



North Corridor Minutes
April 14, 2021
CHI St. Luke's - Memorial Lufkin
1201 West Frank Avenue
Lufkin, TX 75904



Call to Order

Michael Rankin called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.

Minutes (C101)

Mr. Rankin requested review of the February minutes. Olen Bean (Jasper/Newton/Sabine Emergency Management) made a motion to approve the minutes, Stephen Bennett (Woodland Heights Medical Center) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

New Business

• **Winter Weather Response**

Discussion ensued regarding issues experienced during the winter weather storm by the corridor members as follows:

Dialysis/Potable Water - Dialysis patients are a priority in any disaster, during the winter weather event coordination between local fire departments, SETRAC and dialysis centers allowed for the centers to remain open by utilizing the emergency water intake valve. As a coalition we want to capture the process and solidify it as a best practice moving forward. Mobile Dialysis (Mikal Orr gave a brief operations overview of the mobile infusion center SETRAC is purchasing.)

Multiagency Coordination - Local coordination occurred on many levels during this event. Mr. Rankin highlighted the importance of building local relationships before disaster day. He also highlighted the need for local MOU's.

Water Outage - Discussion about the amount of water utilized for Lab procedures. Future planning, water storage tanks for hospitals (laundry, lab operations, etc.).

O2 refill station - Discussion about the O2 refill station located at CHI Lufkin. The need was presented to certify more people to be able to refill the bottles. A group plans to meet to look at the process and improve the utilization during a disaster.

• **COVID-19 Response Update**

Gary Litton reported the COVID numbers in the region continue to drop. The state is beginning to slowly demobilize hospital staffing, so hospitals need to assess their staff and plan for the decreasing of contracted COVID staff. Mr. Litton gave an update on the medical equipment that has been assigned through the STAR process by the state. The state wants the HPP RAC's to collect the equipment as it is demobilized. PPE distribution is ongoing, all providers are moved to a once-a-month push-packs.

• **2021 RHPC Preparedness Coalition Symposium**

Mr. Rankin advised the RHPC Preparedness Coalition Symposium is scheduled for October 20th-22nd at the San Luis Convention Center in Galveston. The "Call for Presentations" has gone out and any suggestions/recommendations for speakers are

welcomed. Vendors/exhibit hall recommendations are also welcomed. The Award of Excellence application can be found on the SETRAC website to complete and submit.

HPP Capabilities Review (C101)

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

EMTF Update (C306)

Mr. 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.

Training and Exercise (C104)

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.

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.

Special Population Update (C101)

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.

Partner Updates (C101)

No partner updates were submitted. Anyone wanting their partner update included in the minutes should send their update via email to Roxie Ward at roxie.ward@setrac.org. This will ensure updates are documented accurately in the minutes.

Open Discussion/Other Business

There was discussion regarding in-person meetings and the corridor members agreed they were ready for in-person meetings with a conference call option for those that cannot attend in-person.

Meeting locations discussions:

- June 9th - Mr. Litton is going to discuss with Polk County for location
- August 11th - CHI Lufkin
- October- 2021 RHPC Symposium
- December 8th- Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital

Adjournment

There being no further business or discussion, Mr. Rankin adjourned the meeting at 3:24 pm. The next North Corridor meeting is scheduled for Wednesday (June 9th).

ATTENDEES: Mike Rankin, Thomas Brown, Jason Minchew, William Handy, Olen Bean, Jackie Laird, Johnnie Perry, Mark Burgess, Scott Christopher, Mikal Orr, John Wingate, Stephen Bennett, Sarah Adams, Curt Joiner, Paul Johnson, Johnny Luman, Darlene Williams, Tara Triana, Mark Tschudy, Gary Litton, Adam Lee, Hilal Salami, Fidel Calvillo