

**Capital Area of Texas Regional Advisory Council
General Membership (Virtual)
March 25, 2021
1:00 – 3:00 pm**

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Dial in #: 469-480-8158 | Conference ID: 746 568
275#

Minutes - FINAL

I. Call to Order

Ben Oakley called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

II. Welcome and Introductions

A. Roll Call of Executive Board

Scooter Green, Ben Oakley, Terri Thompson, Jim Jewell, Rodney Mersiovsky, Wesley Alexander, Adam Johnson, Mike Knipstein, Karla Jones, Sarah Leach, Ernest Gonzales, Kimberly Barker

B. Introductions of General Membership and Guests

No guests introduced themselves at the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. October 22, 2020: General Membership

The minutes from the October 22, 2020 General Membership meeting were presented. A motion was made by Adam Johnson and seconded by Mike Knipstein. No one opposed, minutes were approved.

IV. Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

V. Treasurer & Financial Report

FY21 HPP Contractual (Post-Amendment) (Must be encumbered by May 1, 2021)

- HPP-O: \$7,946
- HPP-L: \$35,988
- HPP-M: \$14,430
- HPP-N: \$16,810

HPP COVID Supplementals – Contractual

- HPP-O: \$125,356.23
Mass Fatality Trailer upgrades
ACS equipment
- HPP-L, M, N: \$97,673.00
N-just approved for Zoll ventilators purchase
- EMTF: \$78,140.00 (Supplies Budget – EMTF Cache)

Opportunities for Regional Projects (unobligated)

- RAC I and RAC II: \$104,950.30
- Request for Funds – Committee Project Worksheet

SB 500 Funds

- Total Grant: \$175,160
- Statewide Wristband Project: \$26,274
- 1st grant in 10 years that allows purchase of vehicles – Needed to pull multiple trailers to improve response time.

VI. Chair Report

A. Plans for 2021 Board Calendar

Still working on calendar to mark out what will be accomplished each month for 2021. Calendar will encompass when bylaws, policies will be reviewed, senior requirements, etc.

B. Plans for future Executive Board Meeting days

Finance meetings being set as needed. Coming up soon for Executive Board

C. Need for Chair(s) on every Committee/Workgroup

There are currently chairs for all workgroups. However, Melissa relayed the need for a chair to take on the Wristband Project Workgroup when the first meeting occurs that will be on the agenda.

D. Executive Director Recruitment Update

SGR Firm, updated job description, advertise, recruited and took applications. There were about 24 applications that were narrowed down to 10 semi-finalists, then down to 3 finalists. A Meet and Greet was conducted after the final interviews last week. An offer letter was later given out to one of the finalists, who has accepted the offer. Their name is not being made public at this time due to continued negotiations being made. Hopefully, by the beginning of next week a public announcement will be made. The Executive Board is very excited about the leadership this candidate will provide for CATRAC's future.

VII. Executive Director Report

The 1st Quarter Newsletter will go out later today which will include all the details to include the following topics and more:

- 1 year Anniversary of the Capital Area Medical Operations Center
- Austin Regional Infusion Center update and contact information
- Rapid Antigen Test Kits Available, information on our website
- Over 31 Million PPE Supplies Distributed throughout 29 County Jurisdiction

Since the last meeting in October 2020, CATRAC has hired two new staff members:

- HCC Coordinator-N – Rayse Richardson
- Administrative Coordinator – Rishla Calvert

VIII. Committee Reports

- **Education Committee:** The committee put together a workgroup to plan a CATRAC sponsored Virtual Conference: first meeting was yesterday and next workgroup meeting will be April 14th. The next committee meeting is April 21st. Surveyed General Membership meeting attendees to determine which Educational Virtual Conference topic was most wanted. The categories included Disaster Management, Trauma, Stroke, and Special Populations. Disaster Management received the most votes via poll.
- **Pre-Hospital Committee:** Last met in October 2020. The committee is still searching for a co-chair. Malissa Mieth provided updates on EMS Local Project Grant and the Common Badging Project. For the Common Badging Project, CATRAC has received all the equipment and Malissa is currently working on finding hospital reps to help complete the project. The Statewide Wristband Project was discussed, along with Stroke Pre-Hospital Triage Guidelines. The next meeting will be 04/22/21 at 10am.
- **Perinatal Committee:** Dr. Charles Jaynes has stepped in as Co-Chair of Committee. Meeting scheduled today with Dell Medical School to discuss quality improvement projects. Collaboration between the Perinatal Care Regions and Texas Collaboration for Healthy Mothers and Babies on quality projects has gone very well. Neonatal Admission Temperature Project about to launch which will be the largest quality improvement project for neonatal population in the state of Texas. RAC PCR Alliance has been meeting and organizing for about a year and a half now. Next meeting tomorrow. Neuro-Imaging Project to roll out as the Texas NICU Project.
- **Injury Prevention Committee:** Did not meet much in 2020. There was a Falls Prevention Virtual Training in January that some members took part in. Looking to meet again in April or May, invites to go out soon.
- **Stroke Committee:** Discussed new rules in the process on Advanced Thrombectomy Certification at the end of the year. Working on Spanish Fast and no pending legislature.
- **Trauma Systems & Operations Committee** – Did not meet but has met via workgroup meetings.
 - Whole Blood Workgroup – Arcadian and Austin Travis County EMS/ Austin Medical Director in contract phase with We Are Blood to start carrying Whole Blood. Workgroup continues to get interested parties to join the efforts.
 - Trauma Plan Workgroup: In final stages and going to committee next week for review, after any revisions will be sent to the board for review.

- ## IX. Open Discussion: Statewide Wristband Project
- Wristband Project Flier attached to meeting invite – Project created due to SB500 Funds received to perform a Statewide RAC project – the wristband project was chosen due to: 1) difficulty tracking patients during large scale disasters and small mass casualty incidences 2) connecting patient records across different electronic medical record systems. Pilot program involved 9 RACs at end of 2020, now being pushed out Statewide.

CATRAC needs to put together a workgroup to roll out the program in TSA-O Region.

- Need minimum – one rural EMS agency, one urban EMS agency, and one hospital system
- CATRAC is purchasing one to two years of wristbands with SB500
- Expectations: ensure every patient receives a wristband and tracking numbers have a place to be inputted in patient electronic medical records (EMR)
- If interested in starting the pilot project in TSA-O email wristbands@catrac.org.

X. Open Discussion: CATRAC Bylaws

In need of review/amend bylaws as needed. Need a committee to take the lead in working on the bylaw review process. No one volunteered. Will work on this in the next Executive Board Meeting. Bylaw recommendations can be emailed to administrator@catrac.org. Suggestions will be reviewed and finalized by the end of the year.

XI. COVID-19 Public Health Update

- Travis County – ATC Jurisdiction currently has 78,496 positive COVID cases with 806 deaths reported. Austin Public Health vaccination efforts have administered 157,709 vaccines to the community at large thru the Regional HUB System along with clinical operations run by Austin Public Health.
- Ebola Response Update – 2 people actively being monitored under a 21-day system, with 2 additional travelers detained but determined not to be at risk.
- TSA-O as of today has received 1,000,330 doses of vaccine with 763,426 vaccinations given by 343 providers throughout the RAC

XII. CATRAC Membership Dues

Invoices for membership dues went out at the end of January. Reminders will go out soon to follow up with those agencies that have not paid.

XIII. HPP/EMTF Update

A. Healthcare Coalitions TSA's L, M, N, O

- Statewide Burn Annex – waiting on draft to push to coalitions
- COVID Response AAR – will be used in place of annual tabletop drill
- Coalitions working on spending HHP COVID Supplemental Funds
- Focus on updating Ebola response plans – Encouraging hospitals to check equipment, and have further discussions to prepare if there is an outbreak

B. Emergency Medical Taskforce-7 (EMTF-7)

Assisting with vaccinations of seniors and nursing homes. RIC open now for 76 days, 837 does given, with 7 scheduled from yesterday to today, numbers of infusions are increasing. Reassessment as to whether to stay open after April 15, depends on numbers in region. Looking at options to pull heavier trailers to not have to rely on renting or other agencies. Going over inventory soon and organizing trailers.

XIV. DSHS/HHSC Update

Trauma Service Area Rule in revision along with a couple Trauma rules affecting designation requirements and extensions. Members asked to go to DSHS website to review revisions. CATRAC encourages members to attend GETAC meetings and to get involved with rule revision process. RAC Chair Meeting coming up on March 31st.

XV. TETAF and Legislative Updates

Legislative Focus Week – members encouraged to reach out to State Representatives to discuss the importance of RACs and preserving funding. Currently projecting a 3% decrease in funding for EMS and RACs in fiscal years 2022 and 2023. Focus is to at least bump that up to what we normally get if not increasing funding. COVID response, importance of data collection and overall role of RACs in our state. Anyone interested in getting involved let Melissa know. There are template letters available to help get the word out.

XVI. Hospitals Update

- **St. David's Round Rock** reported that they are actively in trauma survey.
- **Ascension Seton** reported that in 2020 Austin, NW, SW all re-designated for level IV trauma centers.
- **St. David's South Austin** due for verification in March of 2022. Need for residency was approved, received 5 residence for St. David's System to start in July.
- **Ascension Seton Hays**, have a tentative date for level II verification visit. Still fully functioning as level II and review scheduled 1st week of August.
- **Baylor Scott and White - Marble Falls** is officially a Primary Stroke Designation Center.

XVII. Other Business

No other business scheduled.

XVIII. Discussion

No discussion offered.

XIX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:23pm.

Next Meeting:

Executive Board: April 22,2021

General Membership Meeting: May 27,2021

Committee Meetings: As per committee Chair/Co-Chairs