



## North Corridor Minutes

August 11, 2021

Zoom Meeting



### Call to Order

Michael Rankin called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

### Minutes (C101)

Mr. Rankin requested review of the June minutes. Stephen Bennett (Woodland Heights Medical Center) made a motion to approve the minutes, Jon Clingaman (Texas Division of Emergency Management) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

### New Business

- **COVID Surge Response**

Gary Litton gave an update on the data for the third wave of COVID. He reported the TSA-H numbers are at the same capacity as back in January. SETRAC continues to work with DSHS and our state partners to get staffing pushed out. Governor Abbott has approved the funding and DSHS is working to confirm a contract and get things in place to start getting nurses to those facilities that need them.

Sharan Shaw (Angelina County & Cities Health District) gave a public health update advising the corridor members of the current numbers and current vaccination status in the Angelina area.

SETRAC has opened a Regional Patient Transfer Center (281-674-7395) to assist with patient transfers. He reminded the corridor members to follow their internal processes first and make as many calls as possible before contacting the transfer center.

Mr. Litton has a PPE cache located Lufkin should anyone in the North Corridor have any PPE needs during this surge. The State is assisting with the durable medical equipment (vents, bipaps, air hose machines, etc.) and they can be accessed through the STAR process.

Mr. Litton requested the facilities continue to be diligent when separating their COVID reporting according to bed surge or ICU. He reviewed the WebEOC and EMResource system security and data entry processes. He announced all in-person meetings are being cancelled during this surge.

Jon Clingaman (TDEM) reported the Vaccination Call Center (844-90-TEXAS) is still open and the National Guard will come out to businesses, churches, or any location where there can be more than five people or more to congregate to receive the vaccine. This also includes an option for home-bound patients (844-90-TEXAS, Opt. 1). The State also has the military teams available for the ISD Teacher Meet-and-Greets. Mr. Clingaman is also working with Mr. Litton staffing and equipment requests and to ensure STARS are pushed up quickly. There are some funding options with the American Rescue Plan Act funds are being distributed to municipalities at the city and/or county level. Should anyone have any questions regarding how to work with their jurisdictions and/or how those funds can be transferred from a city or municipality to a private entity, please contact Mr. Clingaman at [jon.clingaman@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:jon.clingaman@tdem.texas.gov).

- **Mobile Infusion Unit**  
*Deferred*
- **Senate Bill 968 STEAR**  
*Deferred*

### **HPP Capabilities Review** (C101)

- **PPE Reminder**  
Mr. Litton reiterated that he has a PPE cache located Lufkin should anyone have any PPE needs during this surge. The State is assisting with the durable medical equipment (vents, bipaps, air hose machines, etc.) and they can be accessed through the STAR process.

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

Mikal Orr reported on the following EMTF

#### **Training:**

- 1 Team member sent to MEDL course May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>
- 6 team members sent to ASMT course June 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>
- Mr. Orr and Chris Collier attended the 2020 AAR June 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>
- IDRU training/exercise with UTMB Galveston & Acadian EMS July 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### **Activations:**

- EMTF-6 is staffing 2 ambulances and 4 crew for a border support mission in Dilley, Texas. The SMA is for 30 days.
- Splashtown Hazmat Response – MPV 601, 603, 604 15 patients transported to MH TMC
- LyonellBassell Hazmat – MPV 601 & 603 14 patients transported to Methodist Clearlake

#### **Meetings:**

- AMBUS operators meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Training and Exercise** (C104)

Adam Lee reported on the following trainings and exercises:

- There are two outstanding After-Action Reports to complete (LyondellBassell and Splashtown).
- Two Amateur Radio class were completed in July.
- The MYTEP/IPP was updated.
- There are currently 58 participants signed up for the Pre-Symposium TTX
- SETRAC will be hosting MGT 439 Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness in November.
- The next Technology Training is scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup> at 2000 and August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 0900.
- All other training is on request and can be requested via e-mail at [exercise@setrac.org](mailto:exercise@setrac.org).

### **Special Population Update** (C101)

Hilal Salami reported on the following items:

- SETRAC continues to onboard facilities and agencies and increase regional participation in the coalition, to include bedded facilities, home based care & hospice, federal clinics, and other non-hospital organization.
- SETRAC continues to also work with the dialysis group on regional planning and education New Texas approved bills affects group – Generator power or alternate power source (HB04132 and HB04225 and SB0612 dead), **SB1876 passed** – Communicating closure and hour reduction with surrounding healthcare partners, OEM, and coalitions. Bill also states that facilities need to

submit EOP plans to OEM offices and RACs, facilities, coalitions, and surrounding healthcare partners.

- COVID cases have been reported in couple of LTC facilities, still minor and in single digits but facilities have increased visitor restrictions and other partner access controls.
- TDEM letters have been received by regional HHSC offices (LTC regulatory body) and is being shared with facilities regarding funding availability through city and county jurisdictions for staffing increase assistance at their corresponding facilities. Letter directed facilities to reach out to their local OEM offices for their application and approval process to receive funding in that regard. Where prior to that, facilities that needed staffing assistance during the pandemic went through a request process with HHSC and if approved, had a STAR created for them that was filled by the state.
- Group calls continue monthly and will remain virtual through 2021, the last one was Thursday 7/22. The call included new regional information and updates, training topics, exercises, meeting schedule, and regional goals, etc.
- The digital process for submitting Coalition agreements and requesting engagement visits has been implemented and has streamlined agreement and submission data. A link to the online forms were sent out through the list serves and have been updated on the SETRAC website under the Special Populations page.  
the SETRAC region is being split into 2 Special Populations areas between myself and Kat Samuel for increased outreach and technical assistance down corridor lines with Downtown corridor shared.

### **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](mailto:roxie.ward@setrac.org). This will ensure updates are documented accurately in the minutes.

### **Open Discussion/Other Business**

- **Award of Excellence**

Mr. Rankin reminded the corridor members all the documents needed to apply for the Award of Excellence can be found on the SETRAC website at [www.setrac.org](http://www.setrac.org). The due date to submit applications is August 31<sup>st</sup> and then committee will begin reviewing the submissions for the 2019/2020 winners.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business or discussion, Mr. Rankin adjourned the meeting at 2:41 pm. The next North Corridor meeting will be at the 2021 Annual Preparedness Coalition Symposium at the San Luis Convention Center in Galveston on October 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. The last North Corridor meeting of the year will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital (at this time).

**ATTENDEES:** Mike Rankin, Stephen Bennett, Sarah Adams, Victoria Anspach, Mark Burgess, Karla Fowler, David Garrett, William Handy, Jacki Laird, Johnny Luman, Victoria Martin, Jason Minchew, Wayne Moore, Johnnie Perry, Sharon Shaw, Willo Stylistine, Carmen Stuck, Vicki Tarnow, Mark Tschudy, Tara Triana, Darlene Williams, Sondra Williams, Jackson Bartlett, Gary Litton, Adam Lee, Mikal Orr, Roxie Ward