTx.gov by COB March 19, 2020. This is a hard deadline so the final AAR/IP can be completed and submitted to the state on time for grant credit. The 03/04/2020 meeting agenda/notes are attached for reference.

PEMS Plan - The Regional PEMS Plan was finalized with some suggested changes by the Clinical Advisory Committee on Thursday, February 20th. There is a clinical team meeting on March 16th to vet the graphics and complete some table/chart changes in the plan (found on Appendix pages B1-B2 & C6-C7). The Perinatal Workgroup is also meeting on March 18th to discuss the PEMS plan and the PEMS TTX AAR. Once they submit the final change suggestions to the Appendix graphics, then the plan will be ready for review and final approval by RHPC and likely be released to the region in April or May.

Corridor Updates (C101)

1. **Downtown Corridor** – Ray Higgins reported the corridor members met on February 7th with most of the meeting dedicated to the tabletop exercise. The next Downtown Corridor meeting is scheduled for April 3rd.

2. **South Corridor** – The South Corridor tabletop exercise is scheduled for next Friday (March 13th) at HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake.
3. **East Corridor** – Vicki Tarnow reported they conducted their Exercise Design and Development training on March 4th and their Regional COVID-19 Tabletop Exercise is scheduled for March 20th.
4. **North Corridor** – Gary Litton reported the North Corridor members conducted their tabletop exercise on February 12th. The next North Corridor meeting is scheduled for April 8th at the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) building.
5. **West Corridor** – Ms. Carnie reported the West Corridor members conducted their tabletop exercise on January 31st. The next West Corridor meeting is scheduled for March 27th at CHI St. Luke's Health - The Woodlands Hospital.

Partner Updates (C101)

Public Health

Houston Health Department

John Fleming reported there are currently three confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Harris County, one confirmed in Fort Bend County and two confirmed cases in the City of Houston. All five cases are travel-associated, and all three health departments are actively working the investigations. The Houston Health Department lab is up-and-running and able to run testing on 30 people a day, and they are looking to build this number up with ongoing partnership with the hospitals. The turnaround time for results is approximately four hours, once the set criteria (per State of Texas guidelines) is met and depending on backlog. The travel advisory for Italy and South Korea have been upgraded from Level 2 to Level 3.

Bobbiejean Garcia added there is still a small gap of people they are not aware of that have been exposed to the virus and then present at a facility stating their friend was the one recently diagnosed. There are also healthcare workers that have been quarantined assisting in other states and then coming back to their home states and health departments are not getting the names of those employees. She reminded the coalition members to contact their local health department if they have a patient with the virus symptoms.

OEM

Texas City OEM

Tom Munoz reported they are taking a proactive approach and have started conversations with the Coast Guard (Port of Texas City) to begin monitoring those areas, along with getting procedures out to the police and fire departments in the event something does come in. They will be reaching out to their healthcare district as well.

Texas Division of Emergency Management

Jenniffer Hawes advised the coalition members there is no need to enter a STAR request for PPE as they do not have any and would not be able to fill the request.

City of Houston OEM

Chris Perkins reported the City of Houston has established a COVID-19 task force made up of approximately 45-70 experts throughout city departments, as well as four subcommittees: PPE, Human Relations, Field & Transportation, and Public Affairs.

Chambers County OEM

Roy Turner reported they have met with the school superintendents regarding post-spring break travel issues. They are also staying in touch with their hospital and EMS agencies.

EMS

Mr. Collier reported SETRAC has pushed out a PPE survey for the EMS providers to complete to find out what they have on-hand, what they have ordered and where their shortfalls might be to determine where we stand in the region. As things progress, there are things that need to be managed such as 911 calls for testing, public education, etc.

Houston Fire Department

Kari McLaughlin (Infection Control) advised the coalition members the HFD guidelines and procedures are available. Anyone that would like this information can contact Ms. McLaughlin at kara.mclaughlin@houstontx.gov.

Open Discussion/Other

- EMS Quarterly Door Code – Dr. Schulz reminded the coalition members of ongoing discussions regarding a hospital ED code for EMS use. This is important to the safety and security of the hospitals while also assisting EMS with patient transport.
- RHPC EMS Representative – All nominations for a new RHPC EMS Representative should be sent to Ms. Upton at lori.upton@setrac.org.
- Houston Main Water Break – Dr. Schulz, on behalf of the Houston Fire Department, SETRAC and RHPC, thanked the coalition members for their hard work getting through the main water break event last week. He stated: “We got through that one and we’ll get through this one too.”

Adjourn

There being no further business or discussion, Dr. Schulz adjourned the meeting at 3:20 pm. The next RHPC meeting is scheduled for Friday (May 1st) from 1:30 to 3:30 pm in the SETRAC conference center.

Attendees

James Sheffield, Gloria Kologinczak, Darrell Fales, Kevin Schulz, Roy Turner, Fidel Calvillo, Warren Porter, Aaron Freedkin, Robert Stoll, Lisa Spivey, Lori Upton, Chris Stasney, James Arango, Ricky Trice, Jared Buck, Jim Bunch, Angelina Fontenot, Kat Samuel, Guy Cayo, Bert Sausse, Lesa Cordova, Kara McLaughlin, Rachel Stepp, Ronda Abbe, Kevin Hunt, Bobbiejean Garcia, Randy Babbitt, Aaron Velasquez, Michael Silvertre, Richard Arocho, Caitlin Cotter, Jody Randall, Sandra Anaz, Devina Patel, Gary Litton, Roxie Ward, Juan Carmona, Toni Carnie, Jennifer Cole, Eunice Davis, Harold Engle, Tracy Lane Ezell, John Franks, Jessica Graham, Tamela Hall, Sherrie Hardin, Christina Hatcher, Ray Higgins, Melissa Hirn, Superior Johnson, Charles Kuebler, Jeremy Lamb, Evelyn Locklin, Elizabeth Rothrock, Jessica Sheppard, Vicki Tarnow, Dawn Wood



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NAME	FACILITY	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Conference Call:		
Juan Carmona	Cypress Creek Hospital	Juan.carmona@uhsinc.com
Toni Carnie	HCA Houston Healthcare Tomball	toni.carnie@hcahealthcare.com
Jennifer Cole	Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital	jennifer.cole@memorialhermann.org
Eunice Davis	The Harris Center for Mental Health & IDD	eunice.davis@theharriscenter.org
Harold Engle	First Texas Hospital Cy-Fair	harold.Engle@txhosp.com
Tracy Lane Ezell	Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital	tlezell@houstonmethodist.org
John Franks	Houston Methodist Willowbrook Hospital	jrfranks@houstonmethodist.org
Jessica Graham	Mid Jefferson Extended Care Hospital	jegraham@midjeffextendedcare.com
Tamela Hall	Houston Physician's Hospital	thall@hphtx.org
Sherrie Hardin	El Campo Memorial Hospital	shardin@ecmh.org
Christina Hatcher	HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake	Christina.hatcher@hcahealthcare.org
Ray Higgins	Harris Health System	ray.higgins@harrishealth.org
Melissa Hirn	HCA Houston Healthcare Mainland	Melissa.hirn@hcahealthcare.org
Superion Johnson	CHI St. Luke's	sjohnson9@stlukeshhealth.org
Charles Kuebler	UTMB	chkueble@utmb.edu
Jeremy Lamb	Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital	jlamb4@houstonmethodist.org
Evelyn Locklin	The Harris Center	evelyn.locklin@theharriscenter.org
Elizabeth Rothrock	St. Joseph Medical Center	elizabeth.rothrock@steward.org
Jessica Sheppard	Shriner's	jsheppard@shrinenet.org
Vicki Tarnow	The	Vicki.tarnow@steward.org
Dawn Wood	Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital	dxwood@houstonmethodist.org