



Chairman David Persse, MD
Vice Chair-Hospital Services Tom Flanagan
Vice Chair-PreHospital Services James Campbell
Secretary Walter Morrow, RN,
CFRN, EMT-P
Treasurer Lon Squyres
Officer-at-Large Brent Kaziny, MD, MA
Chief Executive Officer (interim) Lori Upton

SouthEast Texas Regional Advisory Council (Trauma Service Area Q)
Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Harris, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller and Wharton Counties

**Board Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Dr. David Persse, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Walter Morrow called roll and a quorum was established.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Dr. Persse welcomed the board members and the stakeholders in attendance. No special guests were in attendance for this meeting.

3. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Tom Flanagan presented the nominations of the following board members to be reappointed to their executive board positions for a three-year term:

Dr. Persse - Chairman
Dr. Brent Kaziny – Officer-at-Large

Dr. Syed Raza made a motion to approve the nominations which was seconded by Todd Caliva. The board voted in favor of accepting the nominations with no objections.

Mr. Flanagan reported there were seven positions for the board that were up for renewal or appointment. Each nomination was recommended by their agency or county. These appointments are:

EMS Representatives

- Amanda Daniel – Colorado County
- Justin Cude – Matagorda County
- Rhonda Getschman – Waller County
- Dr. Persse – City of Houston EMS

Hospital Representatives

- Todd Caliva – HCA Houston Healthcare
- Dr. Raza – CHI St. Luke's Health

Regional Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (RHPC)

- Dr. Kevin Schulz – RHPC Chair

Walter Morrow made a motion to accept the above nominations which was seconded by Christy Gonzales. The board voted in favor of accepting the nominations with no objections.

4. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Chairman

Dr. Persse reported that SETRAC is doing well financially and continues to move forward.

Lori Upton was recently named to the advisory board for the new Institute of Homeland Security at Sam Houston State University. She has also been appointed to the national Healthcare and Public Health Sector Coordinating Council.

The National Registry of EMTs are considering changing their position on the requirement that paramedic training programs be accredited. The position change is currently in the public comment period.

B. Vice Chair Hospital Services

Mr. Flanagan had no items to report.

C. Vice Chair Pre-Hospital Services

James Campbell reported that the state is continuing talks regarding EMS education, recruitment and retention. SETRAC has not received details regarding deliverables, reporting, or the amount allocated to SETRAC.

D. Secretary

Mr. Morrow had no items to report.

E. Officer-at-Large Report

Dr. Brent Kaziny reported that rated pediatric readiness scores for SETRAC was among the highest scores according to a 2021 pediatric readiness survey conducted by EMS for Children (EMSC).

F. Treasurer Report

Lon Squyres stated that SETRAC is financially stable. Reserve funds were generated during COVID through the management of staffing nurses. Maestro Services has reimbursed the funds that SETRAC loaned to start the program.

Donald Morrison, SETRAC CFO, provided an overview of the written financial reports through June 30, 2022, that were distributed to the board prior to the meeting. The ASPR 2022 grants have been spent and closed out as of June 30th. Approximately \$1 million is expected to be received in September from the state. The excess cash from this grant will be put into a CDARS account for protection under the FDIC until the funds are needed. The operating fund currently has a negative net revenue due to unexpected expenditures; however, outstanding dues payments as well as HFD base station operations and Texas Task Force payments are expected and the operating fund is expected to end the fiscal year with a positive net revenue.

5. EXECUTIVE REPORT

A written report was provided by Lori Upton to the board. Highlights include:

- SETRAC will soon be able to access stroke data from hospitals in our region (with the hospitals' approval) via the American Heart Association's (AHA) Get with the Guidelines registry. This will allow the SETRAC Stroke Committee to expand current QA process by having patient level de-identified data and will eliminate the need for hospitals to enter the same data in two separate databases. Access to patient level data is being pursued for cardiac and trauma data as well. Information will be sent out to hospital CEOs so they are aware that they will be receiving amendments from AHA.
- A preliminary assessment of the new RAC assessment tool was recently completed. There are currently a few criteria where SETRAC would be scored at "2" out of a scale of 1 to 5 (minimum needed to meet

criteria is a "3"). Additional clarification has been requested from Jorie Klein (DSHS) on these requirements. SETRAC is covered by Texas Health and Safety Code Sec. 773.095 to provide the performance improvement and case review service that is being required with the new RAC rules. The initial assessment will be due in August 2023.

- DSHS is expecting a 20% budget cut in the upcoming budget cycle. DSHS will prioritize the programs they feel is important and will be funded accordingly. This could put future funding for RACs in jeopardy.
- The current COVID SMA ended on June 30th; however, a new SMA is expected to cover administrative costs associated with reimbursement packets and audits through November 30th. A new SMA has been received from DSHS to continue running the statewide Power BI data collection.
- The third CNO/CNE roundtable will be held in August and will focus on discharge planning and unpermitted boarding homes. The new ED Committee met and have identified mental health and emergency preparedness as their top priorities.
- The EMResource Workgroup has met to review the current configuration and request of additional items. A page in EMResource is being built specifically for permitted boarding homes to assist in placing residents in the event an unpermitted boarding home is closed down.
- The annual RHPC symposium will take place November 2nd-4th in Galveston.

Preparedness and Response

Chris Collier highlighted the following topics from the written report:

- Coordinators are working on engaging stakeholders and rebuilding connections lost during COVID.
- The annual survey and HVA is being completed.
- Regional hurricane tabletop exercises have been held as well as emergency preparedness bootcamps for long-term care facilities throughout the region.
- There has been an increase in the number of requests for Stop the Bleed trainings. Assistance is being requested from our partners to assist in fulfilling the training requests.
- 100 individual trainings were held across the region with 1,542 individuals trained.
- Over 1,000 durable medical equipment items that were distributed to hospitals and providers across 25 counties have been picked-up. The value of the equipment is valued at more than \$5 million.
- Full HPP inventory inspections of 70 facilities which included over 7,000 items has been completed.
- The Emergency Medical Task Force is working to rebuild teams to assist with response throughout the region and state when needed.
- SETRAC responded to 35 responses. Each incident involves SETRAC staff engaging with stakeholders to provide coordination of resources.

Emergency Healthcare Systems

Tonya Carter highlighted the following topics from the written report:

- National Resuscitation Program (NRP) training will be held for EMS providers in the region at no cost.
- The Perinatal Committee's antibiotic timeliness initiative has exceeded its goal of decreasing the number of infants receiving antibiotics greater than 1 hour from birth. An abstract is being prepared for submission to the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- The Cardiac Committee has begun a 4-part virtual cardiac education series with CEUs available for regional STEMI coordinators, cardiologists, and EMS partners.

- Cindy King (Sugar Land Fire & EMS) will be presented with a plaque for her work in piloting the HEART Health Community program.
- The Texas Stroke Conference was held in May in collaboration with the Texas Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Council and UTHealth. The conference was held in-person and virtually and was well-attended.
- The regional stroke plan has been revised and is available for review on the SETRAC website.
- Meetings have been held with leaders of the Trauma Committee to discuss the new RAC rules and ACS guidelines.
- The Injury Prevention Committee is focusing on driver and car seat safety as well as firearm safety.
- The Pediatric Committee has a 4-part virtual education series with CEUs provided. The PECC symposium is being prepared to share with statewide partners.
- Over 2,000 lapel pins and fliers were distributed to EMS agencies throughout the region in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- Case presentations (no PHI) involving multiple providers are being presented at EMS Committee meetings.
- The state has an initiative to place wristbands on all patients received by EMS. A distribution plan is being developed by SETRAC for licensed ambulance agencies in our region. The wrist band will initially be trialed for emergency responses and then rolled out to a larger group. This initiative will not be funded by the state.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Prior Meeting Minutes

There being no further discussion or objections, the board approved the minutes as presented.

B. Reports (Officer, Finance, and Executive)

There being no further discussion or objections, the board approved the reports as presented.

C. Resolutions and/or Other Action Items

No resolutions or other action items were presented.

7. GENERAL / OPEN DISCUSSION

No items were presented for discussion.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Persse adjourned the general board meeting at 7:15pm. The board held an executive session following the conclusion of the meeting.

SETRAC Board - Secretary: _____

