



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 October 16, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Dr. David Persse, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The meeting was held in-person at the SETRAC Conference Center. Walter Morrow, Secretary, 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. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Chairman

Dr. Persse stated that the SETRAC bylaws will need to be revised as the activities of the SETRAC committees are becoming increasingly important and more complex.

The Urban Fire Forum has put out statements regarding neuroprotective CPR and the use of whole blood in the prehospital environment as new standards of care. These statements have been rescinded as more information is needed before they can be deemed new standards of care.

St. Joseph's Medical Center has closed its in-patient psychiatric facility. A meeting will be held on October 23rd in the Texas Medical Center (TMC) which will be attended by Dr. Persse (representing SETRAC and Houston Fire Department), Lori Upton (representing SETRAC), the Houston Police Department, CEOs from TMC member institutions as well as HCA and St. Joseph Medical Center to discuss the ripple effects of the closure on other hospitals and ideas on how to move forward.

B. Vice Chair Hospital Services

Tom Flanagan had no items to report.

C. Vice Chair Pre-Hospital Services

James Campbell reported that the EMS Committee and its subgroups are starting to move things forward post-COVID and there is new traction on many of the projects.

D. Secretary

Mr. Morrow had no items to report.

E. Officer-at-Large Report

Dr. Brent Kaziny reported that the G7 Pediatric Disaster Network is being funded for its second year. Dr. Kaziny will be leading trauma ground rounds on October 17th on pediatric readiness for emergency departments.

F. Treasurer Report

Ms. Upton reported on the SETRAC financials on behalf of Lon Squyres.

All grant accounts are being spent as scheduled and as expected with no concerns.

Net revenue is currently at \$2.56 million. This does not include the \$629,000 from the COVID tax credit refund. The equipment expense account reflects a negative amount due to hospital radios that were invoice. The invoice has since been paid.

The EMTF budget was awarded an extra \$111,000 by the Texas Legislature. This will help offset the remainder of the warehouse rent and have Starlink systems put into the mobile command centers.

The general fund balance is currently \$1.2 million.

4. EXECUTIVE REPORT

Ms. Upton introduced Shehzad Hassan, SETRAC's new finance manager.

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

- The PCI status field in EMResource has been updated to show "SETRAC Compliant PCI" with the following definitions:
 - "Can this facility currently perform PCI?"
 - Yes – open and available
 - No – unable to perform

If the facility is not able to perform PCI due to resources or other reasons, they will need to contact SETRAC to change to the PCI field.

- SETRAC is applying for the 5-year HPP grant. Applications are due November 6th. With the permission of the board, SETRAC will also apply for the 5-year EMTF-SCO that is up for bid.
- The SETRAC Foundation met on September 6th. The financial health of the foundation was discussed as well as whether the warehouse space needs to be purchased. The foundation is needing a request from the SETRAC Board to purchase the property currently housing the SETRAC warehouse and begin a capital campaign to raise \$30 million to build a 3-story building that would be a training/research center and house SETRAC staff offices. The base station would be based at the location as well.
- Approximately EMS 118 scholarships have been funded in accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 8.
- **Preparedness and Response** – Lisa Spivey and Troy Erbentraut provided the following update:
 - Coordinators have been actively engaging with stakeholders across the 25-county region with EMResource, EMTrack, WebEOC trainings and attending training exercises.
 - The training and exercise team is working on the 2024 spring exercise and chemical surge plan.

- The pre-symposium training for this year will be conducted by Sam Houston State University (SHSU). Attendees will receive a certificate from SHSU.
- Fidel Calvillo, Special Populations Coordinator, continues to work with long-term facilities to ensure plans are in place and provide trainings in EMResource.
- Decon courses continue to be offered for hospitals in the SETRAC region.
- SETRAC assisted with real world incidents at Prairie View A&M and Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion.
- SETRAC has recently partnered with EquuSearch in using EMResource to locate missing individuals that may show up at area hospitals.
- Philip Cutler has recently assumed the new title of Regional Logistics and Inventory Coordinator, resulting in the Mobile Assets Coordinator position being open. The current EMTF-6 Coordinator position will be vacated soon leaving that position open as well.
- **Emergency Healthcare Systems** – Suzanne Curran, Melanie Aluotto, and Lori Upton (on behalf of Clayton Ehrlich) provided the following update:
 - The Pediatric Committee is putting a work group together to look at pediatric mental health and put together resources for stakeholders.
 - A PI/QI discussion was held through a request from the Pediatric Committee.
 - A health fair will be held on November 10th with Precinct 2. SETRAC staff and partner hospitals and EMS agencies will be providing education on falls, firearm safety, and car safety for older populations.
 - A heat map has been created and added to the SETRAC website.
 - Recent SETRAC pediatric trauma data shows EMS are doing a phenomenal job of taking pediatric patients to the correct trauma center the first time.
 - A trauma registry workshop is schedule for February 2024 and a validation exercise for registrars will be held prior to Christmas.
 - Revised trauma rules have not yet been released for public comment. SETRAC will set-up a meeting for trauma hospitals and EMS agencies to review the rules once made available.
 - The Stroke Committee is looking to develop a heat map similar to the trauma heat map that was recently published.
 - Dr. Chethan Rao submitted an abstract to the American Heart Association on the evolution of stroke care in the SETRAC region.
 - A stroke boot camp is planned for January 2024.
 - A hybrid hands only CPR/Stop The Bleed course is being planned.
 - The SETRAC regional cardiac plan has been developed and has been submitted for board approval.
 - SETRAC continues to work with the American College of Cardiologists on obtaining patient level chest pain data. A new agreement is being created to be able to access the information without PHI.
 - The placenta acratia spectrum disorder education that has been uploaded to the SETRAC learning site has been very successful.
 - Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) has been rolled out for prehospital providers. Three classes have been held and three additional classes will take place in the near future. A large training class will be held that can accommodate 100-200 participants.
 - The Pediatric Committee is putting a work group together to look at pediatric mental health and put together resources for stakeholders.
 - Some of the EMS wristbands have been received and will need to be used when the revised trauma rules go into effect. As of now, this will only apply to trauma patients. A discussion took place

regarding the number of wristbands needed for the region, financing for the wristbands, and looking at the possibility of SETRAC providing wristbands as a funding opportunity.

- A Pulsara workgroup comprised of hospital and EMS representatives has convened to determine minimal datasets that can be sent to hospitals. Although Pulsara has an MCI component, EMTrack will still need to be used in the region for patient tracking at this time.
- The Whole Blood Work Group met on October 5th. A request has been made by the EMS Committee to have this work group become a subcommittee of the EMS Committee.
- **Business Operations** – Chris Collier provided the following update:
 - SETRAC is reviewing ways to create partnerships and funding sources alternate to grants and legislature.
 - To generate additional revenue, SETRAC is considering having a casino night in the spring of 2024.
 - If there are any opportunities that stakeholders are aware of that SETRAC should be involved with, stakeholders are encouraged to get in touch with Mr. Collier.

5. 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

- a. *Request the SETRAC Foundation to move forward with purchasing the current warehouse property leased by SETRAC and begin a capital campaign to raise \$30 million in the next 5 years to build a new SETRAC building on that site.*

There being no objections, the board approved to make the request to the SETRAC Foundation to take the next steps with this initiative.

- b. *Approval of the RAC Annual Report*

The report was provided to the board members prior to the meeting.

There being no objections, the board approved the annual report.

- c. *Approval to have the EMS Committee's Regional Blood Products work group become a subcommittee.*

There being no objections, the board approved to have the work group become a subcommittee of the EMS Committee.

- d. *Vote to revise the SETRAC Bylaws section concerning "Meetings and Reports" in reference to subcommittee meetings.*

A request has been made to change the section of the bylaws (Section 5.7) to where participation in subcommittees would be limited to invited or appointed members.

Members of the board and the audience voiced concerns about having subcommittees being exclusive to a specific group (ex: Stroke Coordinators Subcommittee only for stroke coordinators, RHPC Symposium subcommittee only being open to those chosen to be on the subcommittee).

Mr. Flanagan will convene a meeting of the Bylaws Subcommittee to discuss the proposed revision to the bylaws. This action item will be tabled until the Bylaws Subcommittee is able to review the bylaws and provide feedback.

6. GENERAL / OPEN DISCUSSION

Mental Health Patients with Emergency Detention Orders

Dr. Steven Brass raised the question of how the San Antonio area cares for mental health patients with EDOs. An overview of the system used in San Antonio was provided by Dr. Persse and Dudley Wait. Chief Wait reiterated that RACs are integral to the success of the program. SETRAC is working to have a small group composed of representatives from the Harris Center, HPD, and local politicians to travel to San Antonio in the spring to meet with their peers and gain insight on how the program is run in that region.

ER Wall Times

Ms. Christy Gonzales inquired if documentation is available about safety issues regarding EMS wall times. Dr. Persse stated that GETAC is currently circulating a draft document on EMS wall times that will reference the letter put out by CMS about not holding onto ambulances for too long.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Persse adjourned the general board meeting at 8:10 pm.

SETRAC Board - Secretary: _____

