



EMS SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRAUMA

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Scheduled: 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm

Medical Center of Central Georgia – Corporate Office Conference Room
691 Cherry Street
Macon, GA 31208

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ben Hinson called the first monthly meeting of the GTCNC EMS Subcommittee on Trauma to order in the Medical Center of Central Georgia at 3:00 p.m.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Ben Hinson, Chair Subcommittee & GA Trauma Commission Member Rich Bias, GA Trauma Commission Member Dr. Leon Haley, GA Trauma Commission Member (via tele-conference call) Billy Watson, Director State Office of EMS Courtney Terwilliger, Chair: Sate EMSAC Ralph McDaniel – EMS Region One Chad Black – EMS Region Two Dr. John Harvey – EMS Region Three Richard Lee – Region Four Lee Oliver – Region Five Blake Thompson – Region Six Craig Grace – Region Eight David Moore – Region Nine Huey Atkins – Region Ten	Region Seven Representative

OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Jim Pettyjohn Carol Dixon Dwayne Morgan Renee Morgan Pete Quinones David Ellis Frank Heyman Russell McDaniel Josh Mackey William Laird	Executive Director, Georgia Trauma Commission Georgia Trauma Commission West Baldwin Fire/Rescue OEMS/Trauma Region Three Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Mid-Georgia Ambulance Region I EMS Council Chair GAEMS/Brock Clay Laurens County EMS

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Hinson welcomed all present at the meeting. This is actually the fourth stakeholder's meeting. Everyone introduced him or herself and briefly discussed their role and experience in EMS and in their EMS region. There was not a representative present from EMS Region Seven. Mr. David Moore will represent Region Nine. Subcommittee Membership roster will be updated and posted to the Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission (GTCNC) website (www.gtcnc.org) as required to reflect current subcommittee membership.

Prior to the meeting, an email memo (posted on the GTCNC website) was sent by Mr. Hinson containing "Pre-meeting Considerations" dated 12 July 2010 to representatives for consideration and discussion. These ground-rule issues follow:

Item:

Should members of the Subcommittee of Trauma be expected to support the consensus decisions reached by the subcommittee even if they opposed the decision?

Discussion:

The Subcommittee will follow open records process whereby unanimous votes will be recorded as "Approved". If a voter "Abstains" from voting it will be recorded as well as if there is a split vote. There will be a "voice vote" for the record. We will register and record how members vote unless it is unanimous. If a member is absolutely against a vote, it will be recorded. It was agreed that Committee votes will be recorded for the record but personal opinions can be discussed too.

Item:

Who do we serve?

Discussion:

We need to balance rural and city EMS support to be diligent and be good stewards to support all 159 counties in Georgia with tax dollars.

Item:

Are we selected as Representatives of our organization or simply messengers? Can everyone vote at a meeting or do they need to go back to their region for discussion.

Discussion:

Mr. Lee Oliver expressed that a council is not necessarily a representative of EMS services. Several representatives expressed that they were given the power to make decisions for their Regional council. In following rules of order, the representative should handle the business of the committee and report back to his council. Mr. Hinson discussed Mr. Courtney Terwilliger's memo dated 13 July 2010 in response to Mr. Hinson's Pre-Meeting Considerations memo (12 July 2010) and supported him in following Roberts' Rules of Order. Copies of the February 2009 "Our Emerging Vision" document were made available to those attending to address the overall goals of the main body and the consideration of the needs of all the stakeholders. (www.gtcnc.org)

Action:

Mr. Hinson suggested all members check with their council chair and confirm how they will be making decisions for them.

Discussion:

Mr. Billy Watson expressed concern over whether he could be allowed to be a voting member of the subcommittee as a state employee. It was decided that Mr. Watson was selected to serve and vote. If there is a conflict, Mr. Watson or any other member could abstain from voting.

Action:

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Mr. Hinson asked Mr. Watson to check with the State of GA to determine if there was a conflict of interest and Mr. Watson will get approval from the DCH Legal Department.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2010-7-01:

I make a motion that every member of the EMS Subcommittee has the right to vote.

MOTION BY: Dr. John Harvey
SECOND BY: Mr. Lee Oliver
DISCUSSION: See below
ACTION: The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.
(Approved minutes will be posted to www.gtcnc.org)

Discussion:

Mr. Ralph McDaniel requested the definition of a "conflict." Mr. Rich Bias asked if there was a prohibition for a state employee to vote and whether Mr. Alex Sponseller, State Legal Council Representative, might have some advice for this subcommittee to use for a disclaimer.

Action:

Mr. Hinson recommended that Jim Pettyjohn consult with Mr. Alex Sponseller, State Legal Council Representative to define conflict. Mr. Pettyjohn confirmed that the Subcommittee was formed to make recommendation to the Georgia Trauma Commission not to disperse money, ambulances, etc. Mr. Pettyjohn will follow up with Mr. Sponseller and report back.

Discussion:

Proxy voting is not allowed for the Georgia Trauma Commission and would not be allowed for its EMS Subcommittee either. Tele-conference voting could be allowed. Mr. Pettyjohn made awareness that there was presently no budget for additional tele-conference calls. It was decided that future EMS subcommittee meetings would be open to the public with physical attendance, but not by telephone dial-in options.

Follow up:

Mr. Hinson would discuss additional telephone and administrative costs at the next Georgia Trauma Commission meeting scheduled tomorrow, 15 July 2010.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2010-7-02:

I make the motion that the EMS Subcommittee allow its members to vote electronically by tele-ponic communication or email.

MOTION BY: Dr. John Harvey
SECOND BY: Mr. Ralph McDaniel
DISCUSSION: When there is a call vote, a name roll-call vote is permissible and should be documented in the minutes.

AMENDED MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2010-7-02:

I make a motion to remove email from the primary motion.

MOTION BY: Dr. John Harvey
SECOND BY: Dr. Leon Haley
DISCUSSION: None
ACTION: The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.
(Approved minutes will be posted to www.gtcnc.org)

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2010-7-03:

I make a motion that the EMS Subcommittee members, deemed present, allow its members to vote on the phone.

MOTION BY: Dr. John Harvey
SECOND BY: Mr. David Moore
DISCUSSION: See Below
ACTION: The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.
(Approved minutes will be posted to www.gtcnc.org)

Discussion:

The EMS Subcommittee will follow the Georgia Trauma Commission's bylaws. The Georgia Trauma Commission's definition of a quorum is 50 percent plus one, which is equivalent to eight votes for the EMS Subcommittee for a quorum to be established.

Item:

What is the purpose of the Subcommittee on Trauma? Do we have a plan? Who should we work to benefit?

Mr. Hinson referenced the second paragraph in Mr. Courtney Terwilliger's email dated 13 July 2010 suggesting the Subcommittee review the Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission's goals as outlined in the February 2009 "Our Emerging Vision" document (*posted on the www.gtcnc.org website*). Page four details the five-year Georgia Trauma System Strategic Plan Outline stressing the items in bold as short-term objectives. Mr. Terwilliger pointed out that the EMS Subcommittee serves a larger body; we do not make up the goals and objectives of the body, but here to support the Georgia Trauma Commission. Mr. Terwilliger recommends that everyone read an article from the American College of Surgeons regarding EMS. An electronic copy will be posted on the www.gtcnc.org website. Mr. Hinson welcomes recommendations and input from everyone regarding the Emerging Vision and direct involvement with the Georgia Trauma Commission.

There is anticipated hope for the approval of the \$10 Tag fee, which the Georgia Trauma Commission supports. In the past, EMS has received approximately 20% of the dollars, dedicated to EMS, and efforts will continue for same. If there is \$15M available annually to the EMS community in the name of trauma, what will we do with that? Mr. Hinson expressed what he is hearing from elected officials emphasizing new capacity. This means doing things better, not plugging holes, but improvement of what we are doing. If the \$10 tag fee passes, there is a caveat on the amendment defining that the plan for the dollars use be developed by the Georgia Trauma Commission then goes back to the legislature for approval. The amendment states the money has to be spent on trauma care but did maintain input that whatever the budget is, the house and senate will vote up or down on that.

Mr. Blake Thompson, speaking for Region 6, would like to ambulance grants to stay at \$71 - \$72K with the county contributing somewhat. If EMS receives 20% of \$80M, this could provide 112 vehicles a year, which could provide one new vehicle every other year to each of the 159 Georgia counties. Second, he feels that First Responder Training Program should continue and consider other EMT program behind it in the future. Third, Mr. Thompson believes that more helicopter service in south Georgia, below Macon, is warranted. Mr. Chad Black thinks that funding for AED's (automatic electronic defibrillators) in those areas would be beneficial. Mr. Thompson further said the EMS community should support air service. Just this weekend, two lives were saved because of the First Responders. Mr. Huey Atkins said we have to justify the trauma need for air support for cost and logistic reasons.

Mr. Atkins feels a long-standing EMS problem in the state for many years is funding for the EMS offices. There are training issues in rural Georgia including the fact that Regional offices do not have staff to assist in training. Per Mr. Hinson, SB60 says we cannot allocate more than 3% of the funds the

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Commission receives to OEMS/T. Mr. Pettyjohn said the Commission has provided 3% of its annual budget for the last two years to OEMS/T, which went for salaries of OEMS Regional staff.

Action: Now is the time to develop the EMS funding plan for Commission dollars and begin to work hard to put that together for presentation, hopefully by early fall to get it into the Trauma Commission's budget for presentation to legislative leaders in December 2010, so when the next legislative session starts they will vote favorably on the budget.

FY2010 EMS Vehicle Grant Distribution:

FY2010 EMS Vehicle Notice of Award letters have not been distributed yet. DCH is handling the application review and scoring process. There will be 29 vehicles distributed. DCH has re-reviewed the scoring due to discovered errors. Georgia Trauma Commission will review latest list at monthly meeting tomorrow, July 15th. This list is posted on the DCH website.

Action:

Awaiting final FY2010 EMS Vehicle Notice of Awards list. Mr. Courtney Terwilliger has a new scoring criteria list to consider at next meeting which will be provided to all Subcommittee members.

AVLS Discussion:

Region 5 and 6 pilot ALVS (Garmin) orders due by 16 August 2010. There were many questions and issues about the InMotion systems including, installation, technical support, cost, timelines, equipment capabilities, GEMA and Georgia Tech Research Institute's involvement.

Action:

Decision to hold meeting in near future for Region 5 & 6 with GTRI and InMotion to answer all questions. Send all questions to Mr. Ben Hinson. Ryan Goodson, Trauma Commission Communication Center Lead, will also be present to discuss the Trauma Communications Center.

Recommendations for EMS Dollars:

Several recommendations made were: system enhancement grants, i.e. defibrillators and rescue equipment.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2010-7-04:

I make a motion to recommend to the Georgia Trauma Commission that they continue, in fiscal year 2011, with the same spending programs that were in place for last year (FY 2010) and at the same proportions, even if the funds are less.

MOTION BY: Mr. Courtney Terwilliger
SECOND BY: Mr. David Moore
DISCUSSION: None
ACTION: The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.
(Approved minutes will be posted to www.qtcnc.org)

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2010-7-05:

I make a motion we hold EMS Subcommittee meetings two weeks prior to the Georgia Trauma Commission meeting with minutes developed and are available at the Georgia Trauma Commission meetings. These minutes will be sent to subcommittee members and presented as draft to the Trauma Commission.

MOTION BY: Mr. Courtney Terwilliger
SECOND BY: Mr. Huey Atkins
DISCUSSION: The minutes will reflect general discussion points, motions and action items. Effort will be made to post meeting dates two weeks

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in advance with an agenda to include old business and opportunity for members to add to agenda. Meetings to start earlier in day to allow for travel.

ACTION:

The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.
(*Approved minutes will be posted to www.gtcnc.org*)

Next meeting: will be determined and notice sent to all subcommittee members and posted to Commission website.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Minutes crafted by Carol Dixon