



EMS SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRAUMA

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 16 February 2017

2:00 pm

Georgia Public Safety Training Center: Classroom 115
1000 Indian Springs Dr.
Forsyth, GA 31029

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Courtney Terwilliger, Chair & GA Trauma Commission Vic Drawdy – GA Trauma Commission Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas- GA Trauma Commission Lana Duff – Region One Chad Black – Region Two Paul Beamon – Region Four Lee Oliver – Region Five Blake Thompson – Region Six Jimmy Carver-Region Seven Brandon Fletcher – Region Eight Pete Quinones - Region Three (Conference Line) David Moore- Region Nine (Conference Line)	Huey Atkins – Region Ten

OTHERS	REPRESENTING
Dena Abston Erin Bolinger Katie Hamilton Kim Littleton Kelly Joiner Billy Kunkle Dan Edwards Ernie Doss Tim Boone Shane Garrison Sean Ford Thomas Hanners	Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff Georgia Trauma Commission, Staff GAEMS OEMS/T Region 5 RTAC Region 3 Community Ambulance OEMS/T GTRI-AVLS GEMSPF / Puckett EMS Verizon Wireless Emanuel EMS

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Terwilliger called the 16th of February 2017 meeting of the EMS Subcommittee on Trauma to order and established quorum with 11 of 13 members present or by phone at the GPSTC in Forsyth, GA at 2:00 PM.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-01:

I make the motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2017 EMS Subcommittee meeting as written.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Jimmy Carver

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Discussion on Equipment Approvals

Ms. Abston presented the EMS Trauma related equipment requests that are not the approved equipment purchase list.

First request was for 2 XTRAC SR Rescue Litters. Ms. Duff explained they are for rapid extrication for active shooters.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-02:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of the 2 XTRAC SR Rescue Litters.

MOTION BY: Paul Beamon

SECOND BY: Vic Drawdy

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Second request was for a rescue advanced ALS Skill Mannequin- Rescue Advance Skill Trainer

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-03:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of a rescue advanced ALS Skill Mannequin Trainer.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Chad Black

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

The 3rd request for was the approval to purchase a jump bag.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-04:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of the jump bag.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Jimmy Carver

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

The 4th request was for Toughbooks. Ms. Abston was unsure as it was not specified as to items that were approved in the prior meeting were considered to be added to the approved equipment list.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-05:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of the Toughbooks.

MOTION BY: Paul Beamon

SECOND BY: Vic Drawdy

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Oliver asks about the items previously approved are added to the list upon approval. Ms. Abston says she intends to add them to the list. Mr. Terwilliger advised that someone could make a motion at the end of the equipment approvals to add all approved items to the equipment list. The 5th request was for Thermometers which Mr. Terwilliger sent the request via e-mail to the subcommittee prior to the meeting.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-06:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of the Thermometers.

MOTION BY: Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas

SECOND BY: Blake Thompson

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

The 6th request was for Infusion Pumps.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-07:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of the Infusion Pumps.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Paul Beamon

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

The 7th request was for the purchase of a stair chair.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-08:

I make the motion to approve the purchase of the stair chair.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Paul Beamon

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Discussion about the equipment approvals and if we will add them to the EMS Trauma Related approved equipment list for any agencies requesting in the future.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-09:

I make the motion to add any equipment approved today and in prior sessions to the EMS trauma related approved equipment purchase list.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Paul Beamon

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Terwilliger discussed an agency that recently contacted him and said that their antennae's for the AVL system needed replacing. They had already completed their grant application prior to realizing their need. Mr. Terwilliger requests that we allow this agency to correct their application to reflect the purchase of new antennae's.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-10:

I make the motion to allow the agency (unknown specific at this time) to utilize the trauma equipment grant funds to replace the antennae's on the AVL systems.

MOTION BY: Courtney Terwilliger

SECOND BY: Pete Quinones

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Terwilliger could not recall the name of the agency but would refer them to speak to the Commission office about changing their application if they contacted him again.

Discussion on Funding Mechanisms

Mr. Terwilliger began by discussing the sub committee set up in the January 2017 EMS subcommittee meeting that would make a recommendation to the group about EMS work funding. This concerns the Trauma Commission dollars that are given to fund the state EMS work. The options we were to discuss as a collaborative group were (1) to hold the funds in the Trauma Commission office or (2) to put the funds back with GAEMS or (3) to keep funds in the foundation (GEMSPF) as it currently is today. Because of the make up of the sub committee there was discussion but no consensus.

We have had a lot of conversations. We recognize there are things to improve in the process. Mr. Terwilliger will not bring a recommendation himself but he will tell you how he thinks. Mr. Thompson asked who all was on the sub committee that was created in January. The subcommittee was Lee Oliver, Courtney Terwilliger, Dena Abston, Paul Beamon, Vic Drawdy, Shane Garrison, and Brandon Fletcher. Mr. Terwilliger recognizes the process is not where it needs to be. There was contract delay. Mr. Terwilliger says he feels our industry will be best served if the funds are left with the foundation and that they do work with GAEMS. Mr. Terwilliger opens the floor for opinions, suggestions, and comments. Mr. Beamon would like to add that over the past few weeks after lots of communication with Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Garrison he feels things are improving and being understood between GAEMS and GEMSPF. Mr. Beamon now recommends keeping the funds with the foundation. Mr. Garrison says there are still things to be worked out.

Mr. Garrison says we have a convoluted process and he looked up the definition of convoluted to share with everyone. Convoluted means; complicated structure, difficult to understand. Mr. Garrison feels the

process overall is convoluted. Mr. Garrison is co chair of the foundation and brings over 27 years of EMS experience. Mr. Garrison was a recent EMS trauma patient himself after a hunting trip with one of his young sons. He fell out of a deer stand and could not feel his legs; he was airlifted to a trauma center and is very thankful for our trauma system and the care he received from beginning to the end.

Mr. Garrison now has first hand experience as a trauma patient and in his professional experience understands its importance. With this all being said, Mr. Garrison wants to cover a couple of items here today as he had some down time to read and review all processes from approvals, awards, performance measures, deliverables, and invoicing. Mr. Garrison is an advocate for the foundation to be the financial role in our funding. About a year and half ago, we were about 18 months behind and today, we still are behind. Mr. Garrison has also spoke with Mr. Terwilliger and Ms. Abston about the processes.

Mr. Garrison says that we are still talking about 2014, 2015 and 2016 contracts, and extensions, along with the statement of work for 2017. So there are too many older moving parts and this is convoluted. This has to be caught up. Talking about last year is acceptable but talking about years beyond 2016 is not ideal. After talks with Mr. Terwilliger and Ms. Abston he has asked if we can put all remaining contract funds from previous years in one bucket so it is easily managed. Mr. Garrison says each year there are additional programs along with the staple programs from year to year. An example of an additional program is the videographer. The need for understanding of adding the new programs is that after it comes out of this subcommittee as an approved program we intend to proceed with we need to remember that someone is responsible for establishing the statement of work, the performance measures, and also responsible for defining and tracking the deliverables. This is a lot of work for someone. And when you are changing programs year to year there become too many moving parts and the process becomes hard to manage.

After the sub committee of the EMS subcommittee met in January, Mr. Garrison asked Ms. Abston if there were these same types of problems with the hospitals. The hospitals get 80% of the funding whereas the EMS community gets 20%. Ms. Abston said no, there are not this many problems with the hospitals. They may change parts of their performance measures at the end of a year but the overall scope of work doesn't change. Of the 12 programs that the EMS community has in the 2017 statement of work, 9 of these programs are education programs. Mr. Garrison suggests we create a category that is EMS Training and Education and within that category goes anything this group approves. Mr. Garrison would recommend carving out the leadership program but everything else could go into this silo. So an example, an EMR program- you have to have 30 days in advance a roster and you standardize how this is executed. Each contract at this time is individualized. Mr. Garrison says to put all these in one bucket to streamline these courses, deliverables, and performance measures. It is suggested we simplify things. Ms. White's largest frustration is the effort it takes to chase folks down for their information; an example used was the EMR program. Ms. White spends a lot of time chasing items down. Mr. Garrison suggests a checklist sent out so these folk know what they need to bring to the class. This is Mr. Garrisons' suggestion.

Mr. Garrison also suggests for this group particularly, that when we come to an EMS subcommittee meeting with a problem to bring the solution as well. Mr. Garrison also wants to focus on deliverable tracking. There is currently a 2017 statement of work we send to Ms. Abstons' office. If there are any changes it will require legal review and this process could take 60 days or more. Mr. Garrison suggests drafting the contract to be a little more open ended with amendments and provisions. Mr. Garrison says if we ever intend to get caught up we have to streamline processes. There are several unclear processes at this time.

In the letter he sent to Mr. Terwilliger he indicates there should be common goals and specifics for all program reimbursements. All items like coordinator fee's need to be defined on the front end in black and white so there is no confusion on the back end. Mr. Garrison thinks GAEMS and GEMSPF have started

communicating better but there needs to be a monthly call between the 2 and there needs to be timeline discussions and real talk about road blocks and flush these items out monthly. This can be helpful and these items need to be reported on so we can get out of the rears. Relationships are valuable in business and we as a group need to have mutual respect between all of us. There is plenty of room for improvement and making things simpler and easier is helpful for all of us.

Mr. Drawdy spoke on a David Moore story. When Mr. Moore came in to Region 9 meetings Mr. Drawdy was elated to hear of the EMS happenings. Mr. Drawdy has to remember that he is a Georgia Trauma Commission member and Mr. Drawdy requests in all aspects and in all respect that Ms. Abston be respected. Mr. Drawdy's mom always said you may not like the President, but you always respect the President. Mr. Drawdy feels that if we can truly save \$ 139,0000 to put back into the EMS pocket or fund 153 new ambulances, if that is the case then we should do this. There are 7 line items Ms. Abston requests to take back in house that will save the EMS community \$139,000.00 and he requests we allow Ms. Abston and her staff to be given the opportunity to do this. Mr. Drawdy was bothered when he found out vendors were not being paid in general by GAEMS. He did not want to go into the specifics or the situation but from a bird's eye view, vendor payment was delayed. The bottom line was GAEMS was not paying the vendors in a timely manner and on these specific line items that the Trauma Commission can be paid direct to cut out a middleman. If this process Mr. Drawdy suggests doesn't work Mr. Drawdy would stand back before this committee and say he was wrong. Mr. Drawdy says of the EMS community members he has spoken to all of them want more funds back in their agencies.

Dr. Nicholas would like to echo Mr. Drawdy's comments. Dr. Nicholas has been observing and watching this play out and there is a middleman in this process. There is a cost associated with a middleman currently and if the middleman can be eliminated and the process made better than we should do so. Dr. Nicholas says this is perhaps big picture and may be an over simplification. Dr. Nicholas says there have been some administrative costs and overhead that are not benefiting anyone.

Mr. Terwilliger disagrees with the savings and the cost of the scope of work being free if the Commission keeps these line items in house. Mr. Terwilliger doesn't agree the numbers are correct; there is always a cost. Whether it is a state employee doing the work or an administrative cost of someone doing it, it is not free. Dr. Nicholas says it may not be free but if there is already someone in a position being paid to accomplish the work then there is not an additional cost. Mr. Terwilliger says as a Trauma Commission member then maybe they need to re-look at the Trauma Commission's staffing as we may have more staff than we need.

Mr. Terwilliger would like to point out that in the past both GAEMS and GEMSPF when they taught first responder classes that once the roster was given to us we would pay them half up front. Most of these rural counties do not have the upfront funding so the capability is not there. The idea of the administrative fees can be used to help on that end. Mr. Garrison suggests for the foundation that we get about 10% in admin fees and as a non profit he feels that if the cost to do the work is only 4 % or 5% over the true costs then we can decrease the admin fee and put that funding back into the community.

Mr. Garrison says for his portion of funds, the foundation intends to do items at no cost if and when possible. Mr. Terwilliger asked if there are any other comments and entertaining a motion and asks if anyone wants to make a motion. Mr. Beamon would like to see all prior contracts continue as is and this is to include the 2017 contract.

Dr. Nicholas has concern that on some level this group should not determine the answer to this considering the conflicts of interest that exist and can include the Trauma Commission, as there are 3 members present. Dr. Nicholas will throw this out for discussion but is not sure this is the group to make the decision. Mr. Terwilliger says he has brought this up with Dr. Ashley and he supports what we decide.

Mr. Beamon asks who has the ultimate decision as this group makes the recommendation. Mr. Drawdy says the Trauma Commission does have the final say. Mr. Terwilliger says that due to all the delays and confusion a meeting was set, and concerns were discussed about contract timeliness. Dr. Ashley told Mr. Terwilliger that he just wants the work to be done and he will support the group decision and that is how Mr. Terwilliger understands things.

Mr. Black had a conference call with all the chairmen of our EMS council in his region and 11 of 13 EMS directors and some from the state EMS office. Mr. Black says he explained to them the options, the history, and the current state. Mr. Black told Dr. Nicholas and the subcommittee that his vote represents those directors and is a vote on their behalf. Dr. Nicholas asks if we were all asked to sit down today and fill out a conflict of interest form and disclose income associated with this or anything showing income associated with the way funds are flowing he is not sure how that would look. A conflict of interest form is a standard form these days and his concern is that we all could not fill this form out and that if completed it could present red flags to the public. Dr. Nicholas has completed several of these forms and questions even involve family members and their associations so it is something to be cautious of.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-11:

I make the motion to keep all prior contracts and monies with GAEMS and GEMSPF and to include the 2017 contract as they have done prior with the exception of the FY 2017 EMS Trauma related Equipment Grant and the Child Restraint Device program that are both currently in process.

MOTION BY: Paul Beamon

SECOND BY: Chad Black

VOTING IN FAVOR: Members present voted in favor: Courtney Terwilliger, Lee Oliver, Paul Beamon, Jimmy Carver, Blake Thompson, Chad Black, Pete Quinones

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: Members present voted in opposition: Vic Drawdy, Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas, Lana Duff

ABSTAINED FROM VOTING: Brandon Fletcher

ACTION: The motion PASSED.

Mr. Oliver asked for clarification on the car seat safety courses and the restraint device courses. Mr. Terwilliger asked if Dr. Nicholas had a motion. Dr. Nicholas said he did not. Mr. Terwilliger asked to talk to Dr. Nicholas after the meeting.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-12:

I make the motion to keep the following 2017 programs and courses within the Trauma Commission funding: Just Culture, GEMSIS Support, TECC Courses, Equipment Grant, Telemedicine, Child Seat Safety Course, and the additional AVLS training courses to reduce and keep all remaining courses within the foundation.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas

VOTING IN FAVOR: Members present voted in favor: Lana Duff, David Moore

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: Members present voted in opposition: Courtney Terwilliger, Lee Oliver, Paul Beamon, Jimmy Carver, Blake Thompson, Chad Black, Pete Quinones

ABSTAINED FROM VOTING: Brandon Fletcher

ACTION: The motion FAILED.

Ms. Duff asked why the funds are no longer with GAEMS and are now with the foundation. Mr. Terwilliger explained that it is due to the conflict of interest that presented itself and with Mr. Terwilliger not on the foundation board it is who handles the monies while GAEMS handles the work. Initially GAEMS did handle both the monies and the work and that was changed as it was felt that there was a conflict of interest. Mr. Terwilliger says he is the only Trauma Commission member who has been investigated so he does have issues with that and this is the reason that we are having two organizations involved. Mr. Drawdy corrected Mr. Terwilliger to clarify it was not the Trauma Commission that had the conflict with Mr. Terwilliger it was the Attorney General's office. Mr. Terwilliger said it was an attorney at the Attorney General's office. Mr. Terwilliger says he would again like to have a conversation with Dr. Nicholas as he feels if the EMS members need to complete conflict of interest forms, so should the Trauma Commission members. Mr. Terwilliger said there needs to be caution about going down that road. Mr. Terwilliger asked Ms. Duff if that answered her question.

Mr. Drawdy says he is suggesting those 7 FY2017 line items (programs) to be handled in house (Trauma Commission Office) and all other line items remain with the foundation. He truly feels that funds can be saved and more can be given back to the EMS community if we keep these 7 programs in the Commission, there would be no administration fee. Mr. Terwilliger asked if there was anything else to be discussed that we needed to move along.

AVLS Equipment Update

Mr. Boone reported that we have 1,261 AVLS units and the Trauma Commission is paying for 1,157 of these units, the others are funded by their local agencies. This week, there has been an addition of 83 new units and all equipment was distributed on Monday. 90 very old units were also replaced with new equipment this week as well.

This week we held several AVLS training sessions for all to get up to speed. This week gave the chance for all agencies to be caught up and trained on the AVLS units. Then while in Macon we filled the entire training room and there was great opportunity for problem solving and training and ways to fix those issues. There also was new software from Sierra Wireless that gives more reporting capability as well as diagnostic tools. These things will continue to help manage the process. The program received a lot of positive commentary and problem solving. There was also a Georgia AVLS guru class for those that really understand the software.

Discussion of FY 2017 Spending Plan

Mr. Terwilliger went down his proposed list of FY2018 EMS spending. Currently the proposed budget is unknown so the list does not have monetary amounts in any columns. July 1 will present the large budget but the amended 2017 budget should be out as the Governor signed it yesterday in Augusta, Georgia. Mr. Terwilliger suggests we go over the line items and Mr. Terwilliger will go back and add the percentages back to the list. Historically we have taken the AVLS funds off the top and the remaining funds are what we decide on as a group.

Mr. Terwilliger suggests everyone go back to his or her regional councils and discuss needs. Line items include; Leadership, Regional System Improvement, EMT/EMR, there was some discussion. Mr. Oliver says this was a great program that moved really fast. There were some kinks due to the quickness but it worked. Next up, Just Culture, Mr. Terwilliger suggests leaving that as a NO as we have not completed anything with the 2016 and 2017 money as of yet. Next up, EMS Redesign, TECC, Triage Systems, Vizitech, PHTLS, Equipment Grants, EVOC. Mr. Fletcher says we are still sitting on two years of EVOC funding now, he suggests not adding any additional funds to this at this time. Other line items; extrication, telemedicine, and child safety course were discussed. Mr. Drawdy and Mr. Black discussed the telemedicine; there is a need for software upgrade at an estimated cost of \$5,000.00. All other currently existing programs that are in the FY2018 line time budget for the EMS Subcommittee were agreed upon to keep. Mr. Oliver suggests for DART, that Region nine needs to reach back out. Region one began the DART but Region nine utilized their regional grant money. Mr. Terwilliger suggested reaching back out to DART and see if there is interest. Ms. Abston suggested removing the DART line item and putting it under the Regional Improvement Grant program.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-13:

I make the motion to remove the line item for DART from the FY2018 budget and reallocate it within the Regional System Grant approval line item.

MOTION BY: Brandon Fletcher

SECOND BY: Blake Thompson

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Mr. Terwilliger continued with the line items; Pantech upgrades, EMT instructor, and DNR courses. Mr. Terwilliger suggests we remove DNR from the list.

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-14:

I make the motion to remove DNR from the FY2018 EMS Subcommittee budget.

MOTION BY: Vic Drawdy

SECOND BY: Brandon Fletcher

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

MOTION EMS Subcommittee 2017-2-15:

I make the motion to adjourn meeting.

MOTION BY: Jimmy Carver

SECOND BY: Blake Thompson

VOTING: All members present voted in favor of the motion.

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:39 P.M

Minutes By: Erin Bolinger