



## East Corridor Minutes

Jerry Ware Building  
Jack Brooks Airport  
Beaumont, Texas 77705  
January 16, 2026  
1:00 – 3:00 pm



### **A. Call to Order**

Lydia Worthen called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

### **B. Minutes** (C101)

Ms. Worthen requested review and approval of the December minutes. Martha Simien (Port Arthur Health Department) made a motion to approve the minutes, Christina Watkins (Mid-Jefferson Extended Care) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

### **C. New Business**

- **Reintroducing Your East Corridor**

Jeremy way opened with emphasis on starting the new year fresh and improving corridor support and communication between meetings. He explained stakeholders should anticipate increased communication from him and corridor chairs. Ms. Worthen provided a reflection based on scripture: Matthew 5:13. The reflection emphasized preserving what matters, staying connected/accountable/aligned, and adding value through collaboration. Prayer offered for clarity, courage, discernment, and decisions aligned with what matters most.

1. **Meeting Expectations** - Mr. Way explained meetings should be beneficial and practical; attendees should leave with usable takeaways. Partners were also encouraged to request training/resources outside of meetings. Discussion started by Rayshell Threadgill on offering short training snippets (15–20 minutes) during meetings/ Group discussion with emphasis on relationship-building before crises to improve speed/accuracy of response.
2. **Meeting Schedule Change (Start Time)** - Ms. Worthen discussed changing meeting start time that was voted on during the December meeting. Vote requested again. Motion made by Stacy Durio (Medical Center of Southeast Texas) to change meeting times from 1:00-3:00 pm to 10:00 am -12:00 pm. Karie Singleton (CHRISTUS St. Elizabeth) seconded the motion. Vote to move East Corridor meeting time approved.

- **Maintaining Vigilance**

There was discussion of the recent incident at Houston Methodist Baytown involving the assault of three nurses by a Harris County deputy. Focus was placed on early recognition, prevention, and situational vigilance.

Mr. Way explained significant concern regarding multiple recent first responder suicides. Discussion around key points included, suicidal crises may not be externally visible, vigilance must also include checking on the emotional/spiritual wellbeing of colleagues, and stigma reduction and peer support pathways are essential.

## **D. HPP Capabilities Review**

- **World Cup Update**

There were multiple topics discussed surrounding World Cup 2026. Topics included:

1. Efforts to raise local awareness and move beyond the mindset of “we won’t be affected here. Members noted some meaningful progress:
  - LEPC & SNCA adding World Cup preparedness as a standing agenda item.
  - Internal newsletters being distributed to increase awareness.
2. Staffing impacts June 1–Aug 31 with emphasis on anticipating increased activity and limiting gaps. Planning not only for supplies but also for people/resources during sustained operational tempo.
3. Mosquito-borne illness concerns and need for proactive vector control particularly given local environmental conditions (standing water, retention ponds) and seasonal threats (flooding/hurricanes). Members emphasized:
  - Prevention and mitigation planning should be discussed with health departments and mosquito control partners.
  - Testing/surveillance is important, but response may lag if mitigation is not planned early.
4. Heat Casualties, IV Fluids, and Burn Rate Planning were discussed, and discussion highlights were:
  - Heat casualties and IV shortages are a known concern for mass gatherings.
  - Partners encouraged stocking based on burn rate projections and to consider longer lead-time stocking strategies.
  - Practical strategies were shared:
    - Facilities can provide Materials Management with a list of high-priority items
    - Depending on contracts, vendors may hold inventory offsite and deliver by a specified date, reducing onsite storage strain
  - Members also discussed shared vendor dependencies and how tighter allocations may impact smaller facilities first. If Houston consumes bulk supply, surrounding facilities may struggle due to shared vendors/distributors.
5. Anticipated high demand on healthcare system navigation by international visitors. International visitors may not understand U.S. Hospital ED vs freestanding ED vs urgent care vs stand-alone facilities and may present to any location All sites should be prepared to:
  - Recognize acuity
  - Route appropriately
6. Key Dates Mentioned by Mr. Way and Mr. Kelley:
  - June 14: First Houston game (heightened chatter noted)
  - June 8: GOP / Republican Convention activity

The corridor noted several dates and windows that may have increased regional activity due to large events and public gathering dynamics. Partners were advised to incorporate these into situational awareness and readiness planning

- **Pulsara Update**

Timothy Chapman explained key system changes including:

- a. Single incident ownership (no co-ownership)
- b. Parent/child incident structure
- c. FIFA parent incident expected to remain open for 38 days
- d. Hospitals must be added as entities to incidents; hospitals can still band/scan and later move patients into the incident once added
- e. Nationality tracking options under development for reunification and language planning (labels vs chief complaint approach)

## **E. EMTF Update**

Mr. Kelley reported:

- Kerrville Operations - Demobilization and right-sizing efforts are ongoing. The footprint has been reduced, while search and recovery work continues in coordination with task force elements and partner agencies. Further drawdown is anticipated by the end of February as missions complete.
- Wildland Fire Readiness - Wildland teams have been pre-positioned due to elevated risk conditions associated with a hot/dry winter. Teams are mobilized based on predictive fire weather, typically requested ~72 hours prior to expected high-risk conditions.
- Infectious Disease Response Unit (IDRU) Training
  - February 4: Biocontainment-focused training emphasizing donning/doffing, paramedic safety, receiving workflows, entry procedures, and notification timelines.
  - February 10–11: IDRU/Hospital Augmentation Team training at Medical Center of Southeast Texas, with participation from CHRISTUS and Medical Center staff (paramedics and RNs).
  - The Hospital Augmentation Team concept was reviewed, including deployment to smaller facilities to provide trained PPE-supported care without disrupting daily operations.
- Additional Training / Courses
  - MIST course: March 3–4 (San Antonio)
  - Ambulance Staging Management: April 15
  - Radiological response capability remains in development; equipment is in place and operationalization/training continues.
- Peer support/CISM development was noted as ongoing. A new “Technical Specialist” position was introduced as a non-medical role supporting task force leadership.
- Technology Tools - The What3Words platform was described as an effective navigation tool for areas without addresses (e.g., riverbeds), improving location precision and routing.
- Training Schedules
  - WebEOC Training: 2nd Thursday of every month at 1400 and 1800
  - Pulsara Training: 4th Thursday of every month at 1400
  - Pulsara onboarding support is available with an MOA in place.
- Regional EMTF Meetings

Regional EMTF meetings occur on the third Tuesday of every even-numbered month, with the next meeting in February (typical time 0830–1200, may extend based on agenda).

  - EMTF 101 + Deployment Basics (Virtual) - A virtual overview session is scheduled for next Friday at 1400, covering MTF history, response elements, request/deployment flow, and expectations for deployers.

- Participation Expectation - agency-level accountability and increasing participation across trainings/meetings, with a goal of 75% participation per agency (not relying on only the same individual attendees).

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

The Training and Exercise Schedule was distributed to the corridor members (*copy filed with the minutes binder*).

Timothy Chapman reviewed the Training and Exercise Schedule distributed to the corridor members (copy filed with the minutes binder) highlighting the following:

The corridor's exercise focus for the year will include:

- Regional tabletop exercises centered on Medical Countermeasures (MCM) processes
- A regional distribution exercise focused on the warehouse movement of medical countermeasures (similar to COVID-era distribution processes).
- CHEMPrep discussion is planned; approximately 40–45 participants are already registered, with the possibility of 20–25 additional spots.
- Decon Capability Emphasis - Decontamination capability remains a key expectation for all facilities, including low-cost solutions and training for off-hours staff.
- Decon Rodeo - A regional Decon Rodeo is planned later in the year as a corridor competition-style event with judged stations and awards.
- Pulsara / Nexus Drills - Due to major platform changes, continued drills and training refreshers will focus heavily on Pulsara and Nexus (WebEOC) to ensure consistent workflows across the region.

Mr. Chapman provided a WebEOC-Nexus update with a visual presentation. Updates reviewed included:

- Single login for EMResource and WebEOC
- Juvare-managed password resets/unlocks
- 90-day inactivity lockout
- STAR board not yet active; resource requests routed through On-Call Duty Officer
- Improved activity log features including mapping
- Availability of online training and upcoming LMS modules
- Technical platform support through Houston OEM contact (Andrew) and one-on-one assistance availability

## **G. Special Populations Update (C101)**

Fidel Calvillo reported on the Special Populations events as follows:

- Continued outreach to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other special-population partners to ensure STEAR information is updated on the state website.
- Continued work with freestanding EDs and other non-hospital partners to strengthen coalition engagement, improve contact accuracy, and ensure they receive coalition communications.
- Recognition that freestanding EDs frequently experience ownership/personnel changes, creating contact maintenance challenges; facilities receiving patient traffic from these sites were encouraged to ensure they have reliable points of contact.

## **H. Inventory Update**

Inventory updates were discussed briefly; no significant inventory updates were provided at the time. Supply chain considerations were addressed in the World Cup preparedness discussion (burn rates, allocation risk, and vendor storage options).

## **I. Partner Updates**

Partners were encouraged to share recent wins, lessons learned, or incidents that could help other organizations improve preparedness (including security or operational issues). Updates and discussion included:

- Local planning progress and increased engagement around major upcoming events.
- A scheduled tabletop exercise in May (chemical scenario discussed as likely).
- Continued emphasis on building awareness and translating planning into action.
- Internal preparedness initiatives, including monthly communication updates to leadership

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. This will ensure updates are documented accurately in the minutes.

## **J. Other Business**

- **Communication Outages**

Communication outages were discussed (cellular/network disruptions). Partners were prompted to evaluate contingency plans when internet/cellular services fail and consider alternate communications methods. Support capabilities were described, including vehicle-based satellite connectivity and expanded radio capabilities.

- **CMOC Activation**

A gap was identified regarding hospital readiness for CMOC seat activation. The corridor emphasized the importance of CMOC 101 attendance, noting that registration without attendance undermines continued offering and readiness. Recommendations included building a tertiary bench of trained staff who can be released to fill CMOC seats.

## **Adjournment**

Members were reminded to complete sign-in before leaving. The QR code is on the agenda.

A motion to adjourn was made by Stacy Durio (Medical Center of Southeast Texas), seconded by Tommy Byers (Orange County Health Services), and the corridor members carried the motion.

Ms. Worthen adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.

**ATTENDEES:** Kallyn McDaniel, Fidel Calvillo, Sam Marrero, Tommy Byers, Sarah Morris, Liz Smith, Chris Jannise, Sherry Richardson, Jeremy Way, Grant Kelley, Katie Brewer, Edward Morris, Ashley DeMary, Karie Singleton, Rayshell Threadgill, Sarah Morris, Mark Zotti, Stacy Durio, Gina Collins, Timothy Chapman, Martha Simien, Blake Jackson, Whitney Heinicke, Kera Thomas, Christina Watkins

**East Corridor Meeting (January 16, 2026)**

First Name	Last Name	Organization Name (East)	East Corridor Meeting	How did you attend?	Meeting Code
Kallyn	McDaniel	Hardin County Health Services	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Fidel	Calvillo	SETRAC	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Sam	Marrero	AD Hospital East LLC	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Tommy	Byers	Orange County Health Services	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Sarah	Morris	Baptist Hospital SE TX	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Liz	Smith	Orange County Health Services	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Chris	Jannise	Baptist Hospital SE TX	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Sherry	Richardson	Baptist Hospital SE TX	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Jeremy	Way	SETRAC	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Grant	Kelley	SETRAC	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Katie	Brewer	City Ambulance	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Edward	Morris	Beaumont Public Health Department	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Ashley	DeMary	Exceptional ER BMT/PA/ORG, Dept. of Altus Lumberton Hospital	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Karie	Singleton	Christus St. Elizabeth	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Rayshell	Threadgill	Chambers County Public Health	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Sarah	Morris	Baptist Hospital SE TX	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Mark	Zotti	Texas Division of Emergency Management	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Stacy	Durio	The Medical Center of SE TX	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Gina	Collins	Bayside Community Hospital	East 1/16/2026	In person	church
Timothy	Chapman	SETRAC	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Martha	Simien	Golden Triangle PA	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Blake	Jackson	Liberty-Dayton Regional	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Whitney	Heinicke	Hardin County Health Services	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Kera	Thomas	Hardin County Health Services	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church
Christina	Watkins	Mid-Jefferson	East 1/16/2026	In person	Church