



## West Corridor Minutes

July 30, 2021  
Zoom Meeting



### A. Call to Order

Toni Carnie opened the meeting at 9:01 am.

### B. Approval of Minutes (C101)

Ms. Carnie requested review of the May minutes. Jason Baumgarten (Memorial Hermann Katy/Cypress) made a motion to approve the minutes, Mark Sloan (Harris County OEM) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

### C. New Business

- **Mobile Infusion Unit**

Fidel Calvillo reported the SETRAC Board approved using a portion of the COVID response funds to build a mobile infusion unit. He gave a brief overview of the unit and how it will be used. It should be ready by last September/early October, and SETRAC hopes it will be ready to exhibit at the symposium (October 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>).

- **Senate Bill 968 STEAR**

Mark Sloan reported Senate Bill 968 was a collaboration of a variety of several bills that were thrown together last minute during the session last year, and it was signed into law a little over a month ago. The impacts not only effect the hospitals but the local government. The Bill was specifically written into limitations on medical procedures and outlines what can and cannot be done during disasters. It also covers personal protective equipment (PPE) in which the division will enter contracts to help facilitate and have a state stockpile of PPE which should only be available through the Department of Homeland Security through Texas Emergency Management (TDEM). There was no funding guaranteed to the state's stockpile which was also part of this law. There is also a Disease Prevention Information System where the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) uses existing resources to implement a disease prevention system that will be available during state and local disasters.

Section 81 (State Health and Safety Code) was also changed talking about cycle threshold values of communicable diseases with fines up to \$1000 for each failure to report (bed reports, etc.). Government entity in this state may not issue a vaccine passport, vaccine pass, or any document certifying an individual's COVID-19 vaccine status to a third party for a purpose other than healthcare or share anyone's COVID-19 immunization record. The Governor issued a revised Executive Order yesterday clarifying and solidifying all the executive orders that were issued previously.

He gave a description of the wellness checks, which was part of the STEAR database that was started after Hurricane Katrina in Texas with the United Way and 211 line to have individuals register. Government code was adjusted, and 418 and wellness checks are now going to be required whenever a local and/or state declaration, including the county in which is declared, has 24-hours to conduct a wellness check on its medically fragile individuals (Alzheimer/other related disorders, receiving dialysis services, diagnosed with debilitating chronic illness, needing oxygen, required 24-hour supervision from a skilled nurse, etc.). TDEM will develop the process for designating these individuals as medically frail within the registry; however, the registry is only those individuals self-identify. There are a lot of people in our community that have not registered in the 211 data base but may now that this is available to them. This will now require medical service personnel, including hospital facility staff and will also include our EMS, fire department, and law enforcement personnel, to conduct wellness checks withing 24-hours.

Mr. Sloan encouraged those corridor members who have not read the bill to take time to read it as it has been signed it into law the Governor.

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

- **PPE Reminder**

Fidel Calvillo reminded the corridor members SETRAC is no longer distributing PPE.

SETRAC does have a limited cache at the warehouse should facilities/agencies find it difficult to obtain PPE from their vendors. All requests will need to go through the STAR system.

#### **E. EMTF Update**

Mikal Orr reported the following trainings, activations, and meetings:

##### Trainings:

- 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
- Lyonel Bassell Hazmat – MPV 601 & 603 14 patients transported to Methodist Clearlake

##### Meetings:

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

#### **F. Training and Exercise Update**

Adam Lee the following training and exercise events:

- All exercise and real-world exercises have been posted on-line and are available for download at <https://www.setrac.org/after-action-reports/>.

- All training remains on an as-needed-bases. To get more information or set up a training email [john.wingate@setrac.org](mailto:john.wingate@setrac.org).
- Amateur Radio Training will be conducted on Thursday July 29th in Baytown, and Saturday the 14th of August in Houston at the SETRAC office. Classes run from 0800 - 1600. For more information contact John Wingate at SETRAC.
- WebEOC/EMResource/EMTrack training can be scheduled through the SETRAC website. Classes are scheduled for several months in the future for both day and evening classes. Registration at <https://forms.setrac.org/203374106142848>

## G. Special Populations Update

Hilal Salami gave a report on the Special Populations as follows:

- 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 partners. Bill states that facilities need to reach out to EM, facilities, Coalitions with their plans, closure and reduced hours notifications and power/generator requirements.
- COVID cases have been reported in couple of LTC facilities, still minor and single digits but some facilities have increased visitor and partner access controls.
- Group calls continue monthly and will remain virtual through 2021, the last one was Thursday of last week. This includes new regional information, training topics, exercises, meeting schedule, and regional goals, etc.

## H. Partner Updates

- **Harris County OEM**

Mark Sloan reported cyberware continues to be a major issue with an uptick in malware issues and continued intrusions. They are very aware of the casting effects of those issues, not only at the facilities but infrastructure issues which will have a casting effect on our ability to operate if one of our lifeline sectors (water supply, fuel, power, etc.). He advised they continue to monitor hurricane season. The dust from Africa has been a huge success in helping hurricanes from developing to this point.

Today is Day 516 for the county's COVID activation. Mr. Sloan expressed his appreciation to the corridor members for their hard work in keeping our communities healthy and safe.

Executive Order G38 was released yesterday clarifying all the executive orders and the ability for local jurisdictions do or not do things that are inconsistent that are statewide.

- No other 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.

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

- **Award of Excellence**

Ms. Carnie 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.

- **Data Reporting/Staffing**

Mr. Calvillo requested the facilities double-check their daily reports before submitting them to ensure the data is correct. Currently the state is not going to send nurses to help staff the facilities. SETRAC has been sending out links for different agencies to assist the facilities in finding staffing support. He reiterated that all PPE requests need to go through the STAR system. SETRAC is not assisting with patient placement as in the past. SETRAC has a scheduled conference call with the Free-standing EDs at 1:30 pm today to discuss COVID issues.

- **Location for September Meeting**

Ms. Carnie advised, depending on the impact on the facilities/agencies of this second wave of COVID, the September meeting will be held at the SETRAC conference center with a virtual (Zoom) option for those that are unable to attend in person or prefer virtual meetings. She encouraged the corridor members to attend next week's RHPC Board meeting scheduled for Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business or discussion, Ms. Carnie adjourned the meeting at 9:48 am. The next West Corridor meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, at SETRAC (1111 North Loop West, Suite 160, Houston, Texas 77008) in the conference center.

**ATTENDEES:** Toni Carnie, Erin Cain, David Cramer, Dena Daniel, Jason Baumgarten, Chris Coleman, Erin Cain, Michael Flanagan, Kimberly Garrett, Timothy Gonzalez, Mary Ann Hajovsky, Katherine Jimenez, Henry Maniego, Dorothy Mehrens, Jody Randall, Allison Reimers, Tina Rose, Mark Sloan, David Tijerina, Joshua Vaught, Fidel Calvillo, Adam Lee, Hilal Salami, Kat Samuel