



MINUTES: **OCTOBER 22, 2009**

**Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council
Executive Board & General Membership
Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2009 1pm – 3 pm
Dell Children’s Hospital 4900 Mueller Blvd, Austin 78723**

I. Call To Order

Jackie Gondeck called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes:

- July 23, 2009, Combined Executive Board & General Membership
Motion- Gaylen Tipps 2nd - Gregg Knapp
Approved
- September 24, 2009 Executive Board
Motion - Scott Fernandes 2nd - Kenny Schnell
Approved

III. Treasurer’s Report

Kat Gann reported that there are no variances this month. All the grant money is in place and a lot of pass through monies have gone out in the last month. Dave displayed the monthly financial summary report for the membership to review. The RAC has received notice that there will be H1N1 federal grant money. DCMC got some of these funds and has purchased some ventilators and more tents, and pedi intubation equipment. They were the only children’s hospital in the state that received this funding and it was specifically for pedi pts.

The RAC got \$89K for H1N1 along with all the other RACs. A formula was used to determine amts for all the RACs. These funds were tacked onto the original OASPR grant. Dave added that the RPR committee will work to determine priorities for those funds. Scott asked if the representation on the committee included pre-hospital and Dave responded that there was not a lot of pre-hosp participation and he would welcome any additional interested participants. He added that back in the beginning, only hospitals could participate per the fund requirements and over time the originators of the grant appreciated the regional aspects of this type of planning and the membership has opened up. The group meets the 2nd Friday from 9 -11 at the CATRAC offices.

The RAC has masks that are available for hospitals and EMS organizations that run into mask shortages based on vendor issues. Dave cautioned that it is only one type of mask so there are fit test issues that can arise. The feds are looking into relaxing fit testing if a “shortage” is identified during an emergency. Dave is awaiting official word



from OSHA and DSHS on this. A few facilities have requested masks recently when they faced a shortage. Dave added that the RAC is not able to get any more pedi masks due to shortages now. The RAC also got Relenza and Tamiflu for outbreak control or health care workers. Dave advised that facilities should go through their normal supply channels to obtain anti-virals and not to rely on the RAC supply as the primary source initially. Dave added that the antivirals have an extended shelf life until 2016.

A request was made for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Motion – Greg Knapp 2nd - Kenny Schnell Approved

IV. Public Comments

None were made.

V. Chair Report

Jackie reported that she went with Dave to S. Austin Hospital for training on the Parasydes and Stryker Evacuation Chair. Dave added that as a region the hospitals embraced these as tools to evacuate patients – partially due to a requirement to have an evacuation plan and the need to have standardized equipment. The RAC purchased enough to distribute to all RAC hospitals based on each hospital's size.

Jackie added that on Monday the RAC held a regional registry meeting and the Regional Trauma Coordinator meeting. Next Monday the RAC officers are going to get together to continue to meet on RAC strategic planning.

VI. DSHS Update

No one was present to provide an update. Dave shared that Lisa Fallon is the new Trauma Designation Coordinator representing our region at DSHS.

Lisa H. Fallon, RN

Trauma Designation Coordinator

EMS/Trauma Systems Group

Texas Department of State Health Services

512-834-6700 ext. 2457

lisa.fallon@dshs.state.tx.us

VII. Trauma Center / Pediatric Center Update

Dr. Brown – next Thursday is Trauma Medical Director “Meet and Greet” and case review. There will be an ATLS class Nov 13-14th.

Juliette Brown – Dr. Robert Schlechter is now the Trauma Medical Director at DCMC. He would like to finish out the term for the position on the CATRAC Board previously held by Dr. Maxson. Trauma Services will be getting a new Program Director to fill the vacancy left by Steve Janda. Next month Debra Brown will be joining the trauma team as the Program Director at DCMC.

VIII. Director's Update

Dave mentioned the tents used at DCMC recently for flu patient triage and shared pictures of the triage operation. He mentioned that the tents cost \$40k each and include



HVAC and lighting. He added that these are the same tents they are currently using in Iraq. Dave noted that the region has ordered 6 more tents.

Dave mentioned that there will probably no more seasonal flu vaccine coming – there may be some private providers that still have it.

IX. County Representative Updates

Travis County - nothing to report

Williamson County

Kenny Schnell reported that they just did a table top exercise in Bryan - College Station. They have rec'd 20 doses of H1N1 vaccine and they have set up criteria for receiving it. The county is winding down its search for a county CAD vendor. They are building a new emergency department administration building and recently hired an architect firm for this project. Williamson County is also in the process of opening 4 new fire/EMS stations. Marsi Ferris added that Seton Williamson has the Davinci in the OR and used it recently on a pedi patient.

Hays County

Tom Partin mentioned that the new Seton Hays hospital opened in early October and has been very busy. The county is hosting a community Friends and Family CPR Class this weekend that is free. CTMC is close to opening their new Women's and Infants units, including a NICU.

Llano County

Gregg Knapp announced that they have a new emergency director at Llano Memorial – Renee **last name???**

Blanco County - nothing to report

Burnet County - nothing to report

Lee County - nothing to report

Caldwell County

Melanie announced that they have broken ground on state highway 130. They anticipate a lot of growth due to this and she noted that their call volume is already up. Her department just rolled out Life Pack 15s in all of their trucks in their service and they have Stryker Stair Chairs on all trucks now.

They have been chosen by DSHS for an H1N1 project. They have brought multiple stakeholders together for a work group to gather H1N1 materials to give out in information packets. They were able to give it out community National Night Out events all over the county. The information is also in clinics and Chambers of Commerce throughout the county. The health dept is getting bombarded with people demanding their flu shots so they are targeting their educational efforts to help the public understand the difference between H1N1 and seasonal flu. On October 30th they will be coordinating a big school health fair that covers all types of injury



prevention topics – they anticipate about 600 kids will participate. They are also hosting a Caldwell County Health Fair.

Bastrop County

John Banning reported that they are working on migration to the regional 800 radio trunking system. Guardian EMS is waiting for approval to hold an ECA and EMT class possibly in January.

Fayette County

Lee Charleton reported that they recently held public CPR classes and a health fair with a bike rodeo. They are using RAC funds to finish out their mass fatality trailer that should be completed by the end of the year. They are working on paperwork for re-licensure and will be sending it to the state next week.

San Saba County

Charles Peeler reported that they have a new ambulance that they purchased via local fundraising and grants. They are looking into starting an emergency medical district that would help fund EMS through taxes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- I. **Trauma Registry** - see above
- II. **Strategic Planning** – see above
- III. **TETAF update** – Dave added that there is a handout on this for the membership. He explained that TETAF is working closely with the state on moving projects forward, for example the state registry. They plan to participate in the registry development process so that RACs are represented and so that RAC needs can be brought to their attention. Dave will continue to email out TETAF updates to the membership.

Sherry Brown asked how much money the state has for revamping the state registry. Jackie stated that TXDOT gave them \$8 mil. Sherry added that the IT support has been a big issue for the state in the past. Dave added that the state hired a private vendor and hosted a feedback session for the vendor to hear state needs. Dave will seek out more information from the state and share it when it becomes available. The latest report stated that they are putting out a proposal for a Project Manager. Dave will forward the full report out this week to the membership.

Dr. Brown sent out an invitation for all the Trauma Medical Directors to have a Meet and Greet. If you didn't get it, please let Dave R. know and he can send it to you.

IV. Miscellaneous

Dave reported on vaccine update – it seems that no one got the amount of H1N1 vaccine they were hoping for in the initial shipment. The process for getting the vaccine from the state appears to be a complicated process – need to “register” as a provider and apply to DSHS.



NEW BUSINESS:

I. Trauma Designations updates

Lakeside Hospital is going for Level IV

RR St David's has hired a trauma medical director – Dr. Craun

Seton Williamson – Marsi Ferris announced that they officially submitted a level of intent for level III designation and are taking level III trauma patients. Named Dr. Ben Coopwood as Trauma Medical Director and anticipate upgrading their designation to level II by Dec 1, 2009.

CTMC just went through a level IV survey.

S & W Health Care RR is in pursuit of designation for level IV and just installed a second CT scanner. Linda added that they are looking forward to working with all the providers in the RAC and being a part of the trauma system.

St. Johns Hospital has hired a trauma coordinator.

II. Cardiac Care Workgroup

Mission Lifeline – the QI surveys that went out a month ago are due today. They are still looking for a few responses. The cardiac care workgroup will be meeting again on Nov 4th.

III. Committee Reports and Action Items:

- **Disaster management** – no report, no recent activity

- **Education**

Chris Parker reported that it's been pretty quite lately. Dave added that he plans to provide this committee and the Injury Prevention Committee with a budget for their projects.

- **Stroke**

Dr. Harding reported that they had a good meeting today and they are planning on meeting with the San Antonio RAC to discuss some recent transport issues. They also have free posters and brochures that they would like to distribute RAC-wide.

- **Budget & Bylaws – Government Relations** - no update, no recent activity

- **Pre-Hospital Care & Transportation – Hospital Care & Mgmt.**

Scott Fernandes reported that he is working on getting this committee back on track and they are looking to identify a new chair of that committee. Scott is looking for guidance from the strategic planning process for this committee. Any people interested in chairing this committee should contact Dave R.

Dave displayed a handout on a Field Triage Decision Scheme for pre-hospital providers that was put out by CDC. Dave is asking the pre-hospital committee to review this and determine if it would be a good fit for our region to adopt as a means to achieve nomenclature consistency, etc. Gaylen added that this could potentially solve the problem of various EMS providers trying to determine the correct way to code a patient



depending on the hospital they are transporting to. This would eliminate that and the hospitals can determine internally how to code based on the scheme info provided by EMS.

Note - John Gonzales – is interested in being the chair of the Pre-Hospital Committee.

- **Aero Medical**

Dr. Dire recently resigned his position on the CAT RAC Board. Dave added that they really appreciated all the time and effort Dr. Dire has given to the CATRAC over the years.

- **Pediatric – Injury Prevention**

Paula Yuma reported that they had a really well attended meeting today. They have been working on the key roles for the committee – 1) advocate for IP legislation, 2) analyze and provide data, 3) education and training, 4) facilitate inter-RAC communication about IP, 5) strategically allocate IP funds for RAC projects (plan to put out funding proposals for related IP priorities). This year there is about \$10K for projects– they will be putting together a Request for Proposals in the next few weeks.

- **Performance Improvement Program**

Dr. Brown – this group has been meeting regularly. They have completed two sets of guidelines (Dave projected the handouts) 1) CATRAC Spinal Motion Restriction Guidelines (pre-hospital) 2) Adult Coagulopathy/Head Trauma Guidelines (for pt who shows up at a non-trauma facility). Dr. Brown reviewed both handouts with the membership. There was general discussion to review INR. These guidelines will be posted on the CATRAC website. Dr. Brown invited all to participate in the PI committee. They have received a few closed peer review requests recently. Joe Granberry advised that those that submit should be prepared to provide as complete as possible information in confidence so a thorough review can be conducted. Dave reminded folks that there is a PI form that can be used, but any format is acceptable.

Scott Fernandes asked if there was an education plan to distribute this info region – wide. The committee discussed this and decided that the website might be the best way to get it out there, but they are open to suggestions such as passing on to the Education Committee.

IV. Board Vacancies

Dr. Dire has had to resign his position on the board. Dr. Schlechter is interested in finishing Dr. Maxson’s term on the board in the pedi trauma slot. Gregg Knapp is still interim for Llano County and Charles is going to continue in the San Saba County slot. Dr. Harding agreed to take on Dr. Dire’s slot for the remainder of his term.

V. **Discussion / Scuttlebutt** – there was none

VI. Adjourn at 2:34 pm

Next Meeting Update –

- **Executive Board:** November 19, 2009 CATRAC office (note change in date)
- **General / Executive Combined:** January 28, 2010 Dell Children’s
- **Committee Meetings:** As per Chair