



**CATRAC**  
**Capital Area Trauma**  
**Regional Advisory Council**

**Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council**  
**Executive Board & General Membership**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**February 26, 2009**  
**1 – 3 pm**  
**CATRAC Office**  
**4100 Ed Bluestein Blvd. Suite 200**  
**Austin 78721**

I. Call To Order

Jackie Gondeck, RAC Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes:

- January 22, 2009 Executive Board

Scott Fernandes requested a correction on page 4 section 4 ( Educational Offerings). The fees need to be changed from \$250 to \$150 and \$100 to \$50.

Minutes Discussion:

Dave added information as a follow up to the section under new business relating to Georgetown Hospital – level IV vs. level III. Dave added that the PI Committee met after the General Membership Meeting where this topic got tabled. The PI Committee considered possible criteria for looking at level IV vs. level III. One they discussed was how many patients are admitted with an ISS (injury severity scale) score of over 9. The committee agreed that having the hospital stay at Level IV would not compromise trauma care in the region. Going forward the committee agreed that the next time this issue comes up that the RAC Board will ask for some data. The committee decided to support Georgetown Hospital in their request to remain a Level IV facility and hope to have advanced notice to determine support, have time to ask questions and look at data in the future.

There was a motion to approve the minutes from Sylvan Mersivosky with Scott's correction and a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Susan Swan. A unanimous vote followed.

Jackie introduced new board members: Chris Ziebell who is taking Gaylen's spot and Tim Vasquez who is taking on Blanco County. Jackie also introduced two guests, Remmy Morris & Loni Denne who are visitors from American Heart Association.

III. Treasurer's Report

Kat Gann provided a summary report of fiscal activity through Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2009. Marilyn explained the negative fund balance under OASPR FY09. Marilyn said that will change this month when the reimbursement check comes in. Dave added that this is now a reimbursement grant and funds must be requested in advance.



**CATRAC**  
**Capital Area Trauma**  
**Regional Advisory Council**

Tim Vasquez made a motion to approve and Sylvan Mersiovsky 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. A unanimous vote followed.

IV. Public Comments

None were made.

V. Chair Report – RAC Chairs meeting

Jackie reported on the recent GETAC meetings this week. She described the representatives from our area that participate in leadership roles in GETAC committees.

She added that GETAC committees discussed 3538 funds (driver responsibility) and the additional balance that has been accruing. There's been a push to get the unappropriated funds back to the trauma systems. There is a bill in this session that recently was sent to the Appropriations Committee for review.

Remmy Morris is assisting the effort to create a cardiac care committee at GETAC. Jackie is looking into where the red light running funds for the Austin area are going – some 50 % of the funds is supposed to go to the RAC in the region and 50% goes to the municipality that installed the red light. Jackie is trying to track down where this money goes and ensure that the trauma system gets the correct amount.

Texas EMS Trauma Acute Care Foundation (TETAF) is hosting a state summit on the registry in Dallas in April.

Dave added that recently there was a conference call with TETAF and RAC chairs which included Dave and DSHS too. It was determined that TETAF dues are not an allowed expense out of the RAC funds (unless from General Funds). RACs can't use grant money to pay dues to an organization. There was discussion about not all RACs having enough money in their Gen Fund to pay the dues. TETAF has made the argument that they are providing a service to the RACs in which case can't the RACs provide a "service fee" instead of "dues". Preliminary information from the State Legal Dept. is that this is okay. However, right now they are trying to work out how to determine "service fees" throughout the state. The fees must be equitable and they have promised that the dues will not increase. Once they determine how to structure "service fees", then they will ask for an official legal opinion from the state.

The Texas Hurricane/Homeland Security Conference is in April. The RAC is able to subsidize conference fees and still has money left to send folks. Jackie announced that the RAC Officers are holding a Strategic Planning meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

On April 4<sup>th</sup> in Alvin, TX Jackie will attend an in-service on a mobile hospital to see set up and talk with the vendors.

Dave announced that at the RAC Chair meeting recently there was a request to map out the highest level of consistent EMS care in each RAC. This is related to an effort to promote EMS as an essential service. The map will show areas with no care and areas that are overloaded. Dave asked the board to mark the map for our region before the meeting adjourns.



**CATRAC**  
**Capital Area Trauma**  
**Regional Advisory Council**

VI. DSHS Update

Dave reminded the board of the favorable review that Arlen gave during the RAC Annual Review meeting. Recently Dave found out that Arlen has changed jobs and is no longer our RAC contact at DSHS.

VII. Trauma Center Update

Gaylen reported on behalf of Dr. Brown. Gaylen reminded members about the Trauma Conference in June. Gaylen is working on the summary trauma statistics for UMCB. The # of admitted patients is about the same as before CHOA moved. Mortality rates have stayed the same compared to other years.

She added a reminder on the ATLS course the last weekend in March. This is one of the verification criteria needed for the ACS visit

Juliette Brown reported that Dr. Maxson is out of town. She shared that Steve Janda has begun to gather information from STRAC on their Regional Registry to borrow lessons learned. He also encouraged RAC representatives to attend a State Registry Summit in Dallas in April where other states will present how their registry works and vendors will demonstrate their products.

VIII. Director's Update

Dave is planning to attend the State Registry Summit in April in Dallas. See handout on file at the CAT-RAC. Dave is working with S. Janda and others on looking into the feasibility of a regional RAC registry. Dave commented on the model in East Texas. He will present this concept to the Trauma Coordinators to get feedback.

OASPR Grant – Dave discusses a 2-day meeting that was held this week to come up with minimal preparedness capabilities for facilities based on OASPR guidelines. This stems from facilities looking for a way to measure preparedness.

Dave added that the state is looking at the admin. portion vs. program portion of OASPR grant and looking at the possibility of breaking up the state into areas where a larger RAC would pick up admin duties for smaller RACs around them. There have been a few places that have successfully done this already.

GETAC – Disaster Emergency Preparedness Committee

This committee is working on addressing after action items from hurricanes eg. the State EMS agreement for ambulances and another for personnel. They are trying to combine those into one MOA to limit the amount of paperwork. This went to legal and is stalled



**CATRAC**  
**Capital Area Trauma**  
**Regional Advisory Council**

out there. There is also a DSHS services manpower issue to go through all the agreements and they want to streamline it. Scott Fernandes brought up the issue of difficulty in getting reimbursed for services provided and some duplication in the two MOAs.

Dave reported that the Stroke Conference, BDLS, and Spanish for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders classes went very well. The Stroke Conference seed money of \$1,000 is still in the budget and might get used for community education in the coming year. Dave thanked Scott, Kat, Dr. Harding and Chris Parker for their efforts. Dave is looking into a class for Trauma Coordinators.

Dave responded to Melanie's radio project question from last month. The radios are going to rural EMS providers through OASPR funds, the other funding stream referenced (COPS grant) is only for Caldwell and Bastrop Counties.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

I. Educational Update

See above in Director's Report

II. SDGH Trauma Designation

See above in Chair Report

III. TETAF dues

See above in Chair Report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

I. San Saba County Vacancy

Dave expressed deepest sympathies regarding Glenda's passing. He added that Charles Peeler is interested in finishing her term on the Board.

II. Strategic Planning

See Chair Report

III. Air Medical Committee Update

Dave commended the committee and Dr. Dire for their hard work and efforts to have additional meetings.

Scott F. asked about the helipad at Seton Medial Center and Dr. Dire is aware of the problem and has discussed with the ER Medical Director there. There was discussion of



**CATRAC**  
**Capital Area Trauma**  
**Regional Advisory Council**

risks due to backed up traffic and wind tunnel effect. Dr. Dire will draft a letter expressing these concerns and send it to Seton leadership.

Dave brought up that the spinal motion restriction guidelines are being discussed in the PI committee. They will share these with the Board after the committee is finished reviewing them.

IV. Conferences – Homeland Security / Hurricane

See above in Chair Report

V. Cardiac Care Presentation – Loni Denne

See presentation on file at the CAT-RAC.

Dr. Dire made a motion to table the topic of creating a Cardiac Care Committee until the next Board meeting so more information can be made available and the Strategic Planning Officer's meeting has occurred. Sylvan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. A unanimous vote followed.

VI. Discussion / Scuttlebutt

Dave introduced Bill Coll (Infection Control Officer for Office of the Medical Director) who attended at Scott and Chris Parker's request. Bill is looking for funding to attend an annual conference for APIC (Association for Professional in Infection Control and Epidemiology). This is a national conference and will include info on pan flu, etc. The total cost is \$2,100 which includes airfare, hotel and conference registration. The COA has cut all travel expenses from the budget so there is no funding currently. Bill has offered to return and present conference information or act as a resource for the RAC region. Bill will submit a formal request to the Board and Dave. Scott Fernandes made a motion for the RAC to provide all funds for conference/education pending other possible funding sources becoming available.

Kat Gann 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

Jackie asked for a motion to sign the engagement letter from the CPA. Dr. Dire made a motion and Susan Swan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

VII. Next Meeting Update –

- Executive Board: March 26, 2009
- General / Executive Combined: April 23, 2009

VIII. Adjourn

Juliette Brown made a motion to adjourn, Kat Gann 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Jackie Gondeck adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m.