



GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

APPROVED
04.19.24

Level III/Level IV/Rural Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 19, 2024

7:00 am to 8:00 am

Zoom

[Link to Meeting Recording and Meeting Material](#)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT*	REPRESENTING
Greg Patteron	Committee Chair/ John D Archbold Memorial Hospital, TMD
Alicia Register	Committee Vice-Chair/ Crisp Region Hospital, TMD
Courtney Terwilliger	Georgia Trauma Commission, Member
Cindy Hoggard	AdventHealth Redmond, Director ER/Trauma
Nicole Sundholm	AdventHealth Redmond, TPM
Tifani Kinard	Atrium Health Floyd Polk Medical Center, VP of Rural Health
Dawn Truett	Atrium Health Floyd Polk Medical Center, TPM
Brian Delashmitt	Hamilton Medical Center, EVP-CMO
Judean Guinn	Hamilton Medical Center, CNO
William Hardeman	Hamilton Medical Center, TMD
Steve Paynter	Hamilton Medical Center, TMD
Kim Brown	Hamilton Medical Center, TPM
Kelli Vaughn	John D Archbold Memorial Hospital, TPM
Karrie Page	Memorial Health Meadows Hospital, TPM
Christie Mathis	Morgan Medical Center, TPM
Kristen Gentry	Piedmont Cartersville Hospital, TPM
Jerry McMillan	Piedmont Cartersville Hospital, Trauma Registrar/EMT-P
Jan Tidwell	Piedmont Cartersville Hospital, CNO
Jay Connelly	Piedmont Henry, Dir Trauma and Stroke
Karen Hust	Piedmont Walton Hospital, TPM
Richard Jacob	Piedmont Walton Hospital, TMD
J Garrett Polston	Piedmont Walton Hospital, Stroke Program Coordinator/Interim Trauma
Marty Wynn	Piedmont Walton Hospital, Chief Financial Officer
Emily Brown	South Georgia Medical Center, Director of EMS and Trauma
Winston Charles	Wellstar Cobb Hospital, TPM
Kerry Carter	Wellstar Paulding, TPM
Rachel Hand	Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center, TPM
Marui Miglietta	Winn Army Community Hospital, ED Chief

*Attendance is pulled from committee meeting QR code.

STAFF MEMBERS & OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Elizabeth Atkins	GTC, Executive Director
Gabriela Saye	GTC, Executive Assistant
Gina Solomon	GTC, GQIP Director
Becca Hallum	Georgia Hospital Association, Associate General Counsel and Compliance Officer
Nita Ham	State Office of Rural Health, Senior Director



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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. with 28 committee members present. Dr. Greg Patterson welcomed everyone and started the meeting with the approval of the meeting minutes.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Presented by Dr. Greg Patterson

Dr. Patterson requested a motion to approve the October 6, 2023 meeting minutes.

MOTION LIII/IV Committee 2024-01-01:

Motion to approve October 6, 2023, meeting minutes as submitted.

MOTION BY: Alicia Register

SECOND BY: Kelly Vaughn

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

GTC Update

Presented by Liz Atkins

- The \$61 million Trauma System Stabilization Plan is progressing and has gained legislative representative attention. There is no guarantee the proposal will go through this session, but we are laying down a good foundation for next year.
- The Senate Study Committee on Rural Health Care Provider Recruitment has sparked potential solutions for EMS transportation challenges. Plans for a pilot project and efforts to collect data are under development.
- A fully funded AIS 08 coding course is scheduled for February 29th and March 1st at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center. The course aims to address the ACS Graybook Criteria, specifically the requirement for a certified coder from trauma center readiness. Kelli Vaughn sent out a save-the-date to the GCTE Registry Subcommittee. Details and registration will be distributed once the information is finalized.

MARCH PAWS

Presented by Courtney Terwilliger

The preliminary courses are complete. I have met with Glenda Grant and the videographer at Mercer, and plans are underway to complete the presentations there. We will need to engage the presenters to ensure they have time to travel to Mercer and complete the presentations. We will need to discuss how to break each session down, possibly breaking down MARCH as one session and PAWS as another. I am also looking into creating an overview of the Trauma System, what it entails, and a brief description of the different levels, capabilities, and importance of immediate transportation. The goal is to complete the presentations by the end of February.

ACTION PLANNING PTSF CONSULT VISITS AND ACS SYSTEM CONSULT/RURAL FOCUSED REVIEW

Presented by Greg Patterson

Dr. Patterson opened the floor to discuss action planning for the Pennsylvania Trauma System Foundation consult visits and the ACS system consult review. It was noted that MARCH PAWS is an ongoing action item.

Liz Atkins re-emphasized that the Senate Study Committee on Rural Health Care Provider Recruitment has sparked potential solutions for EMS transportation challenges.



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RURAL AND NON-TRAUMA CENTER RESOURCES AND DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY

Presented by Alicia Register

The survey was sent out for feedback in October, has undergone revisions, and will be finalized soon. Plans were discussed to incorporate GEMSA's ten town hall meetings Report findings into the survey for a comprehensive understanding. The hope is to have it finalized by the next Commission meeting and sent out to the committee as well.

NEW BUSINESS | MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Presented by Rachel Hand and Christie Mathis

Rachel Hand and Christie Mathis presented a mentorship program for trauma program managers across different trauma center levels to foster communication (**ATTACHMENT A**). There is an upcoming Zoom meeting on February 21st for open discussion.

Committee members expressed support for the initiative; Dr. Patterson emphasized the importance of communication and the potential benefits of the mentorship program. Committee members were encouraged to email Rachel Hand to indicate their preferences for mentor pairings. Gina Solomon offered assistance in matching trauma program managers based on trauma center volumes. Overall, the mentorship program aims to strengthen collaboration among trauma centers. The conversation also touched upon the challenges of case review in smaller trauma centers and the potential role of the mentorship program in addressing these challenges.

Before adjournment, Dr. Patterson mentioned the annual Access to Speciality Care project is scheduled for an update in August.

MOTION LIII/IV Committee 2024-01-02: **Motion to adjourn**

MOTION BY: Alicia Register

SECOND BY: Kelli Vaughn

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS & ADJOURNMENT

- Georgia Trauma Commission update included: \$61 million Trauma System Stabilization Plan is progressing, Senate Study Committee on Rural Health Care Provider Recruitment has sparked potential solutions for EMS transportation challenges, a fully funded AIS 08 coding course is scheduled for February 29th and March 1st at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center-details and registration will be distributed once the information is finalized.
- MARCH PAWS preliminary courses are complete. The course's presentations are underway and set to be completed at Mercer by the end of February.
- The Rural and Non-Trauma Center Resources survey edits are nearing finalization and will be distributed to the committee once complete.
- Rachel Hand and Christie Mathis presented a mentorship program for trauma program managers across different trauma center levels to foster communication (**ATTACHMENT A**). Committee members were encouraged to email [Rachel Hand](#) to indicate their preferences for mentor pairings. There is an upcoming Zoom meeting on February 21st for open discussion.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Gabriela Saye