



East Corridor Minutes

September 18, 2020

Go To Meeting



A. Call to Order

Vicki Tarnow called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

B. Minutes (C101)

Ms. Tarnow requested review and approval of the July minutes. Ron Nichols (Chambers County EMS) made a motion to approve the minutes, Kevin Hunt (Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas Beaumont Hospital) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

C. COVID-19 Response Update

Adam Lee gave an update on the new CMS/HHS data reporting requirements. Facility types listed in Governor Abbott's Executive Order are required to report all 136 questions daily. If one question is missed on any given day, the facility will receive a letter from CMS, stating they are not compliant. The second time this occurs, the facility will receive a letter and be placed on a work plan to improve reporting with HHS.

D. HPP Capabilities Review

John Wingate gave a brief overview of the four HPP capabilities as follows:

- Foundation for Healthcare and Medical Readiness
- Healthcare and Medical Response Coordination
- Continuity of Healthcare Service Delivery
- Medical Surge

E. EMTF Update

Jon Clingaman reported the last five months has been one of the busiest EMTF activations since the concept of the program with COVID testing sites, nursing home/assisted living testing sites, and ambulance strike teams/MMU personnel have been sent across the state from San Antonio to Laredo and down into the Rio Grande Valley.

Most recently EMTF setup a Type-3 Ambulance Staging Team at Ford Park in response to Hurricane Laura and the need for evacuation in the Southeast Texas area. There were over 1,000 evacuations within the nursing home community in the area, ten ambulances were activated, and approximately 100 ambulances including federal assets were deployed on the contract with our AMR partners.

Mr. Clingaman shared with the corridor members that today is his last day with SETRAC. He has taken a position with TDEM as a District Coordinator. Anyone needing assistance with the EMTF program can contact Chris Collier at chris.collier@setrac.org.

F. Training and Exercise Update

Mr. Wingate reported onsite training has started again including PPE training (donning and doffing). Due to the new CMS reporting requirements, some facilities may need more staff with access to EMResource, therefore an “as needed” class is being offered. Facilities wanting to setup a training class can email exercise@setrac.org.

G. Special Populations Update (C101)

Mr. Lee reported the new HHS requirements for reporting facilities receiving Medicare and Medicaid state they must now report all 136 questions daily. If one question is missed on any given day, they will receive a letter from CMS, stating they are not compliant. The second time this occurs, they will receive a letter and be placed on a work plan to improve reporting with HHS.

H. Other Business

Mr. Nichols advised the corridor members he has found a meeting place (with plenty of space for social distancing) for the group when everyone is ready to meet in person. Ms. Tarnow stated “Go To Meeting” seems to be the best meeting avenue during the COVID response; however, should corridor members have any recommendations, please feel free to contact her at vicki.tarnow@steward.org.

Jeremy Way (Emergency Coordinator TSA R) introduced himself to the new corridor members on the Go To Meeting. He advised that anyone having questions, concerns or needs could contact him at jeremy.way@setrac.org.

Adjournment

There being no further business or discussion, Ms. Tarnow adjourned the meeting at 1:33 pm. The next East Corridor meeting is scheduled for Friday (December 11th) from 1:00 to 3:00 pm via Go To Meeting.

ATTENDEES: Vicki Tarnow, Adella Tatom, Darrell Fales, Darlene Farek, Kevin Hunt, Jessica Graham, Kacey Sammons, Mary Ann Hajovsky, Alyson Nickum-Smith, Ronald Nichols, Thomas Wilbur, Jeremy Way, Adam Lee, Hilal Salami, John Wingate, Jon Clingaman, Roxie Ward