



Georgia Trauma Commission

GEORGIA TRAUMA CARE NETWORK COMMISSION

Conference Call Meeting FY 2012 Version 9 Budget Review

Wednesday, 01 June 2011
8:30 am until 9:30 am

Public Listening Sites:

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta in Forsyth
410 Peachtree Parkway, suite 300
Cumming, Georgia 30041
(Located in “Avenue Forsyth”)

Memorial Health University Medical Center
Trauma Services Conference Room
4750 Waters Avenue
Provident Professional Building, Suite 212
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Grady Medical Center
Room 101
Faculty Office Building
49 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive
Atlanta Georgia, 30303

MCG Health, Inc.
Room BA 4080
11020 15th Street
Augusta, Georgia 30912

The Medical Center of Central Georgia
Health Resource Center
Medical Library, 2nd Floor
Peyton Anderson Health Education Center
877 Hemlock Street
Macon, Georgia 31208

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Dennis Ashley, Chair, called the scheduled conference call meeting of the Georgia Trauma Commission, on the FY 2012 Version 9 Budget Review to order at 8:35.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Dennis Ashley Linda Cole, RN Ben Hinson Dr. Joe Sam Robinson Bill Moore Kelly Vaughn, RN Kurt Stuenkel	Dr. Leon Haley (excused) Rich Bias (excused)

STAFF MEMBERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Jim Pettyjohn, Executive Director Lauren Noethen, Office Coordinator	Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission

OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Ms. Regina Medeiros Ms. Lisa Fritz Ms. Fran Lewis Ms. Ginny Lane Mr. Alex Sponseller Mr. Lee Oliver Ms. Elaine Frantz Ms. Janice Insley	MCG Health, listening site Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, listening site Grady Medical Center, listening site Medical Center of Central Georgia, listening site Assistant Attorney General Medical Center of Central Georgia, listening site University Health Memorial Medical, listening site University Health Memorial Medical, listening site

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Dennis Ashley confirms that we are all on the same page. He has pulled up on his computer Version 9 of the FY 2012 budget and asks Mr. Jim Pettyjohn if that is where we are starting.

Mr. Jim Pettyjohn states that yes that is the budget that was posted to the GTCNC web page and it is the budget to be under consideration today.

Mr. Alex Sponseller confirms quorum with five Commission members present.

Dr. Ashley confirms that we do have our listening sites.

Mr. Pettyjohn confirms that we have five sites identified as Level 1 trauma centers, throughout the State of Georgia.

Dr. Ashley states that he is going to have Ms. Linda Cole go over the budget.

General Trauma Fund Allocations page 1

Ms. Linda Cole states that the goal was to try and find \$754,000, and we did not find that amount, but were able to carve out \$648,000 for Trauma Registry. We started off with 20 Million dollars, but again the 2.5 million is restricted through HIE, and we are not sure we are going to get those dollars. So we took those dollars out from the beginning. That left us 17.6 million. You can see how we have allocated that to the different topics, and we will go through each one of those in more detail. That left us 14.8 million for distribution to the stakeholders. We then took the typical 20/80 divisions

Commission Operations page 2

Ms. Cole states that the only thing we changed on this page was the Contingency Funding. We took out \$72,752.00 to leave us \$25,000 for Contingency Funding. Everything else is as we discussed at the last Commission meeting. Ms. Cole asks if there is any discussion on this.

Discussion: None

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Trauma Communications Center Operations page 3

EMS and Hospital Educator

We did a little more work around this and carved out some dollars. We took out \$17,000 on the EMS and Hospital Educator, which left it at ten months of the salary. This is high end of the range so we may be able to save dollars here depending on the salary of who ever fills this position.

Communications Center Operator

We went back and took out three of the FTE'S. That will leave us with double coverage of averaging around eight hours a day, depending on how you split it up during the week.

Another area that was decreased was the SAAB Software Enhancement by \$25,000, leaving \$75,000. Also Contingency was cut \$100,000 leaving us with a total savings of, or decreases in this section of the budget of \$310,000.

Discussion:

Mr. Bill Moore wants to know if the Communications Center Operators remaining budget assumes that this position will be filled by July 1, and do you feel that is possible?

Ms. Linda Cole states that is correct, it may not be right on July 1, but at least by July 14. This difference will not be enough to really cut anything of significance.

Mr. Pettyjohn states that the Commission will have a full budget review during the January Workshop, and any cost savings can be moved to the stakeholders at that time.

System Development, Access and Accountability page 4

We took \$110,000 from the Regionalization activity. Ms. Cole states that she had a lot of discussion about this with Mr. Rich Bias, because where the dollars really came from originally was the \$175,000 allocated for Augusta and Macon, but that was cut to \$20,000. Mr. Bias was supportive of that and felt that they could continue out through next year with an additional \$20,000, because they did not receive the \$75,000 until midway through this year. Some of those funds will be used in the next state fiscal year.

Ms. Cole states the other area is CHOT, which was taken out.

Mr. Ben Hinson thinks that it is a very bad choice to take CHOT out completely. Mr. Hinson thinks that CHOT is the best dynamic modeling that the Commission has, and we need that.

Ms. Cole asks Mr. Hinson about the modeling that Georgia State is doing. Ms. Cole states that in her opinion she finds Georgia States modeling easier to follow than the work that Ms. Eva Lee is doing.

Mr. Hinson thinks that there may be somebody else that can do that work better. Georgia State is doing some very interesting work, but he is not sure if they can be directed to answer the questions that we have. Mr. Hinson is afraid if the Commission takes that \$50,000 out of the budget, and then someone else shows up that can do the right study for us where will we get the dollars for that? Not to have money for a future design program, when that is what we are all about is very disappointing to him. Mr. Hinson personally thinks Dr. Eva Lee is the best, and we should keep CHOT unless we find something better.

Mr. Pettyjohn states that the Commission will have \$25,000 Contingency in Operations, and \$50,000 Contingency in Communications Center. That is a total of \$75,000 that we will have in Contingency that is yet to be earmarked. We could look forward more and investigate Mr. Hinson's concerns if he would like to do that.

Mr. Hinson states that he wanted the Commission to hear that he had some concerns, not necessarily about getting rid of CHOT, but not having the dollars available for a future design program. He just wants to be on the record that he mentioned this early on, because he thinks that we will need to have some sort of program like CHOT. If the Commission hears Mr. Pettyjohn say that we may come back in the future and fund a similar project like CHOT, he is good with that.

Mr. Bill Moore states that he saw an earlier version of the budget where Bishop & Associates budget was cut fairly substantially, and now it looks like it is cut down to \$99,000. Mr. Moore wants to know if that has been reviewed in detail. Mr. Moore wants to know if \$99,000 will be enough for Bishop & Associates to accomplish what the Commission needs from them.

Mr. Pettyjohn states that yes it will be. Mr. Pettyjohn spoke with Mr. Bishop and asked him about some cuts and gave him some numbers, giving \$75,000 to the audit firm and \$75,000 to Bishop & Associates. Mr. Bishop felt that he could make the evaluation of the Burn Centers and support the Commission's needs on determining how to fund Trauma Burn Centers, and that he could be lighter on that. Mr. Pettyjohn felt that a full investigation of that was necessary. We had planned that Mr. Bishop would transition his financial survey, and his uncompensated care yearly survey over to the audit firm. Mr. Pettyjohn states that the Commission had built in funds for the audit firm to take that on. We now are having that survey handed over to me, since we are going to have a Procurement Officer on board now, which will allow me to do the financial survey for next year. So that is how we had the cost savings in the audit firm.

Mr. Moore states that he was going to suggest that between Bishop & Associates and the \$16,000 that we have for additional contracts and costs, maybe we could come up with some money for CHOT. Mr. Moore states that it sounds like the Bishop number is a pretty hard number, unless we are willing to accept a reduction in services.

Mr. Hinson wants to know if we are paying Bishop & Associates to study the impact of burn centers coming into the trauma system.

Mr. Pettyjohn states that Bishop & Associates is going to survey the national data on how states fund burn centers, and do interviews with the burn centers here in this State. They will study the Augusta Burn Center, and Grady Burn Center. Mr. Bishop will do a financial analysis of their needs. The Commission has no understanding of the Readiness cost of burn centers, nor do burn centers have uncompensated care claims that are tied to ISS. So when you start funding burn centers you are going to need some sort of frame of reference on how to fund those, and that is going to be part of Bishop's proposal next year to come up with that. Mr. Greg Bishop will be at the next Commission meeting to talk about his proposal and get further directions from the Commission on how to proceed.

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Mr. Hinson states that part of his frustration is that we are spending a \$100,000 on how to bring the possibility of burn centers into what the Commission is doing, and we do not have any dollars planned on how to better spend the EMS money we are now spending.

Mr. Pettyjohn states that Mr. Bishop is also going to do the calendar year 2010 Trauma Center Financial Survey. That will be the third year he has done that. Then based on his review of the burn center, and his assessment in working with the subcommittees of the Commission he will come back and reevaluate the trauma center physician funding mythology's to include burn centers for possible funding in the FY 2013.

Ms. Cole wants to know when the \$50,000 they have already paid to CHOT run out?

Mr. Pettyjohn is not certain, but he can find that out. He knows that it is going to run out sometime during the upcoming fiscal year, and if we do not have the money in this budget we will not have the money to renew the membership contract.

Ms. Cole knows that CHOT has a fixed rate of \$50,000. Ms. Cole wanted to know in order to resolve this issue what do we need to do.

Mr. Hinson states that he knows there is a dynamic Center for Rural Health being set up at Georgia Southern, and they may be able to do work similar to what CHOT is doing. Mr. Hinson thinks they might even present it in a clearer way. Mr. Hinson is good with approving this budget as it is now, as long as we look at the contingency in the future to support a program similar to CHOT's.

Dr. Dennis Ashley states that his goal now from EMS is to understand the barriers, and the needs that they have, and how to improve access. Dr. Ashley was hoping that Dr. Lee would be able to answer a lot of those questions, and he thinks they might have been on the right track. Dr. Ashley agrees with Mr. Hinson that we need some sort of analysis of EMS. Dr. Ashley states that whether it is Dr. Lee or somebody else he is in support of that.

Mr. Hinson mentions that Mr. Pettyjohn stated we could review this in January. Mr. Hinson wants to know if something changes could we review it before then?

Mr. Pettyjohn replies, "absolutely".

Ms. Cole wants to know if Mr. Hinson would contact Georgia Southern and see if they could help us.

Mr. Hinson states that he is working on that as Ms. Cole speaks.

Ms. Cole continues with the budget concerning TAG. We talked about not funding as many courses as we had originally proposed, taking out \$15,000 from there. We took out another \$34,000 from the contingency to leave it with \$16,000. The rest of the budget is the dollars allocated to that section and we do not have the detail of how they will be spent. This is on page five, the EMS allocation that is 20% of the funds that were remaining. The Office of EMS and Trauma that is 3% of the 17 million. The hospitals, that is 80% of the funds remaining, that those subcommittees will work on. What we need to vote on today is page 1 all that is in green, the dollars that will be allocated to each section. Then page 2, 3, and 4, and how those funds are allocated to the Commission Operations, Trauma Communications Center, and the System Development Access and Accountability. The other sections we are just voting on the dollars that will be allocated, and then different subcommittees will decide how to divide those dollars up.

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Mr. Pettyjohn states that he hopes to have the office of OEMS/T have their budget for the Commissions consideration at the next Commission meeting. Mr. Pettyjohn will also be working with Dr. Leon Haley and his subcommittee to come together with the physicians and trauma center allocations, and also have the Bishop & Associates survey done by then. Mr. Pettyjohn clarifies that the OEMS/T is a little bit less than 3%, however that amount of money was prescribed in the Governors budget and we supported in documentation from Office of Planning and Budget that the OEMS/T allocation for FY 2012 would be \$499,707. On GTCNC's website you will find an opinion letter written by Ms. Debbie Dlugolenski, Director of the Office of Planning and Budget. The letter states that the 2.5 million in federal funds is subject to a competitive award process. They asked the Commission to amend our budget by subtracting the 2.5 million dollars as Amendment #1. It is pretty clear that we are not going to have the 2.5 million unless we want to spend a lot of time and effort trying to meet the requirements of health information exchange. Mr. Pettyjohn states that talking to Ms. Ruth Carr, the Commissions mission around the Communications Center does not meet the mission and the purpose of the HIE funds from the federal government.

MOTION GTCNC 2011-06-01:

I move that the version 9 budget as it was presented this morning be approved.

MOTION BY:

Mr. Bill Moore

SECOND BY:

Mr. Ben Hinson

DISCUSSION: None

Dr. Ashley asks that a confirmation be done on who is still present on the conference call line.

Mr. Jim Pettyjohn does a role call to confirm the Commission members still present on the conference call line:

Dr. Joe Sam Robinson

Dr. Dennis Ashley

Ms. Linda Cole

Mr. Bill Moore

Mr. Ben Hinson

Ms. Kelly Vaughn came on line during the role call.

Dr. Ashley filled Ms. Vaughn in on the discussion of the Version 9 Budget. Dr. Ashley states that the Commission has not made any changes to this version of which Ms. Vaughn received via email.

After a brief discussion of this budget, Ms. Vaughn voiced support of Version 9, and stated her vote would be yes.

Mr. Pettyjohn states that we have a unanimous vote from those on the conference call line, and Mr. Kurt Stuenkel was not on line at present.

Dr. Dennis Ashley confirmed that six Commission members were on the conference line, and quorum was active.

DISCUSSION: None

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ACTION:

The motion **PASSED** with no objections, nor abstentions.

Mr. Kurt Stuenkel had to leave the line for a few minutes and missed voting, but he returned to the conference call line after the vote was closed and stated that he approved Version 9 of the budget.

Dr. Ashley states that legally the vote is over, and that the official vote will be as it has already been registered.

The date for the next Commission meeting was discussed because several Commission members would not be able to attend the originally planned July meeting. It was decided that the Commission meeting be moved to August in order to accommodate the majority of the Commission members.

NEXT MEETING: Will be on Thursday, August 11, 2011, Macon venue to be confirmed.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:25

Minutes crafted by Lauren Noethen

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