

APPROVED
10.28.21



**GEORGIA TRAUMA
COMMISSION**

Georgia Trauma Commission EMS Subcommittee
July 15, 2021
Virtual Meeting Option
Morgan Public Safety Complex- In-Person Option
Meeting Minutes

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**	SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Courtney Terwilliger, Chair, GTC Member (Virtual)	Blake Thompson, Region Six
Marty Robinson, Region One	Duane Montgomery, Region Seven
Chad Black, Region Two	David Edwards, Region Eight
Pete Quinones, Region Three (via Zoom)	
Sam Polk, Region Four	
Lee Oliver, Region Five (via Zoom)	
Vic Drawdy, GTC Member	
Huey Atkins, Region Ten	
Dr. Regina Medeiros GTC Member (via Zoom)	

OTHERS PRESENT**	Representing
Elizabeth V. Atkins	Georgia Trauma Commission, Executive Director
Katie Hamilton	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff
Kelly Joiner	State Office of EMS & Trauma
Richard Rhodes	State Office of EMS & Trauma
David Newton	State Office of EMS & Trauma
Cathy White	GEMSA
Keith White	GEMSA
Kim Littleton	GEMSA
Dr. Tim Boone	AVLS Project Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

10:05 AM on Thursday, July 15, 2021, with seven of twelve members present.

Approval of April 16, 2021 meeting minutes:

MOTION GTCNC 2021-07-01:

I make the motion to approve the April 16th meeting minutes with the correction to the 3rd motion, page 5, change the meeting time to 10 AM to 12noon.

MOTION BY: Chad Black

SECOND BY: Pete Quinones

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

Georgia Trauma Commission Report:

Ms. Atkins mentioned the Commission's approval of the FY 2022 budget at the recent May 20, 2021 Commission meeting. The Commission staff is working with DPH on the Fiscal Year 2021 closure to ensure all funds are appropriated. The budget subcommittee is working to prepare AFY 2022 and FY 2023 budgets for presentation to the full Commission in August before The next meeting of the Commission will be August 19 at GPSTC. The GovHub website transition is on hold until we are past fiscal year closure. We are still working to shift budget preparation timelines up to align better with state submission timeline requirements. A Commission by-laws workgroup has been working on review and updates to the by-laws, resulting in some changes to subcommittee structures. The November meeting should present by-laws edits.

AVLS Program Update

Dr. Boone referenced the report submitted to the committee members yesterday (ATTACHMENT A). Efforts focused on evaluating the units that were offline for over 60 days. Much of the vendor referral reasons were related to connectivity, or, as Southern Linc coverage expands, services are evaluating the use of that service. In terms of total unit usage, broken out in the report by EMS Region, there is approximately 80% usage across the state. We are asking the agencies receiving replacement units to put your sim cards into the replacement units; if you receive a new unit, we will provide new sim cards along with the units. Mr. Terwilliger mentioned that FY 2021 residual GTC funds were used to fund new AVLS units to offset what we will need for equipment for FY 2022. Mr. Drawdy cited concerns about data use discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Terwilliger explained that the data was theoretically available to look at where the trips are, where the calls come in, and how we can fine-tune our system to serve the community better. And how we can help the people in the back of the ambulance better. There was concern about the proprietary nature of what we do; we opted to limit data storage for two weeks. Ms. Atkins is working with the AG Office on data discoverability relative to peer review protection for GQIP.

Mr. Terwilliger suggests pushing the user link out to the providers to use it to their full potential. Tim can send it to existing users and get GEMSA and OEMST help to get it to the right person.

GEMSA EMS Education Quarterly Update:

FY 2021 education was completed except for the Leadership Course because of how the modules run for that course. Over 105,000 contact hours. The final FY 2021 invoice is being prepared. There is approximately a \$22,000.00 (+/-) residual from FY 2021 funds. Ms. Littleton referenced the information sent yesterday by email regarding the proposed FY 2022 educational plan GEMSA is preparing. GEMSA is evaluating regional offerings to ensure

distribution of courses across the state; challenges exist, in terms of location, specific to ensuring sites meet course requirements. Mr. Atkins referenced the Ropes course that National EMS, as the 911 zone provider, be notified of course requests in the Region as has been previously discussed.

MOTION GTCNC 2021-07-02:

I propose using the residual funds and some of the funds allocated for the Axioms course to support the virtual platform for the EMS Educators Conference.

MOTION BY: Victor Drawdy

SECOND BY: Sam Polk

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

MOTION GTCNC 2021-07-03:

I make the motion to approve the FY 2022 GEMSA Educational spending plan (ATTACHMENT B).

MOTION BY: Pete Quinones

SECOND BY: Vic Drawdy

DISCUSSION: (1) Clarification of total EMS funding allocation in the context of what the GEMSA education plan portion is. EMS total FY 2022 (excluding amended) is approximately \$2.4M, inclusive of AVLS program costs. Amended funds (which should be "more guaranteed in light of HB 155) are typically used for EMS equipment grants; currently, there is a \$1.3M placeholder in the proposed AFY 2022 budget; (2) a significant portion of funding included for skills lab and comment to the subcommittee was what level of funding and duration would the skills labs continue to be funded for the future. Mr. Polk is involved in the skills labs and added that we get consistently positive feedback on the skills labs. K. Littleton added that this is a course where EMS and Hospital teams are together, which was the desired experience.

VOTING: All members are in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Terwilliger commended the work of Kim Littleton, Cathy White, Keith White, and all of the folks who have worked so hard on the training programs, and it is making a difference. Mr. Oliver requests a quarterly and annual report on how many courses have been taught and how many students have gone through these classes. Do we know how many students have gone through the the trauma skills labs since we have started doing those? For FY 2021, specific to skills labs, eleven skills labs were 964 enrolled, 958 completed for a 99% completion rate & 3,832 contact hours. **Kim will provide that information two weeks before the quarterly subcommittee meetings.**

Old Business:

EMS LMS Online Education Update

Courtney has completed the request for information (RFI) process with the small workgroup that included expertise in the learning management arena. Courtney has drafted a request

for proposal (RFP) document that we will discuss with DPH procurement. The target for that discussion is the week of July 26 or August 2. Anyone who wishes to participate is welcome. The primary requirement is CAPCE accreditation. We will likely need to have vendors demonstrate their systems to the subcommittee. If the cost is prohibitive, we may have done this work for naught. The second requirement is to have an EMT course in a module format. We have asked for two different quotes for two separate pieces of the puzzle. At the last meeting, there was quite a bit of discussion around workforce solutions for high vacancies agencies are dealing with right now. Mr. Terwilliger will send the draft RFP document to the group for feedback.

New Business:

MARCH PAWS Rural Trauma Initiative

There is a \$350k allocation for rural trauma development as part of an earmark from Senator Dean Burke. This allocation is out of the Georgia Trauma Commission budget, not EMS funding. Dr. Ashley and Liz came up with a "Five Things to Save a Life" project that evolved into "MARCH PAWS" from the military program that focuses on a standardized approach to the initial management of the trauma patient that may translate to the rural, low resource environment. The goal of the funding is to improve care in rural Georgia. We are also collaborating with State Office Rural Health; they have a grant that will provide trauma education for the rural areas. Dr. Patterson is chairing the rural subcommittee from Archbold and Dr. Register from Crisp. The first task is to ensure that the courses are congruent with MARCH PAWS concepts. Defining metrics will ensure success. Mr. Terwilliger is concerned that several EMS services throughout the state did not pick up the challenge of hanging the second unit of blood. There are approximately seventeen EMS services in Georgia credentialed to hang blood. The ability to hang blood proved to be life-saving in a recent case that Emanuel County transported. Is there a way to determine the barriers to participating in the training to credential pre-hospital providers in this skill? Additional metrics include looking at the number of EMS services that have policies that a 911 ambulance must remain in the county at all times. If any subcommittee members are interested in this work, please let Mr. Terwilliger or Ms. Atkins know.

Summary of Action items & Adjournment:

- MARCH PAWS update after meeting in St. Simons
- LMS update

MOTION GTCNC 2021-07-04:

I make the motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION BY: Sam Polk

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 11:13 AM.

Minutes by E. Atkins