

APPROVED
07.20.26



GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

Georgia Trauma Commission Finance & Budget Committee

June 15, 2026

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. James Dunne, GTC Member	
Courtney Terwilliger, GTC Member	
Jesse Gibson, Northeast Georgia Medical Center	

OTHERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth Atkins	GTC, Executive Director
Crystal Shelnutt	GTC, Regional Trauma Systems Development Mgr
Katie Vaughan	GTC, Finance Operations Officer
Gabriela Saye	GTC, Business Operations Mgr

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting commenced at 3:36 p.m. on June 15, 2026, with four committee members present, establishing a quorum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Presented by Pete Quinones

Pete Quinones requested a motion to approve the April 20, 2026, meeting minutes.

MOTION GTCNC FINANCE COMMITTEE 2026-06-01:

Motion to approve the April 20, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted

MOTION BY: Dr. James Dunne

SECOND BY: Jesse Gibson

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

FINANCE & BUDGET ITEMS

Presented by Katie Vaughan

Katie provided the finance update (**ATTACHMENT A**), including the review of expenses through May 2026, noting that the fiscal year is nearing completion. She explained that the remaining balances in several operational line items have been reallocated and clarified that the reported figures reflect only actual expenditures and do not include encumbered funds. She also noted that trauma center invoices are due July 31, which accounts for the remaining balance in that budget category.

Next, Katie reviewed the Super Speeder revenue, which is approximately \$36,000 below the previous year but remains consistent with historical trends. Discussion focused on the potential impact of seasonal travel,

payment timing for citations, and fuel prices on future revenue collections. Historical patterns suggest revenue may increase later in the summer.

The committee also received an update on Fireworks Revenue and reviewed the budget timeline. No budget actions requiring committee approval are scheduled for June.

Pete asked about the investment strategy for trust fund assets and noted fluctuations in recent interest earnings. Katie agreed to obtain additional information regarding the state's investment allocations and the factors affecting monthly interest income. Liz Atkins noted that state trust fund investments are generally managed conservatively with a focus on capital preservation.

TRAUMA CENTER FUNDING FORMULA REVIEW

Presented by Liz Atkins

Liz Atkins provided an update on discussions with Greg Bishop regarding trauma center funding distributions, particularly concerns raised by Level IV trauma centers. Based on preliminary discussions, a detailed uncompensated care analysis may not be necessary, as patient injury severity appears to be a larger factor in cost burden. Alternative approaches to funding distribution may better recognize the role of Level III and IV centers.

Liz advised that a workgroup would be formed, as requested by Dr. Ashley, Georgia Trauma Commission Chair, with representatives from each trauma center level to review historical funding formulas, evaluate current methodologies, and develop recommendations for future distributions. Recommendations would be presented to this committee before being forwarded to the Commission for consideration. She also suggested engaging Greg Bishop to facilitate the process and provide subject matter expertise. She will obtain a cost estimate and bring the proposal back to the committee.

Committee members discussed ongoing financial pressures facing hospitals, including declining reimbursement and increasing uncompensated care. There was also discussion about whether trauma-related revenue data could inform future funding decisions. However, members noted that such data may be difficult to obtain due to bundled payment structures and proprietary financial information.

The committee agreed to consider a proposal for Greg Bishop's engagement once cost information is available. The goal is to establish a workgroup by August and develop recommendations for future trauma center funding distributions.

MARCH PAWS UPDATE

Presented by Courtney Terwilliger

Courtney Terwilliger reported that all projects funded through MARCH PAWS have been completed. A final report was submitted to the Georgia Trauma Commission, and reimbursement has been invoiced. Funds will be distributed through Emanuel Medical Center, which will retain its administrative fee and videography expenses. The remaining funds will be directed to support Dr. Mabes' RITS project.

Courtney noted that several RITS classes have already been completed, with approximately six to seven additional sessions scheduled. Continued support for the program will be explored.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT

The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 20th. Pete asked for any additional business. Hearing none, a motion to adjourn was made. The meeting was adjourned without objection.

- Katie reviewed the finance and budget updates provided in the meeting packet (**ATTACHMENT A**).
- Katie will obtain information on the trust fund investment portfolio and provide clarification on

fluctuations in monthly interest earnings.

- The committee reviewed the trauma center funding formula review plan. Liz Atkins will meet with Greg Bishop and obtain a proposal and cost estimate for facilitating the trauma funding formula review process.
- Courtney Terwilliger provided an update on the progress of MARCH PAWS, noting that the project is complete.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Gabriela Saye