

**APPROVED**  
**10.20.22**



# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

## Georgia Trauma Commission Called EMS Committee

### Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2022

Hybrid Meeting

Morgan County Public Safety Complex/Zoom

Recording: <https://youtu.be/XDrpDHxGbDw>

Attachments: [trauma.ga.gov](https://trauma.ga.gov)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Courtney Terwilliger, Chair, GTC Member	Marty Robinson, Region One
Lee Oliver, Vice-Chair, Region Five	Pete Quinones, Region Three
Jeff Adams, Region Two	Sam Polk, Region Four
Duane Montgomery, Region Seven (via Zoom)	Jim Adkins, GTC Member
Allen Owens, Region Eight	
Vic Drawdy, Region Nine	
Huey Atkins, Region Ten	
Dr. James Smith, GTC Member	

OTHERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth V. Atkins	Georgia Trauma Commission, Executive Director
Katie Hamilton	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff
Gabriela Saye	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff
Cathy White	GEMSA
Dr. Tim Boone	AVLS
Brian Dorriety	RTAC 07
Kelly Joiner	OEMS/T
Wendall Lewis	OEMS/T
Anita Matherley	RTAC 08
Farrah Parker	RTAC 06
Mark Peters	RTAC 03
Crystal Shelnett	RTAC 10
Kristal Smith	RTAC 05
Daniel Warren	OEMS/T

## STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Courtney Terwilliger called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM on Thursday, July 21, 2022, with seven of thirteen members present. Lee Oliver joined the meeting moments later.

### **APPROVAL OF APRIL 21, 2022, AND CALLED MAY 24, 2022, MEETING MINUTES**

*Presented By Courtney Terwilliger*

Courtney Terwilliger asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes or discuss any changes.

#### **MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-07-01:**

**Motion to approve April 21, 2022, and called May 24, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted**

**MOTION BY:** Vic Drawdy

**SECOND BY:** Jeff Adams

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

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

### **GTC UPDATE**

*Presented By Liz Atkins*

Courtney Terwilliger asked Liz Atkins to update the committee on recent Georgia Trauma Commission initiatives. Liz Atkins provided the following updates:

**1. Contracts and Funding**

We are finalizing the FY 2022 amended contracts and starting the FY 2023 contracts. Soon, we'll be preparing for FY 2024. We are currently working to establish the Trauma Trust Fund.

**2. LIII/IV Readiness Cost Survey**

The survey got accepted for the AAST podium presentation. The acceptance reflects the desire to understand the level III and IV centers.

**3. Level I, II, III Trauma Center ACS Verifications**

Due to delays in ACS scheduling consult visits, we have pushed back the deadline for verification requirement from June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**4. PTSF Level IV Consultations**

ACS does not have a verification process for level IV's, so we have contracted with the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation to provide consults for our designated level IV centers. They will be consulting the week of October 10<sup>th</sup>. PTSF will present its findings and recommendations at our November Commission meeting. For newly designated level IV centers, we will have to arrange a time for PTSF to return to complete their consults.

**5. ACS Rural Focused Trauma Systems Consultation Site Visit**

Right now, we are working with the ACS to visit our state to pilot a rural-focused trauma system consult focusing on our rural areas. They plan to visit the week of January 9th, hold two to three stakeholder meetings in our rural area, and hear from those working in the trenches. It would be great for you all to attend these stakeholder meetings. They want to hear from you about the trauma system challenges and barriers. We are working through logistics with the ACS team and will have more information finalized in the coming weeks.

## **AVLS UPDATE**

*Presented By Tim Boone*

Tim Boone referenced the FY 2022 Q4 AVLS Report (ATTACHMENT A) and reviewed:

### **1. Support Deliverables**

Time spent troubleshooting with various agencies

### **2. Total Unit Usage**

- 1212/1394, 87% active
- If units are offline for more than 60 days, they are called for updates. Units are deactivated, and agencies can call to reactivate
- Supply chain issues and delays in receiving equipment
- If providers are no longer in a contract zone, their units are disabled and deleted. Hardware does not get returned. We would need additional supplies to redistribute used hardware within the zones.
- We do not replace destructed equipment, but they might be able to get a replacement from sierra wireless if under warranty.

### **3. Current counties without AVLS**

- Cherokee (corrected from Bartow) Has their own Sheriff's system
- Calhoun Units ordered
- Camden In discussion with Patrick Parson
- Chattahoochee/Muscogee Discussions with Chattahoochee
- DeKalb Meeting next week with AMR and Dekalb Fire
- Gwinnett has their own system
- Jeff Davis Units ordered
- Long Opened discussion with Dr. Graham
- Lumpkin Purchased Cradlepoint etc. from FirstNet

### **4. Review of Airtime Log**

### **5. Review of AVLS Budget**

- Annual Maintaneces were reduced from \$181,029.60 to \$167,620.00 due to sales tax correction in the estimate. Courtney Terwilliger mentioned we could discuss the leftover funds at the next committee meeting.
- AVLS equipment budget is \$100,000. We have already committed to spending \$30,000 for Q1.

### **6. AVLS Enrollment**

Courtney Terwilliger discussed the upcoming AVLS Open Enrollment process; agencies will have a two-three month timeframe to change providers. Once the enrollment period ends, they will not be able to switch providers until the next enrollment period. Katie Hamilton stated the enrollment period does not matter for the budget as long as enrollment ends by the end of February. Courtney advised of a December-end of February enrollment period.

Tim mentioned if this is the new process, messaging will need to start now. Courtney Terwilliger asked for a motion to approve the enrollment process.

### **MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-07-02:**

**EMS providers will have the opportunity to switch AVLS carriers for a three-month period ending February 28<sup>th</sup> each year.**

**MOTION BY:** Huey Atkins

**SECOND BY:** Vic Drawdy

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

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

## **GEMSA UPDATE AND FY 2023 PROPOSAL**

*Presented By Cathy White*

- GEMSA has over 113,000 contact hours for FY 22 and have extended our funds except for \$39,000. We would like to propose utilizing the \$39,000 to fund the virtual component of the 2022 GEMSA Educators and Providers Conference (ATTACHMENT B).

### **MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-07-03:**

**Motion to approve to use of leftover GEMSA FY 2022 funds for the virtual component of the 2022 GEMSA Educators and Providers Conference.**

**MOTION BY:** Vic Drawdy

**SECOND BY:** J. Smith

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

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

It was requested that the conference lectures be archived and uploaded to TRAIN for future learning opportunities. There was concern the speakers may not agree to it due to their content and would need a written release. OEMST assured that material on TRAIN is locked for Georgia, and other states would not be able to download it.

- Liz Atkins shared some of the progress she has had contracting with Melissa Bemiller to obtain a mapping of where the GEMSA courses are and where the student is coming from (ATTACHMENT C). Right now, the map only has zip codes, but we will have a better picture once GEMSA can provide the student's street addresses. These maps can show where we have the most impact and where there may be gaps. Please keep in mind this is a quarter-worth of data. We will continue to work with the GEMSA team to facilitate an efficient process to capture the student data we need to improve the maps.
- Cathy White reviewed the revised GEMSA FY 2023 Budget Proposal (ATTACHMENT D). Some discussions included:
  - Four peer counseling courses are set for the fiscal year.
  - EMR/EMT opened up, 70 on the wishlist. They were asked if allowed, would they be interested in taking an EMT-A course; 40 replied yes. Although many request the courses, some end up canceling or not scheduling. For example, we have 26 funded, but we award 33, so we have backups in place.
  - There was concern regarding funding places without a good pass rate. We need to identify which places are below passing, develop a remediation plan to get them on track, give them two cycles to correct, and if they do not get to the pass rate, we stop funding them until they raise it.
  - There was a suggestion to re-focus on initial education for staff. We shouldn't focus on what is popular but rather focus on high-quality education.
  - Suggestion brought forth to add EMT-A to the course funding. One of the big benefits of EMT-A is starting IVs and starting fluids.
  - Adjustments were made to the FY2023 GEMSA Proposal to accommodate more EMR/EMT/EMT-A courses (ATTACHMENT E)

**MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-07-04:**  
**Motion to approve the GEMSA FY 2023 Spend Plan with adjustments.**

**MOTION BY:** Huey Atkins

**SECOND BY:** Vic Drawdy

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **EMS EQUIPMENT GRANT: 911 V. GENERAL TRANSPORT**

*Presented By Courtney Terwilliger*

Courtney Terwilliger stated we might set up a smaller committee to look at the equipment grant to figure out what we can do. Earlier, Huey Atkins suggested advising providers on what to buy with the grant. If they already have the equipment, then they can continue to buy what they want.

### **IMMEDIATE TRANSPORT FROM NON-TRAUMA HOSPITALS**

*Presented By Courtney Terwilliger*

Courtney Terwilliger stated we might set up a smaller committee to focus on the immediate transport issue between rural and urban areas. I am working with the hospital association to facilitate meetings between hospital leadership and EMS to figure out where the issues or miscommunication are.

### **LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPDATE**

*Presented By Courtney Terwilliger*

No Update

### **MARCH PAWS-RURAL INITIATIVE**

*Presented By Courtney Terwilliger*

We have had meetings with Casey Bridges, an instructional expert, to work on the MARCH PAWS curriculum. We would like to bring on an expert with the moodle platform, where we will upload the expert videos and make it an online, interactive course. After the virtual component, students can team up with physicians, nurses, and medics to complete the practical skills. The next step will be to do the program at Emanuel Medical Center, followed by Cordele, and then at the Archbold.

Courtney Terwilliger ended the meeting by encouraging members to listen in on the GEMSA Leadership meeting and would love your input. I will send out the link to the last meeting recording. They want to hear from EMS stakeholders, and there is a zoom option for joining.

### **SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT**

- Discuss the leftover AVLS funds from the maintenance quote at the next committee meeting
- APPROVED: EMS providers will have the opportunity to switch AVLS carriers for a three-month period ending February 28th each year.
- APPROVED: GEMSA proposal to utilize leftover FY 2022 funds on the virtual component of the 2022 GEMSA Educators and Providers Conference.
- APPROVED: GEMSA FY2023 Spend Plan with discussed revisions (ATTACHMENT E)
- Smaller committees are to be formed to discuss equipment grants and immediate transport from non-trauma hospitals

**MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-07-05:**

**Motion to adjourn.**

**MOTION BY:** Vic Drawdy

**SECOND BY:** Huey Atkins

**VOTING:** All members are in favor of the motion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:44 PM.

Minutes by G. Saye