



Chairman	Dr. Brent Kaziny
Vice Chairman Hospital Services	Sterling Taylor
Vice Chairman Pre-Hospital Services	James Campbell
Secretary	Walter Morrow
Treasurer	Lon Squyres
Officer-at-Large	Dr. Kevin Schulz
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 July 28, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Dr. Brent Kaziny, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 11:34 am. The meeting was held in-person at Amegy Bank as well as virtually via Zoom. Sterling Taylor called roll for Walter Morrow who was unable to attend the meeting. A quorum was established. Non-board members attending the meeting will need to email Ms. Farquhar at SETRAC of their attendance by the end of the day tomorrow to receive credit for participation.

2. WELCOME

Dr. Kaziny welcomed and gave his appreciation to those attending the meeting. He also announced and congratulated Dr. Kevin Schulz on his appointment as the EMS Physician Director of the Houston Fire Department.

3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr. Schulz announced the following nominations were received for the terms expiring as of this meeting:

- Austin County – Walter Morrow
- Harris County – Eric Stricklin
- Wharton County – Christy Gonzales
- Houston Methodist – Sterling Taylor
- Texas Children's – Dr. Kaziny
- At-Large #2 – Lon Squyres

Also announced were the nominations received for the following vacant board member positions:

- St. Luke's Health – Margaret Reed (fulfilling the remainder of Donnie McLaughlin's term)
- City of Houston – Dr. Schulz (fulfilling the remainder of Dr. David Persse's term)

The following nominations were received for the Executive Committee positions with terms expiring as of this meeting:

- Treasurer – Lon Squyres
- Vice Chairman of Prehospital Services – Dudley Wait, Justin Cude

Dr. Schulz thanked the members of the Nominating Committee (Mark Sloan, Dr. Sam Prater, Rhonda Getschman, and Rachel Parker) for their assistance with reviewing and approving the slate of nominations.

4. OFFICER REPORTS

A. Chairman

Dr. Kaziny thanked the Nomination Committee for their work along with the board members that will no longer be working with the SETRAC board for their valued service over the years.

The importance of SETRAC was highlighted as being a good steward of finances and while trying to be lean can still succeed in its mission during times of challenges to grant funding. Dr. Kaziny announced the start of the SETRAC Future Forward campaign, comprised of two EMS representatives, two hospital representatives, and two SETRAC employees. The group will initially develop a survey for board members to help determine priorities for the organization moving forward and possibly an additional survey for employee feedback. The results will be discussed with the board and presented to Lori Upton as a recommendation for strategic planning and have measurements for success.

Dr. Kaziny also gave a shoutout to SETRAC for the service provided during the recent FIFA World Cup activation.

B. Vice Chair Hospital Services

Sterling Taylor reported that the SETRAC bylaws continue to be reviewed and pending updates will be brought up at the next meeting.

C. Vice Chair Pre-Hospital Services

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

D. Secretary

Mr. Morrow was unable to attend the meeting. There were no items to report.

E. Officer-at-Large Report

Dr. Kevin Schulz echoed Dr. Kaziny's praise of SETRAC and its member organizations and partners for their assistance during the FIFA World Cup events.

F. Treasurer Report

Lon Squyres reported on the organization's financials. Copies of the SETRAC financials were provided to the board. All grants are on track with spending.

The figures for G7 funding will be updated once SETRAC receives the contract.

Board members who wish to review the line-by-line financials are able to do so at any time by reaching out to Tiffany Walker, SETRAC Comptroller.

Approximately 30% of the dues have been paid at the time of this meeting. The remainder of the payments are expected over the next few months.

5. EXECUTIVE REPORT

A. Chief Executive Officer - Lori Upton reviewed items included in the written report that was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

SETRAC staffing has been restructured by merging the directors for response and preparedness into one director position and creating an HPP Program Manager position. Due to the HPP contract no longer requiring one HPP coordinator per TSA, the geographic lines have been redrawn to create four corridors (previously five), each with a preparedness and response manager.

The new contract for the clinical side has been received with a decrease of \$10,000 for pass-through funds and \$4,000 for EMS funds. Funding for RAC systems and EI have remained the same.

The American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma has a draft of standards for RMOCs that includes how to serve as a regional transfer center and usurping EMS medical directors' authority to determine patient destinations. The standards are open for comment and a copy will be sent out to the board.

B. Emergency Healthcare Systems – Melanie Aluotto, Suzanne Curran, and Clayton Ehrlich reviewed items included in the written report that was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

The Stroke Committee is reviewing the pediatric stroke resources approved by GETAC to ensure that it has the best regional practices. The resources will be provided to the Pediatric and EMS Committees for review as well.

The SETRAC Data Repository (SDR) is being enhanced to allow for data uploads to improve regional data participation.

Ms. Curran is accepting feedback on any specific trauma data metrics that the board may wish to see in future reports.

The SETRAC Stop the Bleed program is in the process of providing instruction to almost 600 schoolteachers before school goes back into session as well as staff at the Houston Zoo.

The Pediatric Committee is evaluating changes that might increase attendance and develop new goals.

A suggestion was made to have a representative from Fort Bend County EMS attend the next Injury Prevention Committee meeting to discuss how culture is having an effect on the ability for EMS to properly treat pediatric drowning patients. Information regarding different cultures and healthcare settings can be found on the FIFA World Cup page on the SETRAC website.

C. Preparedness and Response – Troy Erbentraut reviewed the items included in the written report that was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

Boot camps for special populations have seen large attendance. The program will also be taken into the Region 4 area.

The percentage of bed reporting within 60 minutes of request is very low and should be an area of focus.

Engagement with Pulsara in developing a missing persons tool during the FIFA World Cup was a great benefit for everyone in the region and could assist hospitals, EMS, law enforcement, etc., with locating missing persons after a disaster.

Mr. Erbentraut thanked everyone for their welcome and support of SETRAC during the FIFA World Cup. One of the action items for the future is to pull the TMC group into the communications during large-scale events.

Dr. Kaziny thanked Mr. Erbentraut for his service during his time at SETRAC.

D. Information Technology – Jeremiah Williamson reviewed items included in the written report that was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

An improvement in secure scoring was seen for the past quarter due to a mix of what was caught by software and staff reporting of phishing messages.

6. OPEN DISCUSSION

A. Homeland Defense

Mark Sloan reported that Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management will be developing a homeland defense strategy. He recommended that for long-term planning, hospitals, EMS and other first responders evaluate staffing which may include people in the military reserves and/or are draftable that could affect day-to-day operations.

B. Board Representation for Long-Term Healthcare Facilities

The board directed the Bylaws Committee to review the Bylaws and determine what changes would be required to add long-term care and/or mental health facilities as voting members of the board. The information regarding the bylaw's revision, if available, will be reviewed and voted upon at the next meeting.

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Prior Meeting Minutes

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

B. Reports (Officer, Finance, and Executive)

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

C. Resolutions and/or Other Action Items

a. Approval of EMS Acute Stroke Routing Resource Documents

Copies of the resource documents were made available to the board for review. These documents, presented at the previous general assembly meeting, was sent back to the EMS Committee for review, received EMS approval, and is needing approval by the board.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the documents. The transfer was approved with no objections or abstentions.

b. Confirmation of elected leader for Emergency Services Committee

The EMS representative for the Emergency Services Committee, Lisa Martinez, has stepped down from the position. The committee has elected William Godfrey of the Pearland Fire Department to serve the remainder of the term.

A motion was made and seconded to confirm Mr. Godfrey to serve as the EMS representative leadership position for the Emergency Services Committee. The confirmation was approved with no objections or abstentions.

c. Board Elections and Confirmations

The nominations were presented to the board as stated in the Nominations Committee report. A call for additional nominations from the floor was made by Dr. Schulz for the EMS board directors and the Executive Committee positions. No additional nominations were received.

- Director positions with expiring terms

Due to each nominee having no opposition, a motion was made to accept the entire slate of nominees as presented. The motion was seconded and the board approved the nominees with no objections or abstentions. The term for each of these directors will expire in July 2029.

- Open director positions

A motion was made to accept the slate of nominees as presented to fill the remainder of the terms for the vacant positions. The motion was seconded and the board approved the nominees with no objections or abstentions. The term for each of these directors will expire in July 2028.

- Executive Committee positions with expiring terms:

The board voted via paper ballot for each officer position. Mr. Squyres was elected to serve as Treasurer and Mr. Cude was elected to serve as Vice Chairman of Prehospital Services. The term for each of these positions will expire in July 2029.

d. Approval of prehospital stroke algorithms (urban and rural)

A copy of the algorithms was provided to the board prior to the meeting. Having been approved at the GETAC level, the chair of the SETRAC Stroke Committee requested board approval of the

algorithms after having been reviewed by the stroke and EMS committee meetings. After a discussion regarding the procedure for having EMS medical directors review the algorithms, a motion was made to table the approval of the algorithms pending further discussion. The motion was seconded and the board approved tabling the approval of the algorithms with no objections or abstentions. Dr. Kaziny recommended the EMS Committee discuss having a creation of an EMS medical director listserv.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

No items were presented.

ADJOURN

Dr. Kaziny adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

SETRAC Board - Secretary: _____

