

**APPROVED**  
**04.21.22**



# GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

## Georgia Trauma Commission EMS Committee

January 20, 2022

Virtual Meeting Option

Morgan Public Safety Complex- In-Person Option

Meeting Minutes

Recording: <https://youtu.be/Bx2xXSTSi5E>

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Courtney Terwilliger, Chair, GTC Member	Duane Montgomery, Region Seven
Chad Black, Region Two (via Zoom)	David Edwards, Region Eight
Sam Polk, Region Four (via Zoom)	Pete Quinones, Region Three
Lee Oliver, Region Five	Marty Robinson, Region One
Blake Thompson, Region Six	
Vic Drawdy, Region Nine( via Zoom)	
Huey Atkins, Region Ten	
Dr. Regina Medeiros 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
Gina Solomon	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff
Kelly Joiner (via Zoom)	State Office of EMS & Trauma
Michelle Archer (via Zoom)	State Office of EMS & Trauma
Vincent Harris (via Zoom)	State Office of EMS & Trauma
Frank Killebrew (via Zoom)	State Office of EMS & Trauma
Kim Littleton (via Zoom)	GEMSA
Dr. Tim Boone (via Zoom)	AVLS Project Manager
Mark Peters	RTAC 3
Dr. Elizabeth Benjamin (via Zoom)	Grady/RTAC 3
Farrah Parker (via Zoom)	RTAC 6

## STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

10:06 AM on Thursday, January 20, 2022, with eight of twelve members present.

### **Approval of October 28, 2021 meeting minutes:**

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

**I make the motion to approve the October 28, 2021 meeting minutes with no changes.**

**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

### **GTC Updates**

Liz Atkins gave a couple of updates within the Georgia Trauma Commission:

- LIII/LIV Readiness Cost Survey
  - We just finished the readiness cost survey for the level three and four centers. We hope this can generate some startup grants to entice other centers to potentially come on board as trauma centers.
- OEMST ACS System Consult
  - We are looking to have the rural-focused visit before the full trauma system consult. Conducted similar to full system assessment but focused on rural areas of Georgia. Target date, Fall 2022. The ACS asked Renee and me to put together some questions that we would like answered, so we got the rural leadership group together and framed some questions to submit. More to come on that.
- Stop the Bleed
  - Thanks to Kristal from region five's leadership with Stop The Bleed. We're ramping up our Stop the bleed education, which had to pause just due to the logistics of COVID. Kristal is working with the rest of our RTAC coordinators to push out that training equipment out.
- EMS Data Linkage
  - Our Data Committee got good data regarding patients who go directly from the scene to definitive care. However, when it comes to those patients who go somewhere else first and then have to get transferred, we only have about seventeen percent of that data to analyze. G. Solomon mentioned one of the reasons why we have such a low percentage of data is the OEMST did not require it. We have added the requirement for 2022 data, and centers will need to collect that information, which should help that percentage go up. A lengthy discussion ensued on the accessibility of trip sheets, data entry, state-to-state comparisons, and the armband project.
- AFY 2022
  - L. Atkins referenced the amended budget (ATTACHMENT A). The legislative session started a week ago Monday, and we will be called for the hearings for the amended budget. This was the commission's preliminary approved amended

budget; These numbers are not set in stone. Now, we know what the governor released is much lower than what we predicted, 8.5 instead of the 9.1 on our document. Katie and I are trying to figure out where the discrepancy is and the balance of the super speeder and the fireworks excise tax. We put it in as a placeholder for the ambulance equipment grants because that's what you had done previously, and it would be helpful if you all agreed on where the amended funds should be spent. When we get the money, we've got a short time frame to spend it up, which is until the end of June. C. Terwilliger mentioned in the past, we have used the fund to buy AVLS equipment and equipment grants.

#### [MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-01-02:](#)

#### **EMS Committee support to allocate amended FY 2022 funds to EMS equipment grants.**

**MOTION BY:** Blake Thompson

**SECOND BY:** Sam Polk

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

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

There was a concern about funding new AVLS equipment. T. Boone mentioned that they have used up all inventory units today. He will likely need \$15,000 for equipment on new trucks and to replace out-of-warranty equipment in the next six months. C. Terwilliger asked Tim to send him and Liz the figures to split the money. K. Hamilton stated there is about \$25,000 in AVLS that is not encumbered yet, and we can utilize that to cover the costs. T. Boone stated that should take care of AVLS for the rest of the year.

#### **AVLS Program Update**

Tim Boone referenced the report submitted to the committee members yesterday (ATTACHMENT B).

- Review of AVLS Troubleshooting within counties
- YTD AVLS Gateways Purchased-\$0
  - Units were purchased with last year's money. We have 16 more units remaining in storage
- Vendor Referral
- AVLS System Administration
  - Prepare Quarterly Reports
  - Update Unit Usage Log Monthly
  - Coordinate meetings with SW and ITS
- Total Active Unit Usage
  - 1075/1369, 79% active
    - There was a concern raised regarding the percentage of active units (page 8) in regions four (52%) and five (57%). Are the services not utilizing the units? T. Boone clarified that Region four is changing leadership, the amount should be increasing. It takes a long time for smaller agencies to install their equipment due to a lack of IT resources and turnover. L. Oliver asked Tim to send him a list of services not utilized in region five. T. Boone clarified we have been deactivating devices not active within ninety days. If they need them back on, they would have to call me. You can turn a unit off for six months without penalty. After six months, they would need a new sim. L. Oliver asked if Tim

could add a column on the report that lists the units out of service. L. Atkins recommended also include the amount spent on play on units that are not being used. T. Boone clarified that what we're paying for right now is 1205 units, and the report reflects a quarter, and the numbers change daily. S. Polk suggested reaching out to the RTAC Coordinators to find out what is happening in the regions.

- Airtime Log Paid by GTCNC
  - Verizon: 691 units-unlimited
  - ATT&T FirstNet: 150 units-unlimited
  - T-Mobile: 0 units-unlimited
  - Southern Linc: 364 units-unlimited
  - 1205 total units
- New Leader Orientation Videos
  - Awaiting January use for two new Directors

C. Terwilliger thanked Dr. Boone for the presentation.

### **GEMSA EMS Education Quarterly Update**

As part of their report, Kim Littleton stated that you were sent the previous GEMSA quarter invoice for payment; it includes some of our facilitated training activities (ATTACHMENT C). Kim continued by displaying the GEMSA website, <https://georgiaemsassociation.com/trainings>, the best place for everybody to find upcoming course dates and training.

- We have the Axioms revisited class that's going to be taking place, and we are still in the process of finding out a lead for that program.
- The next trauma skills lab is in Muscogee County on January 28. Schedule available up until June online.
- The Farm Medic course has been a great success, and we can't keep up with the requests. Venues have to be specific for Farm Medic and TECC courses, so we tend to work in the same areas until we get new training sites. TECC is particular for day two, and the site has to be approved through NANT.
- Year eleven of the leadership program applications will end on January 31. We will be selecting another 25-28 students. Year ten leadership alumni developed a curriculum for a 1.5-day intro to the leadership course. It is geared toward a new manager or leader coming into EMS. Twenty-five students will participate in the pilot program on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have had great success with the leadership program and wanted the Committee to consider if the Trauma Commission could fund this in the upcoming year.
- Our awards banquet will be in coordination with the leadership conference at Lake Lanier.
- We have a new job posting site on our website. We have an interactive job posting site that we'll be getting more information out to our membership and the commission in the next few weeks.

B. Thompson mentioned he was impressed by a recent Farm Medic class and the knowledgeable instructors. One of the best classes he has seen in the last forty-eight years. K. Littleton thanked B. Thompson and stated we use established cadres of instructors in these classes. We have opportunities available to send these instructors to training to keep them on top of their game, which we may bring to the Committee to support.

Huey Atkins asked for clarification on the TECC courses listed on the website. There are classes in the same counties over the year. K. Littleton explained that we have to go to the facility specifically

where these classes are being taught, and they have to meet specific guidelines for the day two scenarios. I'm working on getting into other areas covering all ten regions. L. Oliver mentioned he didn't see any region three classes, is something else being done, or are they not reaching out? K. Littleton answered region three decided to utilize their funding as far as their regional improvement grant to fund TECC classes. Chad Black clarified services need to apply for those classes, and it's up to the individual services in the regions if they want to host one. K. Littleton added they let me know that they're interested in hosting a class. If they don't have a name site designation for TECC, then I go to that location, and I get them checked off for them to be able to host. R. Medeiros advised using the funding to ensure a designated site within the regions or group of regions. C. Terwilliger stated that you have to have a local champion for these courses. It takes a long time to designate a site and get that information to fulfill the requirements. S. Polk mentioned working with the RTAC coordinators in the regions to help bridge the gap and help find locations within regions. Vic Drawdy advised that each member should make announcements about GEMSA's courses in their council meetings so that everyone is aware of where to look for courses.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Learning Management System Update**

C. Terwilliger updated the Committee regarding buying content to post to the state site. He spoke with one of the vendors, and they were willing to sell but did not receive a clear answer on whether they could maintain it. He is open to someone else taking over the project as the champion of the Committee.

### **MARCH PAWS Rural Trauma Initiative**

We have a meeting set up on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Lake Blackshear. We have invited EMS providers, ER physicians, and trauma surgeons to attend. We have various course instructors attending from both prehospital and hospital to see if this course will work. Once we get the curriculum done, the goal is to start train-the-trainer courses, and hopefully, we will go statewide.

### **Summary of Action items & Adjournment**

- The Committee in support of using amended FY 2022 funds for equipment grants
- AVLS report modification to show inactive units and airtime costs
- GEMSA courses on their website, looking to set up in other areas to cover more regions.
- MARCH PAWS Pilot starts February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Lake Blackshear

### **MOTION GTCNC EMS COMMITTEE 2022-01-03:**

**I make the motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**MOTION BY:** Huey Atkins

**SECOND BY:** Black Thompson

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

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

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Minutes by G. Saye