



**Capital Area of Texas Regional Advisory Council
Executive Board Meeting
April 22, 2021
12:00pm – 2:00pm
Virtual**

[MS Teams Meeting](#)

Dial-in # 469-480-8158 | ID 911 226 90#

Minutes – FINAL

I. Call to Order

12:04 pm

A. Roll Call of Executive Board

Scooter Green, Ben Oakley, Terri Thompson, Jim Jewell, Ken Strange, Rodney Mersiovsky, Wesley Alexander, Mike Knipstein, Karla Jones, Sarah Leach, Dr. Gonzalez, Kimberly Barker, and Dr. Ira Wood

B. Introduction of Guests

Jennifer Fritz attended the meeting as a guest.

II. Minutes

A. Approve January 2021 Executive Board Minutes

We do not have minutes for the January Meeting at this time, will follow up at the next meeting

III. Financial Report

Healthcare Coalition L, M, N, and O are working to expend their contractual HPP funds and their COVID Supplemental Funds by May 1st. CATRAC has submitted their proposals to DSHS for items Coalitions voted. DSHS has approved 50% of items. HCC-O requested updating radios at hospitals, foggers for ambulances, HCID equipment. HCC L and M requested hand washing stations, radios, and additional foggers. TSA-N requested ventilators for ambulances, 2-way radios, and video laryngoscopes.

Local Project Grant (LPG) – have not heard if we will receive this funding – will hear at end of Legislative Session.

Received double RAC Funding this year - we have about \$92,000 in Contractual on the RAC side. Have until July 1st to encumber those funds for equipment. In the past was used for SIM Man/Baby, Stop the Bleed, Child Passenger Safety Equipment, different scholarships and classes. If fund classes, they will have to

be complete by August 31st. Purchase orders must be completed prior to encumber date of July 1st.

IV. Chair Report

- Executive Director Update – No start date as of now but looking at a June start.
- Interim Board Appointments – Until End of 2021
 - Fayette County – Josh Vandever expressed interest in interim. Scooter Green made a motion to appoint and Ken Strange seconded the motion. The Board voted 13-0, and the motion carried.
 - Llano County – Two Candidates recommended: Missy Graeter (Hamilton EMS) and Soni Hunt (Mid Coast Hospital) Ben recommended having a rural hospital representative because the board is top heavy in EMS Representatives, and rural hospital representation on the board is lacking. Sarah Leach made a motion to appoint Soni Hunt and Terri Thompson seconded the motion. The Board voted 13-0, and the motion carried.
 - Lead Pediatric – Cassie Campbell was recommended by Dave Golder to replace him at the January Board Meeting. The board has not spoken to her yet nor is she on the call so will wait until next month to see if she wants to take on the responsibility.

V. Executive Director Report

- The Regional Infusion Center (RIC) has been operating for 104 days and has seen 1021 patients. Operational with a May 4th deadline to be reassessed by the State to see if it will operate past this date. COVID positive patients who are high risk for severe symptoms can continue to go to CATRAC website to register for infusions.
- PPE continues to be distributed out of the Expo Center to TSAs L, M, N, and O with over 34,000,000 pieces so far. The PPE distribution State Mission Assignment (SMA) will continue until May 31st, no demob plans yet, but there is talk that the operations need to stop after May 31st. We have no storage for the remaining PPE. If you have space and would like to request PPE, now is a good time to request.
- BinaxNOW Tests distributed over 73,000 tests with 20,000 tests remaining set to expire on May 20th. Mostly for EMS and Fire Dept. Document about an extension of expiration was sent out, will be forwarded to Melissa and shared out.

- State Hospital Contracted Staff – down to 138 deployed and all must be demobilized by May 15 per State, slow demobilization of staff weekly until then.

VI. Public Comments

Jennifer Fritz – Trauma Coordinator for 3 CATRAC Member Sights requested permission again to be the voting member for her 3 sights due to denial and no clear explanations as to why. November meeting there was no motion for granting the request due to concerns for full representation of the facilities. Jenny stated her case, and the board voiced their concerns for one person voting on behalf of multiple hospitals. Due to many concerns, there was no motion to approve currently.

VII. Update: TETAF Legislative News

An update can be sent out to everyone. Workgroup for TETAF meets every Friday morning from 10-10:30 and anyone can attend. A lot of Senate Bills and House Bills on the table that may affect healthcare in general. A few will affect RACs, two to make note of:

- Senate Bill 984 – Would put into law that RACs will be required to collect data for preparedness and response to include demographics. We are in support of this because we can collect our own data as opposed to other agencies. Hopefully would receive funding for it as well and make it easier for us to distribute the data throughout the regions and make actual changes.
- Senate Bill 1397 – Establish a MedCom in RAC Z, there is no funding for this Bill but a companion Bill HB3581 does have funding mentioned. RACs are in favor of MedComs however this funding would be from the Local Project Grant for the entire State so is not recommended. Other funding would be beneficial to the RACs if they go thru with this Bill.

VIII. Statewide Wristband Project and SB500

SB500 \$175,160 to spend by June 6th

- **Wristband Project** - Purchase order for wristbands for \$26,239.00 before shipping costs. May 4th first Wristband Workgroup Meeting with members from Hamilton EMS, Marble Falls EMS, San Marcos EMS, Austin Travis County EMS, Ascension Baylor Scott & White, HCA, Blanco County EMS to be on Workgroup
- A. **Action Item: Truck Purchase** – Looking to spend \$60,000 for F550 or equivalent to pull EMTF trailers for faster deployment. One or two F350s also being considered to purchase for smaller trailers, going to trainings, and

deliveries. CATRAC qualifies for government rates that will help with costs with extra packages needed. Motion made by Ken and seconded by Wesley to spend SB500 funding on vehicles so no need to come back to board to purchase.

IX. Discussion: Data Collection

TETAF – Senate Bill 984 – RACs to collect data for regions – as a RAC we have not collected data before since the CBD Grant which ended in 2017. Other RACs have data they collect every year and are in support of the RAC Data Collaborative.

X. Discussion: Interim Strategic Plan

Recommendations for review and updating of the bylaws is requested

XI. COVID-19: Reports from Executive Board Members

Highlight of any significant events, identification of unmet needs

A. County Representatives

- Burnet brought up that the St. David's Main elevator not working from helipad delaying patient care.
- Jim Jewell – Putting on a ACLS Class next month
- Rodney – COVID cases dripping significantly
- Kim – Nothing at this time and she will investigate the St. David's Main elevator issue.
- Dr. Wood – Michael Brown now director of trauma

XII. Committee/Workgroup Action Items

- Pre-hospital Committee still looking for a co-chair if anyone wants to volunteer
- Education Committee – wants to hold a virtual Mini Education Conference July 19-23, with no cost associated to provide speakers on the main topic of disaster management, to include stroke, perinatal, trauma, disaster focus on winter weather, etc. Need speakers, emails have gone out to committee chairs with no response. Any volunteers would be welcomed.
- Trauma Plan – Hopefully will be completed soon and sent to board. Pre-Hospital - complete updates by May 8th so they can be sent to the Pre-Hospital Committee for final approval.

XIII. Next Meeting Action Items

- A. General Membership – May 27th, virtual
- B. Executive Board -



XIV. Discussion

Melissa brought up future meetings in person or maybe a combination of in person and virtual. Issues with virtual being able to hear virtually is a concern. Will put in a vote in with members to see if in person works for July. Melissa will check out the availability of the meeting rooms. Board meetings suggested that a hybrid solution to make sure everyone can attend. Board looking at June hybrid meeting, July hybrid meeting. General Membership plan to have in person in October.

XV. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Ken Strange and seconded by Terri Thompson. The meeting adjourned at 1:49pm.