



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	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 April 17, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Tom Flanagan, Vice Chair Hospital Services, called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm on behalf of Dr. David Persse. The meeting was held in-person at the SETRAC Conference Center. Walter Morrow called roll and a quorum was established.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Mr. Flanagan welcomed the board members and the stakeholders in attendance.

3. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Flanagan reported that on April 18th, nominations will be open for expiring board member and officer terms. Nominations will be open for 30 days and will close on May 18th. Voting will take place during the July board meeting.

The board member terms expiring are as follows:

Houston Methodist Hospital System – Wayne Voss
Texas Children’s Hospital – Dr. Brent Kaziny
Austin County – Walter Morrow
Harris County – Lon Squyres
Wharton County – Christy Gonzales
At-Large #2 – currently vacant

The officer terms expiring are as follows:

Treasurer – Lon Squyres
Vice Chairman of Pre-Hospital Services – James Campbell

Nominations are to be sent to Grace Farquhar at grace.farquhar@setrac.org.

The board discussed the consideration of bringing on a board member representing law enforcement and/or other disciplines that could be represented as well as a person with a skill set for cultivating philanthropy. Any suggestions for additional representation on the SETRAC board can be submitted to Lori Upton or Grace Farquhar for presentation to the Executive Committee.

Dudley Wait has been appointed by K.P. George (Fort Bend County Judge) as the nomination to replace Dr. Benjamin Oei as the representative for Fort Bend County.

4. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Chairman

Dr. Persse was unable to attend the meeting. There were no items to report.

B. Vice Chair Hospital Services

Mr. Flanagan had no items to report.

C. Vice Chair Pre-Hospital Services

James Campbell was unable to attend the meeting. There were no items to report.

D. Secretary

Mr. Morrow had no items to report.

E. Officer-at-Large Report

Dr. Brent Kaziny reported that a pediatric disaster tabletop exercise will be held on Thursday, April 20th, led by the ASPR Pediatric Disaster Care Center of Excellence for Region 6. Dr. Kaziny thanked SETRAC for their assistance with the exercise.

F. Treasurer Report

Lon Squyres provided an overview of the printed financial reports that were given to the board. Mr. Squyres stated that accounts are being spent as expected with no concerns.

An application for a refund for payroll taxes paid during COVID has been submitted.

5. EXECUTIVE REPORT

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

- Focus is placed on the Texas Legislature regarding funding. DSHS has added an additional request for \$6.6 million for RACs to assist with cardiac, stroke, and other initiatives and \$5 million for EMTF. The senate recommended fully funding the EMTF request and providing RACs with 50% of the request (\$3.3 million).
- Several bills affecting healthcare are being followed including:
 - HB 624 and SB 1898 – concerning patient transport via fire truck.
 - HB 12 – supporting post-partum mothers by extending Medicare payments for 12 months.
 - HB 1147 – proposing lowering the age of children being trained in Stop The Bleed from 7th grade to 3rd grade and requiring an “alarm system” on STB kits.
 - SB 186-189 – concerning unpermitted boarding/group homes.
- Money is still available via Senate Bill 8 for EMS agencies that have individuals needing their initial EMT or paramedic training or for those wanting a higher degree of training.
- The following individuals have or will soon be joining the SETRAC team:

- Suzanne Curran – Director of Emergency Healthcare Services (Trauma, Pediatrics, Injury Prevention, and Stop the Bleed)
- Melanie Aluotto – Director of Emergency Healthcare Services (Stroke, Cardiac, Perinatal)
- Merjani “MJ” Garcia – Clinical Operations Specialist
- RAC rules have been updated as follows:
 - Neonatal rules will be approved in June.
 - Trauma rules will be open for public comment in August instead of June/July. If approved in August, the rules will not go into effect until January 2024.
 - Regarding the wristband initiative:
 - EMS rules will not change to include wristbands.
 - The only changes to the data dictionary for now are the use of UUID autogenerated numbers to cross-reference trauma and EMS patients.
 - The NEMESIS field DAgency06 will continue to be pulled for calculating EMS runs. Wristband numbers will be an optional field for now.
- An additional \$200,000 from PHEP excess funds has been received to resupply and refurbish the DPMU.
- A company has been hired to scan SETRAC records and documents, which will be retained according to the organization’s record retention policy.
- The SETRAC IT department continues to mitigate attacks on our IT system.
- **Preparedness and Response** – Lisa Spivey and Chris Collier provided the following update:
 - The annual regional functional exercise took place last week at Houston Tran star. Over 60 agencies participated. The AAR is currently being developed and will be posted to the SETRAC website once completed.
 - SETRAC assets were recently displayed in our North Corridor (Nacogdoches) and will be displayed in other corridors as well.
 - An MCI tabletop was conducted in Nacogdoches in February with 46 participants in different disciplines.
 - Work is continuing with the Behavior Threat Assessment team headed by Texas Department of Public Safety, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Houston Police Department, Harris County Sheriff’s Office, and local behavioral facilities with hospital and EMS partners.
 - Coordinators continue to work with EMS, public safety, and hospitals.
 - SETRAC assisted with the response to a tornado that struck in Deer Park in January which included successfully moving 64 patients from a nursing home.
 - Assets continue to be maintained and ready for operations with hurricane season approaching. A \$200,000 grant was received from UASI to upgrade the RCVQ.
- **Emergency Healthcare Systems** – Suzanne Curran provided the following update:
 - The Emergency Department workgroup continues to look at workplace violence and placement of mental health patients.
 - The Perinatal Committee is focusing on recognition and response to postpartum preeclampsia in the emergency department as well as best practices for breastmilk at discharge and antibiotic timeliness.
 - The regional cardiac plan is being developed by the Cardiac Care Committee. A community CPR/Stop the Bleed community event is being planned.
 - Wake up strokes and rehab utilization are being reviewed by the Stroke Committee. A boot camp for stroke coordinators is being planned for the fall.

- A meeting at SETRAC is planned for August when the trauma rules are opened for public comment. A trauma registry workshop will be held at the end of May. A revised copy of the regional trauma plan has been distributed to trauma facilities for review and input from trauma medical directors. Stop the Bleed education continues across the region.
- Injury Prevention Committee is looking at pediatric firearm and driver-pedestrian safety.
- The Pediatric Committee continues to work with the other committees and concentrating on the G7.

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.

The budgets for the 2023-24 fiscal year were presented to the board. The budgets were reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee prior to the meeting. There being no further discussion or objections, the board approved the minutes as presented.

C. Resolutions and/or Other Action Items

a. *Election for the Fort Bend County representative position on the SETRAC Board of Directors*

Dudley Wait was presented as the nominee for Fort Bend County. The board unanimously elected Chief Wait as a member of the SETRAC Board of Directors.

b. *Approval of revised SETRAC Bylaws*

The Section 3.3.1 of the SETRAC Bylaws have been revised to accurately reflect the change to the at-large representative positions as approved by the SETRAC Board during the quarterly meeting held on January 23, 2023.

There being no further discussion or objections, the board approved the revision to the names of the At-Large positions.

c. *Approval of elected leaders for the Pre-Hospital (EMS) Committee*

Elections were recently held for leadership of the Pre-Hospital (EMS) Committee. The list of elected leaders was presented to the board for approval.

There being no further discussion or objections, the board approved elected leaders.

d. *Approval to discontinue updating the COVID Data Report on the SETRAC website on May 11, 2023, due to the end of the COVID Public Health Emergency.*

SETRAC has maintained a report on COVID data on the SETRAC website for the general public. With the public health emergency (PHE) scheduled to end on May 11th, SETRAC would like to discontinue the report.

The board approved the request to discontinue the report shown on the SETRAC website with the ability of the report being made available again should there warrant a need to resume tracking data.

7. GENERAL / OPEN DISCUSSION

Mark Sloan made the following announcements:

- The RAC will most likely be engaged in the NCAA Football Championship at NRG in January.
- Resources may be requested/needed in Fredericksburg during the solar event in October due to an influx of visitors to the small town.
- There is a concern of fast developing storms coming off the Yucatan approaching the southeast Texas region during two-week windows of time during hurricane season, so awareness should be maintained throughout the season.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Flanagan adjourned the general board meeting at 7:20 pm.

SETRAC Board - Secretary: _____

