



## Georgia Trauma Commission

*Right Patient, Right Hospital, Right Time, Right Means*

### GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 21 November 2013  
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

AMC South Campus Auditorium  
1170 Cleveland Avenue  
East Point, Georgia 30344

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Dennis Ashley, Chairman Ms. Linda Cole, RN, Vice Chair Ms. Elaine Frantz, Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Courtney Terwilliger Dr. Fred Mullins Mr. Mark Baker	Dr. Robert Cowles ( <i>Excused</i> ) Mr. Kurt Stuenkel ( <i>Excused</i> ) Vacant Governor Appointee Member

STAFF MEMBERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Mr. Jim Pettyjohn, Executive Director Mr. John Cannady, TCC Manager Ms. Dena Abston, Business Operations Officer	Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission

OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Mr. Daniel Walsh Dr. Leon Haley Ms. Renee Morgan Dr. Pat O'Neal Ms. Marie Probst Ms. Peki Prince Ms. Danlin Luo Ms. Rana Bayakly Ms. Lori Mabry Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas Dr. Christopher Dente Ms. Liz Atkins Ms. Susan Bennett Mr. David Bean Mr. Scott Maxwell Mr. David Loftin Mr. Jordan Pierson Mr. Chad Black Mr. Micah Hamrick	Assistant Attorney General Grady Health System OEMS/T OEMS/T OEMS/T OEMS/T DPH DPH Georgia Trauma Foundation Grady Health System Grady Health System Grady Health System JMS Burn Centers EMS Consulting Service Mathews & Maxwell, Inc. EMS Region 1/RTAC Floyd EMS (EMS Region 1/RTAC) GAEMS/Hall County Fire GEMA

**CALL TO ORDER:** 10:07 AM

**QUORUM ESTABLISHED:** 6 Commission Members Present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION GTCNC 2013-11-01:**

**I make the motion to approve the minutes of the 15 August 2013 Commission meeting as written.**

**MOTION BY:** ELANIE FRANTZ

**SECOND BY:** DR. FRED MULLINS

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

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

**COMMISSION MEMBER CHANGES**

Presented by Dr. Ashley

Dr. Ashley recognized Dr. Leon Haley for his years of service on the Commission. He provided great wisdom and was an essential asset to the team. He received a plaque which read, "In appreciation for your extraordinary record of achievement and support in the development of the Georgia Trauma System."

Kurt Stuenkel was recognized for his years of service on the Commission as well. However, he was unable to attend this meeting. Dr. Ashley mentioned that Mr. Stuenkel would receive his plaque for his service in the next couple of weeks.

Mark Baker was welcomed to his first official meeting as a new Commission member. He comes to us from The Hughston Clinic where he serves as the CEO. Mr. Baker received a clinical physical therapy degree and business background from MCG of Augusta.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Presented by Mr. Pettyjohn

Mr. Pettyjohn asked if the Commission members had had ample opportunity to look through the report and if there were any questions. Since there were none, he mentioned the new website for the Commission was up and running.

He then pointed everyone in the direction of page 6 to review the Department of Driver Services HB 160 projections for the FY 2014 and FY 2015 revenues and reinstatement fees to be received. This was followed by the Enhancement Request on pages 8 to 11, which was presented to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget in October 2013. This will also be presented to the Senior Program Analyst at the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office and Senior Budget and Policy Analyst at the House Budget and Research Office in December 2013. Also, this will be a useful tool for Dr. Ashley and Mr. Pettyjohn when they attend the legislative session in January 2014.

The Commission continues to work closely with OEMS/T to build the Trauma System in the state of Georgia.

### **ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS**

Presented by Dr. Ashley

Dr. Ashley sent an email out prior to the meeting to all Commission members as a request for nominations of the officer positions. He only received responses from Ms. Frantz and Ms. Cole nominating each other as vice chair and secretary/treasurer positions. Dr. Ashley asked if there were any other nominations... none were mentioned. He asked if all members were in favor of Ms. Linda Cole as the vice chair and Ms. Elaine Frantz as the secretary/treasurer. No objections were made.

### **TQIP ANALYSIS COMMITTEE of GEORGIA COT**

Presented by Dr. Dente

Dr. Dente is the chair of the Georgia Committee of Trauma. He presented the 2012-2013 goals for the committee.

1. All level I and II trauma centers actively enrolled in TQIP with full data submission – COMPLETED.
2. Form committee of all level I and II Trauma Medical Directors (TMDs) to develop analysis plan for TQIP reports – COMPLETED.
3. Realize plans for face-to-face meeting of TMDs – COMPLETED.
4. Receive and analyze initial statewide reports – COMPLETED.
5. Use analysis of TQIP plans to form foundation for statewide trauma care PI process – PENDING.

Dr. Dente also provided a summary of activities which occurred from spring 2012 to fall 2013. During this time the GTC contracted with the TQIP committee of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) to provide state level TQIP reports. The first report provided the analysis committee to understand and analyze any variability of trauma care within the state by each trauma center. The second report aggregated all data from GA centers into one “mega” trauma center to allow the analysis committee to understand how care of trauma patients in GA compared to national norms.

This group continues to have monthly conference calls and one face-to-face meeting of the TMDs to understand data, analyze reports and develop plans for statewide PI. The committee recognized that significant effort and education must be invested for the data from the state being reported to TQIP is accurate. Dr. Dente was chosen to describe initial steps at the national TQIP conference in Phoenix, November 2013.

He presented the goals for 2013-2014:

1. Education/Ensuring Data Quality:
  - a. All level I & II trauma centers maintain participation in monthly educational activities offered by TQIP. Participation will be tracked by TQIP for compliance data.
  - b. All level I & II trauma centers will form a TQIP analysis group which meet regularly.
  - c. Spring 2014 – TQIP Day of Education
  - d. 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Day of Trauma” on August 8, 2014 hosted by Georgia Health Sciences University
2. Ongoing TQIP Analysis:
  - a. COT work with GTC to review and renew contract with TQIP – statewide reports.
  - b. Future reports will continue with monthly conference calls. Plans to begin semi-annual or quarterly face-to-face meetings are ongoing.

**GEORGIA TRAUMA FOUNDATION – UPDATE**

Presented by Dr. Mullins

Due to the federal government shutdown, the IRS has not granted the GTF 501(C)(3) status yet. Dr. Mullins introduced Ms. Lori Mabry as the administrative support for GTF. She comes from the Georgia Burn Foundation.

**DPH OEMS/T – UPDATE**

Presented by Dr. O'Neal

Dr. O'Neal began his update by mentioning the change in personnel as Mickey Moore has left OEMS/T. His team is diligently working on a statewide trauma plan with a draft to be possibly presented during the January 2014 GTC workshop with the approved plan being submitted in spring 2014. He also mentioned working with emergency preparedness planner, Ms. Peki Prince. An integrated effort between the OEMS/T, GTC, and emergency preparedness will result in a collaborative statewide trauma plan.

**EMS SUBCOMMITTEE – UPDATE**

Presented by Mr. Terwilliger

Mr. Terwilliger indicated that EMS subcommittee agreed to no longer participate in any competitive grants by removing the uncompensated care reimbursements. For the FY 2013 first responders training the next 16 applicants will receive funding to conduct this course from continued list of applicants received in FY 2013. Mr. Terwilliger receives vehicle equipment grant requests fairly often and brings them to the committee to approve, vast majority not approved if not directly related to trauma.

For FY 2014, the committee met and decided on areas where they recommended funding was needed. *(See page 25 of November Administrative report for specifics.)* They decided to remove all funds from the uncompensated care reimbursement area to vehicle equipment grants.

This subcommittee sees a need for EMS redesign and has taken the initial necessary steps to get that process moving. They decided no additional funds are needed from the FY 2014 budget for GEMSIS support, \$50,000 to \$60,000 are left from the FY 2013 contract, which should suffice. They have also voted to improve the triage tag system to be consistent, statewide effort, which will be efficient for emergency preparedness or mass casualties. They would like the triage tag system to be a collaborative effort from various different agencies like GEMA, GAEMS, GTC and others.

Child seat technician course was voted to provide a 4 day class for at least 100 people for a common goal to keep children out of their ambulances.

**MOTION GTCNC 2013-11-02:**

**I make the motion to approve the EMS Subcommittee FY 2014 funding recommendations as presented.**

**MOTION BY:** COURTNEY TERWILLIGER

**SECOND BY:** NOT NEEDED (recommendation came from EMS Subcommittee)

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

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

**GCTE SUBCOMMITTEE – UPDATE**

Presented by Ms. Frantz

During the GCTE meeting in early November 2013, a vote took place for president and vice president of the committee. The results were president, Gina Solomon, and vice president, Laura Garlow.

The education subcommittee or Trauma Associates of Georgia (TAG) were also voted on; co-chairing positions will be held by Kathy Sego and Regina Medeiros. Emily Wright, chair of the injury prevention committee, has built a partnership with “Matter of Balance” for fall prevention program. The PI and Registry committees are chaired by Tony Volrath (formerly Liz Atkins) and Jo Roland, respectively. Updates from the PI and Registry committees were as follows: work is being done to create a manual for initial state trauma center designation and re-designation criteria. The V-5 software is being used for data validation and provides apples to apples comparison of data. TQIP is continuing to work with individual trauma centers on their reports for data validation. Within their outcomes modules, there are now live webinars for how to improve and how to determine reporting features.

Ms. Frantz wanted to give recognition to Bambi Bruce, former trauma coordinator at Clearview, for all the tremendous work she gave to the state of Georgia and the GCTE. She passed away unexpectedly in September 2013.

**DATA SUBCOMMITTEE – UPDATE**

Presented by Dr. Ashley

Dr. Ashley began by indicating the GTC has executed a contract with Dr. Etienne Pracht from Florida. He is working on an analysis of the Georgia Trauma System. His goal is to provide a report on getting a trauma patient to the right facility using past registry database for statewide data by type of injury severity. He will have the report completed and presented at the January 2014 Commission workshop.

**GA TRAUMA SYSTEM EVALUATION COMMITTEE – UPDATE**

Presented by Dr. Ashley

A meeting took place in Atlanta at the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget, yesterday, November 20, 2013. From last years’ retreat, it was noted that there is a need for a collaborative effort between OEMS/T and GTC to develop metrics to help determine, “where we want to go with trauma care as a statewide effort.” Main goal is to determine the amount of time it takes to get a trauma patient to definitive care and develop a statewide trauma plan.

**TRAUMA MEDICAL DIRECTORS SUBCOMMITTEE – UPDATE**

Presented by Dr. Ashley

Drs. Bromberg and Henderson are working closely to develop and complete a poster and letter to be delivered to all hospitals across the state. The goal for the poster was to identify trauma patients who should be moved to a trauma center early rather than after running unnecessary testing or procedures on them.

**TCC – UPDATE**

Presented by Mr. Cannady

Look to the administrative report from pages 28 – 32 for TCC update material. The Resource Availability Display (RAD) provides real time monitoring of specialty availability for all trauma centers and participating hospitals across the state. It is updated by the trauma centers at least three times daily. The TCC is making the RAD available to any EMS provider or dispatch center. Various EMS agencies from across the state are currently being trained on the RAD to use within their facilities.

Discussion arose about how clearly or not so clearly defined each level of availability may be interpreted and that a subcommittee might be formed to discuss and clearly define each area of the RAD. Dr. Ashley directed Ms. Franz to chair a subcommittee to include representatives from the following agencies: GCTE, TCC, OEMS/T, and TMD to make a decision on definitions for the RAD. Dr. Ashley also indicated at least two TMD members should be active in this subcommittee. Mr. Cannady is working closely with SAAB to develop a mobile app in order to allow for an interactive access to the RAD via smartphone devices.

Mr. Cannady also reported that the TCC has cut staff to provide single agent 24/7 coverage. TCC is also closely working with GEMA director, Micah Hamrick, to be included in disaster training drills possibly to be done during January or February 2014, with a major exercise to occur in April 2014. Beginning in January 2014, Region one will be using the TCC as part of their regional trauma plan for transporting a trauma patient to the right facility. Mr. Hamrick spoke briefly about his visit to the TCC earlier in the month, and how it will be a useful tool in the exercises that are planned in early 2014.

### **RTAC – UPDATES**

Presented by Mr. Cannady

Region 4 has created an RTAC group and elected a chair. Region 5 continues to move forward with TCC receiving most of the calls from them. Region 6 is doing a performance improvement (PI) and case review study on a case by case basis which is ongoing. Region 8 elected Brandon Fletcher as the chair of their RTAC. Region 9 conducted an election of new officers. They have offered a RTTDC course. They are also reviewing PI into the rural areas and ATV accidents statewide along with injury prevention program using Emory as “mothership”.

### **LAW DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Presented by Mr. Walsh

Mr. Walsh began by mentioning that Brittany Jones is in trial and could not be present today. He wanted to use his time to respond to inquiries recently received from the Commission. State statute provides for per diem amounts for Commission members established as \$105 as the daily expense allowance per meeting (statute codes reviewed were: 31-11-101D and 45-7-21B). He also mentioned the allowance was not permitted for meetings with third parties on Commission business. He also stated that he would get back to the Commission with the Letter of Advice (LOA) on the other issues regarding the subcommittee meeting allowance and the allowance for appearance by telephone.

### **JANUARY COMMISSION WORKSHOP**

Presented by Dr. Ashley

A pre-planning meeting will occur during December 2013 with attendees being Ms. Cole, Dr. O’Neal, Dr. Ashley, and Mr. Pettyjohn. They are working to crosswalk the state trauma plan draft with the strategic plan to have a report prior to the workshop. This meeting will be a collaborative effort between OEMS/T and GTC to develop and draft the statewide trauma plan. The meeting is planned for January 23, 2014 at Columbus Regional Medical Center in Columbus, GA and is scheduled as an all-day event.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:02 PM**

*Minutes crafted by Dena Abston*