



**Downtown Corridor Minutes**  
SETRAC  
April 9, 2021  
Go To Meeting



**A. Call to Order**

Ray Higgins called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

**B. Approval of Minutes (C101)**

Mr. Higgins requested review and approval of the February minutes. Aaron Freedkin (Texas Children's Hospital) made a motion to approve the minutes, Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte (Harris County Psychiatric Hospital) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

**C. New Business**

- **Winter Weather Response**

Fidel Calvillo reviewed the strengths and areas of improvement identified in the Regional After Action meeting with the corridor members. One of the important areas of improvement was how to continue to provide support for O2 to assist with individuals staying home and not flood the hospitals for O2. Another area of improvement was maintaining water to the facilities to enable them to continue their operations.

Discussion ensued regarding issues experienced by the corridor members as follows:

1. Dialysis
2. Influx of psychiatric patients
3. Discharging patients (nowhere for patients to go)
4. Breakdown in communications with SETRAC and outside agencies
5. Power blackout - confirm with ERCOT facilities are listed as a hospital

John Wingate reported the Winter Weather After Action Report is now available on the SETRAC website.

- **COVID-19 Response Update**

Mr. Calvillo reported SETRAC will continue with the reports on EMResource as required by Health and Human Services. The numbers are being reviewed carefully and the accuracy of the numbers is very important. COVID numbers are steadily decreasing. A STAR should only be for resources needed related to COVID, and this is after the inability to obtain needed resources from vendors.

Mr. Calvillo announced that SETRAC's State Mission Assignment (SMA) ends on April 30<sup>th</sup>. SETRAC is not sure what this means for PPE, so he encouraged the corridor members to continue picking up their PPE (if your facility is registered and assigned) and not turn anything down since there is no definite confirmation the demobilization of PPE at this time. The state has set an end

date of May 15<sup>th</sup> for agency staffing. Lori Upton is watching the COVID census numbers and based on those numbers the reduction in staff is occurring weekly.

- **Coming Back Live?**

After discussion, the corridor members agreed it would be best to send out a survey to determine if in-person meetings should be scheduled going forward. SETRAC will create a survey and forward it to the corridor members to determine the consensus on in-person meetings. The Downtown Corridor June meeting will continue as a virtual meeting and the survey will be discussed at that time.

#### **D. HPP Capabilities Review**

The coalition has met and continues to meet the capabilities during the COVID response with ongoing med surge planning, training, and exercises, etc.

The Hazardous Vulnerability Assessments (HVA) were due on February 10<sup>th</sup>. SETRAC is continuing to collect the HVAs; therefore, any facilities that have not submitted their HVA should forward it to Ms. Spivey at [lisa.spivey@setrac.org](mailto:lisa.spivey@setrac.org) as soon as possible as they are due to the state the first of May.

#### **F. EMTF Update**

Mikal Orr reported the Critical Care ASTs Demobilized - Del Rio (1/3–2/12) Chambers County EMS and Laredo (12/6–2/25) Windsor EMS.

AST Activation for 911 Support & Critical Care Transfers - Nacogdoches (2/19–2/24) Lake Jackson EMS, Chambers Co. EMS, Windsor EMS, & Atascocita.

Winter Weather AMBUS Missions - AMBUSs evacuated or transported 68 total patients across 5 separate missions (2/14-2/21). 1 mission was transport of 11 patients for emergency dialysis.

FED Ambulance Strike Team/2 MIST - Assigned 15 Ambulance Strike Team to assist in South/South East Texas (2/21–2/24). Also assigned 2 MIST personnel from Corpus Christi for leadership and support of the FED AST.

Potential Military Plane Crash - MPV 601 & 604 responded to a potential military plane crash in the Big Thicket forest near Woodville. Also responding were Gary Litton & Mikal Orr. All units disregarded – no incident.

Vaccine Support - EMTF Coordinator is working with TDEM, TMD, & TIFMAS to coordinate vaccine administration for the Governor’s “Save Our Seniors” mission. EMTF is also allocated 2 MIST personnel for the “Save Our Seniors”; however, there has not been a need or request for them.

Upcoming Training - EMTF will resume training classes later this summer and into the fall. Additional updates will follow with specifics for the classes that are being offered to EMTF members.

#### **G. Training and Exercise**

John Wingate reported the Winter Weather Regional AAR has been completed and submitted to the state for approval. All completed After Action Reports (AAR's) have been uploaded to the SETRAC website. All training remains on an as-needed-bases. To get more information or set up a training email [exercise@setrac.org](mailto:exercise@setrac.org).

SETRAC is now an approved provider of nursing Continuing Education. WebEOC/EMResource/EMTrack training can be scheduled through the SETRAC website. The next class is 4/20/21 at 0900. Registration will begin within the next few days for the 2021 Hurricane TTX series for the second week of May. Dates and locations will be announced at that time.

## **H. Special Populations Update**

Hilal Salami reported the group contact by SETRAC continues to rise and we are working on bringing new facilities and agencies as coalition stakeholders and educating them on coalition preparedness and response.

There is a marked decrease in COVID cases and outbreaks in Long Term Care Facilities, home health resident population and dialysis centers.

PPE distribution continues monthly for both the LTC group (790 facilities and dialysis clinics currently on rotation) and the Home Care group (825 agencies currently on rotation). PPE distribution for all other group moved to once a month starting April, with Warehouse hours pickup adjustment – Monday to Friday 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm.

Almost all LTC Facility based organizations have completed vaccine distribution for their staff and residents. Home Health and care agency staff vaccine allotment is underway mostly through local health departments.

Group calls continue monthly, where among other items, a walkthrough training of the HVA template and individual After Action Report Template were completed. More training on planning and EMResource will be released soon.

Working on LTC participation for the symposium in terms of speakers and CE education through the NAB for administrators (nursing staff can also get nursing CE through establish SETRAC CE nursing program).

The group will be included on the upcoming TTX exercises. Working with dialysis group on regional planning and education, more information will be shared during the upcoming corridor meetings when in more advanced stage.

The 2021 EMResource training schedule for the group will be released next week.

## **I. Partner Updates**

### **City of Houston Public Health**

John Fleming gave a brief update of their winter storm response. Laboratories did stand up and conduct testing for a few facilities which were all negative (approximately 100 samples). OEM took on the major role of hosting the warming center at the GRB with the Health Department supporting as well. There were approximately 800 people sought shelter at the GRB spending most the week there. There were lots of lessons learned and they are currently working on implementing improvements plans which will hopefully be in place by this hurricane season.

Mr. Fleming reported COVID test and demand has dropped significantly. They are starting to see consolidation start to happen where they will probably end up closing some testing sites. This is a slow progression, but they may see the first convert from testing to vaccinations in the next week or so. Some of their partners are getting out of the testing role as well. One of the community health centers is now totally focusing on vaccinations. Now that the vaccinations are being offered to mostly everyone, they are looking towards getting back to their more at-risk safety role.

This week is National Public Health week, and it marks the fifty-sixth consecutive week of a national public emergency.

## **J. Open Discussion/Other Business**

### **Texas Children's Hospital**

Aaron Freedkin introduced two new employees to the Texas Children's Team: Tina Rose (West Campus) and Libby Maron (The Woodlands Campus).

### **2019 RHPC Preparedness Coalition Symposium**

The 2019 RHPC Preparedness Symposium is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> at the San Luis Convention Center in Galveston. Call for Presentations is open and SETRAC welcomes any applications and/or suggestions for speakers at this year's event.

### **Downtown Corridor Radio Check**

Mr. Higgins reminded the corridor members of the monthly radio check held on the first Friday of every month at 9:00 am on Zone 78/CMOC Channel 2. He encouraged everyone to participate to ensure communications with CMOC.

### **Regional Plans Training**

Austen McMillin reported the Regional Plans Training (formerly conducted by Tina Rose) is still going on quarterly with the next training scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Higgins requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 pm. The next Downtown Corridor meeting is scheduled for Friday (June 4<sup>th</sup>).

**ATTENDEES:** Ray Higgins, Aaron Freedkin, Randy Babbitt, Eugene Barlow, Jonathan Castaneda, Stephen Collazo, Angela Cone, Richard Dunn, Rae Marie Evanchof, John Fleming, Robert Jackson, Superior Johnson, LaShonda Giddins, Evelyn Locklin, Amy Lopez, Amber Johnson, Dorothy Mehrens, Michael Olivier, Jesse Pedroza, Michelle Rodriguez, Tina Rose, Elizabeth Rothrock, April Sanders, Danny Shine, Austen McMillin, Libby Mehrens, Khalliah Thomas, Lashanda Hampton, Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte, Adam Lee, John Wingate, Robert Houston, Devina Patel, Mikal Orr, Allison Reese, Kyle Hamilton, Aaron Velasquez, Hilal Salami, Fidel Calvillo