



## EMS Subcommittee on Trauma

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Legacy Lodge and Conference Center at Lake Lanier

Buford, Georgia

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Courtney Terwilliger, Chair & GA Trauma Commission Vic Drawdy, GA Trauma Commission Carlton Firestone – Region One Chad Black – Region Two Steve Folden- Region Four Lee Oliver – Region Five Blake Thompson – Region Six ( <i>Conference Line</i> ) Jimmy Carver-Region Seven Huey Atkins – Region Ten	Regina Medeiros – GA Trauma Commission Pete Quinones - Region Three
OTHERS	REPRESENTING
Billy Kunkle Erin Bolinger ( <i>Conference Line</i> ) Katie Hamilton ( <i>Conference Line</i> ) Tim Boone	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff AVLS

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Terwilliger called the 28th of March 2018 meeting of the EMS Subcommittee on Trauma to order and established quorum with 9 of 11 members present or by conference line at the Legacy Lodge and Conference center at Lake Lanier in Buford, Georgia at 3:36 P.M.

## **MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2018-03-01:**

**I make the motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held February 23, 2018.**

**MOTION BY:** Huey Atkins

**SECOND BY:** Jimmy Carver

**VOTING:** All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

## **AVLS Report**

**By: Tim Boone**

Mr. Boone's AVLS report is attached to the end of these minutes. There are some new participating areas. Discussion of several moving to First Net/AT&T and it was reported that those that have made the move are happy with the service. There was great discussion in the AVLS training held today.

Mr. Terwilliger did mention his concern for the temperatures inside the ambulance. There was an AVLS advanced training held today at the leadership conference here and there are plenty of peripheral items for your AVLS units that may be of interest to be added to your ambulances. Mr. Terwilliger made mention of Spaulding County and the usage of tablets within the truck and the features that are compatible with existing systems. Mr. Terwilliger also mentioned some innovative things being done in Henry County. It was discussed that perhaps the EMS equipment grant proceeds could be used to purchase some enhancements to existing systems.

## **FY18 EMS Equipment Grant Update and Approvals**

**By: Vic Drawdy**

Mr. Drawdy gave the EMS equipment grant update. He reported that at this time there has been 164 applications received and we have paid out 38 applicants at this time for a total of \$ 331,000 with a total of \$ 1,031,000.00 to be paid out. GA EMS is contracted for the leadership programs with the contract complete January 25<sup>th</sup> at \$ 110,000 and the EMT instructors' class at \$ 22,400. The regional system improvement grants will begin and be available within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Oliver asked about the regional improvement grant proceeds and if there are some agencies that do not apply what happens with those outstanding funds. Mr. Terwilliger reminded that we had 2 regions that did not apply last year. His goal for each region is to spend \$ 46,000 for a viable project that improves trauma care that (1) they can get done in the timeline. Mr. Oliver asked for clarification that the end of this current fiscal year spend these funds. That was confirmed to be correct. Mr. Oliver asked if these are going to the regional

councils and Mr. Terwilliger confirmed it was going to the RTAC's. There is a little over 60 days to complete this.

Mr. Terwilliger spoke about the panel discussion and asked, should the regional council be aware of how the funding is spent. Mr. Black said that for his region the council is told how the funds are being spent. Mr. Oliver thinks that there are people out there that do not realize that the RTAC is a committee of the council. Mr. Black is told that not all areas work like this. Mr. Terwilliger is very interested in furthering this discussion as he heard some comments and that we just need to make sure that everyone knows about this. Mr. Drawdy says in Region 9 they worked hard to get that back online and are not over joyed to be back a part of the council but they worked hard and continue to do so. Mr. Black believes that if your directors are not on board with the council than you will be spinning your wheels. Mr. Terwilliger wants every EMS agency to reap the benefits of these grants. These are EMS funds and they should be spent on EMS. There is another funding stream to benefit hospitals and these funds need to flow towards EMS and benefit EMS. Mr. Kunkle says that what he has heard is that they are looking for EMS focused projects and that was conveyed and understood by him.

Mr. Drawdy reported on the recent cadaver lab in Atlanta. There were 8 stations and their was1 a lot of hands on training and specific skill stations. All students were engaged and the total cost was \$ 19,000 under original budget. Nick Adams was instrumental in making this successful and cost efficient. The next cadaver lab will be May 10<sup>th</sup> in Moultrie. There has been a great collaboration to make this happen. Moultrie is in an area of Georgia that lacks the education opportunities that other areas of the state receive. The center for emergency health services in San Antonio (Scott) wants to train our folk and that will reduce the costs from \$ 5,000 to \$3,000 per cadaver if we work with Scott. Discussion of cost savings and the ability to use that funding for instructors programs.

Mr. Terwilliger discussed the need to come together and get a process for this together. This is an equitable way to train and reach more of our EMS community. Mr. Terwilliger would love to support this as a quarterly project. Mr. Terwilliger would like Mr. Black to create a proposal covering all costs and we can look at this next meeting. We can also look at how we will accept students into this program. Mr. Drawdy continued to report on EMS grant items. The next round of EMS grants will be rolled out within the next couple of weeks with a shorter timeline than the first grant that is in process. It is reported that \$ 1,041,726.00 is the amount set forth for the next round of grants. Mr. Terwilliger explained the supplemental budget and the real budget and the timeline to fund these being June 30<sup>th</sup>. Discussion about the specific amount set forth for the second round was in question. Ms. Abston is unavailable to confirm the numbers but she just updated Mr. Drawdy yesterday with the budget numbers.

#### **MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2018-03-02:**

**I make the motion to approve a second round of EMS trauma related equipment grants utilizing the FY18 supplemental budget funds that are required to be expended by June 30, 2018.**

**MOTION BY:** Carlton Firestone

**SECOND BY:** Jimmy Carver

**VOTING:** All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Oliver discusses the tight timeline. He questions if 10 services don't apply where will the residual funds go. Mr. Terwilliger told the group that Ms. Abston has this process figured out and to expect the second grant roll out in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Drawdy asked everyone to review the equipment

list that contains items already approved. He has had several agencies ask about extrication equipment in general. (Attachment B is Equipment List discussed) Mr. Drawdy reviewed the list with the group and it included all items previously approved as well as some items requested. Mr. Drawdy discussed a request for specialty service vehicle; ATV, UTV, Specialty Vehicles, Bikes, and Golf Carts. Mr. Drawdy was asked this question because of the new probability of EMT being on trucks and having chase cars. One thing that was brought to his attention is large crowd control situations. Some are used at football games, as there are ambulance restrictions on the playing fields. So they request golf carts being used in those cases. Also discussed were drone (search and rescue) and infrared heat sensor cameras. If a person is lost in the swamp they want to use that type of equipment for finding the patient. Mr. Drawdy wanted to present this and let everyone know that this was up to the group. Mr. Firestone asked about the regulatory when it comes to drones. Mr. Drawdy does not know and this is up for discussion. Mr. Thompson says that GEMA has a handful of drones and all you need to do is call GEMA and request them. Mr. Drawdy says that GEMA has assisted before and Mr. Thompson says GEMA has a lot of equipment.

Mr. Terwilliger says the specialty vehicle is a category that he is uncomfortable with. There was a recent situation where an agency was severely beat up over a vehicle and sometimes it is ok to be beaten up but Mr. Terwilliger would like to steer away from regular vehicles the best we can. An ATV vehicle in Mr. Terwilligers opinion he does not see a need for EMS to have ATV vehicles but he is open to being told different. Mr. Black spoke of the need for them in the area where the conference and this meeting are being held today and in Hall County they have two. The rugged terrain sometimes calls for these types of vehicles. Mr. Atkins says those vehicles should have stretcher capability if EMS is to own them. Mr. Black recalls a call he received a two years ago from the lieutenant governors office that they were hearing that EMS vehicles being brought up and he said to put a stop to that now. Discussion of the difference between a UTV or ATV and their differences and the equipment that was approved last time was what I considered a "Gator". Those have the capability to carry a patient out of rough terrain but we need to be specific. Mr. Drawdy suggested we mark out the specialty vehicles but asked about the bikes. Mr. Black says they had looked at bikes for crowded events too. Discussion around the Specialty Service Vehicle on the equipment list was discussed but there was no motion made. Mr. Terwilliger discussed that this is a fine line category; especially with the call from the lieutenant governor and additional comments we need to be cautious. Spaulding County used some of their grant funds, purchased a truck, and it was done by the agency director and they got pretty beat up about it. Mr. Atkins believes you are opening Pandora's box on this category. No motion made.

Additional discussion about the equipment list and the extrication equipment category of the list was had. Mr. Terwilliger says that anytime they needed extrication equipment they used the fire department.

#### **MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2018-03-03:**

#### **I make the motion to approve the purchases of extrication tools related to EMS.**

**MOTION BY:** Jimmy Carver

**SECOND BY:** Chad Black

**VOTING:** All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

#### **MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2018-03-04:**

**I make the motion to approve the purchases of training aids related to trauma patients related to EMS.**

**MOTION BY:** Huey Atkins

**SECOND BY:** Lee Oliver

**VOTING:** All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

**2019 Budget and House Senate Discussion**

**By: Courtney Terwilliger**

Mr. Terwilliger advised the group that the budget has come out of senate and it is believed to be approved by midnight tomorrow. There was language in the house side that strengthened on the senate side that puts \$ 997,000.00 into the budget that is a direct use where the trauma Commission would contract direct with the Office of Emergency Preparedness to reinstitute training coordinators in all 10 regions. This is not the exact wording, but the senate side came in and specifically said that money would come out of the administrative side of the trauma Commission budget so if you remember what happens is those funds come off the top, then the 80/20 split between trauma centers and EMS. MR. Terwilliger would like to preface that there is nothing written in stone anywhere that says EMS gets 20% that was an agreement between Mr. Terwilliger and Dr. Ashley prior to senate bill 60 even passing. Mr. Terwilliger wants the group aware of that. He has concerns about how this will work out. There is in the original senate bill 60 says the trauma Commission can give up to 3% to the state office of EMS and Trauma. And every year we have funded like so. This is not a guaranteed thing; this comes out of the top of the administrative funding. Mr. Terwilliger asked Ms. Abston if the state office of EMS and Trauma is the same as the state office of emergency preparedness. It was said that the question was posed to Dr. O'Neal and he answered yes. Mr. Terwilliger says if we are giving 3% to the Office of EMS and the additional \$ 997,000 and is curious if we can still do both. Mr. Terwilliger asked Ms. Abston to talk to the AG's office about this. Mr. Terwilliger has a little concern that there is some discrepancy with Senate bill 60. Mr. Atkins is concerned that the 20% for EMS could be reduced by the Commission with this new \$ 997,000 to the office of Emergency Preparedness. Mr. Terwilliger believes that this would be a grave mistake to the Commission.

Mr. Terwilliger called Mr. Parrish about this and he has had conversations with Dr. Ashley about the trauma registrars coming out above the cut. Mr. Terwilliger believes the trauma registrar costs should come out of the trauma center side of the budget and not off the top. Dr. Ashley has told Mr. Terwilliger about the state used to pay for the registrar and they no longer do so and that his reasoning behind it. Mr. Terwilliger believes that this was strengthened with the additional of the verbiage 'administrative' in the Senate and will most likely be passed. Mr. Atkins said (jokingly) so we have you to blame (Mr. Terwilliger) if our budget decreases. Mr. Terwilliger explained that Dr. Ashley had called him and asked about the \$ 997,000 and I told him what I just told you all. I did not know what was going on and I did not ask for this. Mr. Terwilliger retracts and says, he did ask for this but he asked for the money to reinstitute the funds for the training coordinators but never asked for it to come out of the Commissions' budget. When he presented his power point, it contained several pages of items that the funding had been taken away from in regards to EMS. Mr. Terwilliger asked if there were any questions on this. Mr. Terwilliger told the group that the next Commission meeting is May 17<sup>th</sup> and he assumes that (1) the budget will have been approved by the senate and the house and (2) that the budget subcommittee of the Commission will have met and will have decided how much funding for FY19 EMS will receive. Then we will work on having an EMS subcommittee meeting following that and send out a doodle poll.

**New Business**

**By: Courtney Terwilliger**

There was no new business to report at this time.

***Meeting was adjourned at 4:23 P.M***