

APPROVED
02.17.25



GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

Georgia Trauma Commission Finance & Budget Committee

February 7, 2025

Meeting Minutes

[Meeting Documents Link](#)

Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Pete Quinones, Chair, GTC Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Dennis Ashley, GTC Chair
Dr. Regina Medeiros, GTC Vice-Chair	
Dr. James Dunne, GTC Member	
Courtney Terwilliger, GTC Member	
Jesse Gibson, Northeast Georgia Medical Center	

OTHERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth Atkins	GTC, Executive Director
Katie Vaughan	GTC, Finance Operations Officer
Gabriela Saye	GTC, Business Operations Mgr
Crystal Shelnett	GTC, Regional Trauma System Development Mgr.
Gina Solomon	GTC, GQIP Director

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 11:06 AM on Friday, February 7, 2025, with five committee members present. Pete Quinones, Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee, that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the FY 2026 Legislative Session One-Pager additional \$4,000,000 allocation.

FY 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

Presented by Pete Quinones

Pete Quinones referenced the FY 2026 Proposed Budget One-Pager (**ATTACHMENT A**) and asked Liz Atkins to provide an overview of the additional \$4 million allocation. Liz Atkins explained that this is a continuation of funding added in the previous legislative originating from the trauma system stabilization proposal. The \$4 million has previously been used to bolster the trauma center readiness funding detailed at the top of the one-pager. It was noted the continuation of the \$4 million is unknown.

Committee members discussed allocating the \$4 million to the trauma stakeholders' budget using the 80/20 split: 80% to trauma centers, \$3.2 million, and 20% to EMS stakeholders, \$800,000.

MOTION GTCNC FINANCE COMMITTEE 2025-02-01:

Motion to approve the additional \$4 million allocation between trauma centers and EMS with an 80/20 split.

MOTION BY: Courney Terwilliger

SECOND BY: Jesse Gibson

Discussion ensued on the talking points needed to relay how the additional funds would be utilized. The funding would increase trauma center readiness funding, stabilizing the same percentage provided during the previous year. Dr. Regina Medeiros emphasized that trauma centers must report their use of readiness funding annually, and a new detailed reporting document is being implemented. Readiness cost surveys are conducted every few years for validation.

For the \$800,000 portion allocated to EMS, Committee members discussed potential funding for inter-hospital transport capabilities, mass casualty event readiness training, prehospital blood administration training, prehospital blood administration equipment, and initiatives to address EMS staffing and readiness challenges, particularly in rural areas. Courtney Terwilliger added that last year, Senator Bo Hatchett sponsored a Senate Bill to pilot an EMS transport pilot. The Bill passed the budget but did not pass legislation. Pete advised that the \$800,000 could support the pilot project. He noted that Metro Atlanta Ambulance Service is offering to donate logistics/dispatch support for the potential pilot.

MOTION GTCNC FINANCE COMMITTEE 2025-02-01:

Motion to approve the additional \$4M will be split between the trauma centers and EMS 80/20. Trauma center funds will be put towards readiness, and EMS will use the funds to enhance transport options for injured patients and possibly support prehospital blood administration.

MOTION BY: Courney Terwilliger

SECOND BY: Jesse Gibson

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

Liz Atkins advised that she would use these points in the legislative communications about fund usage.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT

- Committee members reviewed the FY 2026 legislative one-pager (Attachment A)
- Agreed on 80/20 split of potential \$4M between trauma centers (80%) and EMS (20%)
- Trauma center funds (\$3.2M) to boost readiness payments, continuing last year's approach
- EMS funds (\$800K) to support readiness, including staff recruitment/retention and pre-hospital blood administration equipment

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 AM

Minutes by Gabriela Saye