



# Georgia Trauma Commission

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

## GEORGIA TRAUMA COMMISSION

Thursday, 17 March 2016

Georgia Public Safety Training Center

Classroom 104

1000 Indian Springs Drive

Forsyth, Georgia 31029

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT
Dr. Dennis Ashley, Chairman Dr. Fred Mullins, Vice Chair (Conference Line) Mr. Victor Drawdy, Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Jeffrey Nicholas Dr. James Dunne (Conference Line) Dr. John Bleacher Mr. Courtney Terwilliger Mr. Mark Baker (Conference Line)	Dr. Robert Cowles (Excused)

STAFF MEMBERS & OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Monica Sullivan Dena Abston Lisa McDowd Rochelle Armola (Conference Line) Heyward Wells Bruce Jefferies Dr. William Hardcastle Marie Probst Renee Morgan Keith Wages Lori Mabry Scott Maxwell Gina Solomon Laura Garlow Liz Atkins Dr. Regina Medeiros Kristal Smith Billy Kunkle Karen Waters Tina Wood Jaina Carnes	Attorney General's Office Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission, staff Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission, staff Memorial Health University Medical Center JMS Burn Center DPH/Health Protection DPH SOEMS/T DPH SOEMS/T DPH SOEMS/T DPH SOEMS/T Georgia Trauma Foundation Mathews & Maxwell, Inc. Gwinnett Medical Center Kennestone Grady GRU Health MCCG/RTAC 5 RTAC 3 GHA Redmond Regional Cartersville Medical

**Call to Order:** 9:50 AM

**Quorum Established:** 9:57 AM, 8 of 9 commission members present.

## **Welcome/Chairman's Report**

Presented by Dr. Dennis Ashley

Dr. Ashley welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Dr. Ashley reported, Dena and I presented to the Health and Human Services Committee before the House and Senate on our yearly accomplishments and proposed budget. We showed the improvements in survival, trauma centers versus non-trauma centers and increase in access. Our data showed that we are making a difference, and that the trauma system is getting very organized. As far as future directions, we pointed out the super speeder revenue is bringing in around \$21 million a year, and our budget seems to be continually frozen at \$16.3 million. We requested additional funding of \$4.6 million to make us whole, however the budget from the governor and house did not reflect that increase. We will continue to work to gain that funding and make this our goal.

The Trauma Medical Directors update, we continue to have our conference calls.

Dr. Dente has monthly TQIP calls, those committees are accomplishing a lot of work, and TQIP continues to grow. Research continues to be robust and great work is being done. Dr. Dente was a lead author on one of the papers based on TQIP data and it is out now in the Journal of American College of Surgeons. Dr. Colville Ferdinand presented in February, a descriptive analysis of VTE in Georgia TQIP centers using retrospective TQIP data to the Southeastern Surgical Congress in Atlanta. That manuscript has been submitted to the American College of Surgeons.

## **Special Presentation**

Presented by Vic Drawdy

Mr. Drawdy stated there was a vision about 5 years ago to begin to educate the directors and leaders of EMS across the state of Georgia and that vision came from Courtney Terwilliger.

About 25 people were picked strategically throughout the state and brought together 4 weeks out of the year to work and learn leadership skills, how to handle conflict and other issues. We began to network in a great way and to build strong leadership throughout the state of Georgia through EMS.

We had our first alumni meeting Monday March 14, 2016, there were 36 people who attended, which was an excellent turnout. The alumni as a symbol of their appreciation wanted all members of the Trauma Commission to have this portfolio to say thank you and praise you for your support and hopefully your continued funding for this great work. We appreciate and say thank you again for what you have enable us to accomplish.

## **Administrative Report**

Presented by Dena Abston

Ms. Abston stated the Administrative report was sent to everyone electronically, was posted to the website and is in your packet.

Also the minutes from the last meeting in January, the 2-day strategic planning workshop is in your packet and needs to be approved.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **MOTION GTCNC 2016-03-01:**

**I make the motion to approve the minutes of 21 & 22 January 2016 Commission meeting as written.**

**MOTION BY:** MR. VIC DRAWDY

**SECOND BY:** DR. JEFFERY NICHOLAS

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

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

Ms. Abston continued the Administrative report, please see page 2 for the statement of differences.

The legislative session is scheduled to close March 24<sup>th</sup>, and we will know our true budget number at that time. Please see page 3 for the State Budget Cycle, if you would like a larger copy of this please see me after the meeting.

Please see Page 4 is the Super Speeder Revenue. Mr. Drawdy ask the question this morning regarding the total, I wanted everyone to know that July, August and September were bulked into October. The funds were there, just not recorded until October. There has been \$12.9 million collected so far in this FY.

Dr. Dunne asked do we know what the impact or status of the fireworks bill will have on the Trauma Commission funding? Dr. Ashley stated he would open this up for discussion, but a representative he spoke to last week believes the bill will go through. Scott Maxwell from Mathews & Maxwell, Inc. stated this should be on your ballot for the public to vote on in November. The enabling legislation has passed both the houses, but current status goes back to the Senate, the Senate can just agree, and that is what I think will happen. Then 55% would go to Trauma Commission.

Dr. Nicholas asked where the other 45% would go. Mr. Maxwell stated 40% goes to firefighters training, and the other 5% to local government for public safety.

Ms. Abston continued the Administrative report, please see page 5 for the revised meeting schedule. This has been revised because of location for the GTC August 18, 2016 meeting. If approved, the meeting will take place in Savannah and the location will be the same as the Day of Trauma, which will take place on the 19 of August. Also we have a venue for the 19 May meeting, it will be held at Gwinnett in Atlanta.

### **Approval of Revised Schedule**

#### **MOTION GTCNC 2016-03-02:**

**I make the motion to approve the revised schedule.**

**MOTION BY:** MR. VIC DRAWDY

**SECOND BY:** MR. COURTNEY TERWILLIGER

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

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

Ms. Abston continued the Administrative report, please see page 6 for the list of strategies from the January strategic planning session listed in the order of importance.

Dr. Ashley stated I believe this is a good start of narrowing down the 47 strategies we started with, and next steps would be to allow the Trauma System Evaluation Committee time to discuss these and select a few that we can really concentrate on over the next year.

Dr. Nicholas stated I do not want to speak for the whole group, but in discussion I believe we have come up with the RTAC's are a subcommittee of the EMS Council this is where they should be housed and seems the

most appropriate place in terms of by laws, they would fall under the by laws of the EMS Council. The RTAC's would have guidelines set-up that would give them a robust structure for the RTAC organization.

I think what still needs to be addressed is the protected ability to do PI within that structure since the EMS Council would be a public domain. Maybe we could get some legal input into this. I believe Regina Medeiros has a system in place that we all might be able to use as a model that the rest of us could adopt, and it sounds like it has a good strategy for protection.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is continuation of funding in lieu of the start up funding. I know there are several recommendations for this, then where does the funding flow, how is it housed and distributed most efficiently. The EMS Council cannot receive funds for distribution, is that correct? Mr. Wages stated that is correct, they do not have the mechanism for that.

Dr. Nicholas stated, originally the RTAC's received start up funding through the hospitals, however this may not be the best mechanism for continuation of funding. I believe Dr. Medeiros would also like to address some of the issues. Dr. Medeiros stated we do have the protection language. When we first started our RTAC we consulted with Dr. O'Neal who consulted with OEMS/T attorneys.

Dr. Ashley stated I believe we need to have all the questions answered and come up with a global plan. I believe the Trauma System Evaluation Committee would be the best group to work on these questions and goals. If anyone has any other suggestions please let me know.

Dr. Ashley stated during the last GTC meeting in January there was a motion made to gain funding to hire a person to analyze TQIP data and I have come up with a proposal for that funding needed. Please see **attachment 1**.

**MOTION GTCNC 2016-03-03:**

**I make the motion that we approve funding for the Georgia Trauma Quality Improvement Program and Surgical Quality Collaborative proposal submitted in the amount of \$194,628.**

**MOTION BY:** DR. DENNIS ASHLEY

**SECOND BY:** DR. JEFFERY NICHOLAS

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

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

**Georgia Trauma Foundation**

Presented By Ms. Lori Mabry

Ms. Mabry started her report with a funding request from the GTF. Please see pages 7 – 14 of the administrative report for a detailed description. The funding requests submitted will be review, discussed by the budget subcommittee, and submitted to the GTC for discussion and voting.

Ms. Mabry gave updates on the Georgia Trauma Foundation; TAG is in the final steps of being dissolved. All of the necessary paper work has been filed and hopefully this process will be completed by mid April. As part of the transition we were tasked with streamlining the registration process. With the help of GA Tech's Computing for Good we were able to accomplish this. If you pull up the Georgia Trauma Foundation's website on the home page you will select the programs tab, all the courses available for registration will come up. With this online registration, rosters are created, you can import dates to your calendar, you will receive an email confirmation of your registration, and all information regarding courses will be there. Link to GTF site <http://georgiatraumafoundation.org/course-list/>.

Ms. Mabry reported that she has a block of rooms reserved at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah for the Day of Trauma on August 19, 2016. Ms. Mabry will send out a link to everyone to register.

**Funding request by MAG**

Presented By Ms. Dena Abston

Ms. Abston presented the funding requested by MAG; please see pages 16 – 18 of the administrative report for a detailed description.

**Funding request by Region 5 RTAC**

Presented By Ms. Kristal Smith

Ms. Smith presented the funding requested by Region 5 RTAC; please see pages 19 – 21 of the administrative report for a detailed description.

**Funding request by Region 6 RTAC**

Presented By Dr. Medeiros

Dr. Medeiros presented the funding requested by Region 6 RTAC; please see pages 22 – 25 of the administrative report for a detailed description.

**Funding request by Region 9 RTAC**

Presented By Dr. Dunne and Ms. Armola

Ms. Armola presented the funding requested by Region 9 RTAC; please see pages 26 – 29 of the administrative report for a detailed description.

**Funding request by Region 3 RTAC**

Presented By Dr. Nicholas

Dr. Nicholas stated it is not on the agenda today but we plan on submitting a proposal for sustainability funding, in the amount of \$60,000, which will cover \$50,000 for a salary and \$10,000 for two meetings a year. This is to have continued support for region 3 and this position. We will lose current funding for the position as of June this year.

Dr. Dunne stated we are talking about continuation of funding for this year but this would be a yearly request to continue to support and grow this program.

**GCTE SUBCOMMITTEE**

Presented by Ms. Gina Solomon

Ms. Solomon reported that the GCTE met yesterday March 16, 2016.

Injury prevention is still moving forward. They have had some stalls with the Matter of Balance program, which is a great fall program, being it is too long and labor intensive. It has been very challenging so they are looking into a few other programs that may be shorter in nature and easier to give.

This group is also looking into car seat safety initiative, so they continue to grow.

The registry is making progress on the Georgia Data Dictionary and there are only 4 sections that remain.

We had a presentation on Trauma Coder, which is software that helps code ICD 10, AIS coding and procedures. This would help productivity and workflow with the registrars.

PI has been working diligently on a metric we are trying to roll out. This plan is the initial antibiotic administration for open fractures, so when filling out the PRQ they are particularly looking for open tibial fractures and how best to collect that data. We will keep you updated on the progress of this plan.

They are also starting a workgroup on Report Writing. All the data that we are putting into the registry needs to be pulled out for reporting. We want to be sure everyone is on the same page, running these reports the same way and getting the same answers.

## **Office of EMS and Trauma update**

Presented by Mr. Bruce Jefferies  
Mr. Keith Wages  
Ms. Renee Morgan

Mr. Jefferies reported the planning efforts for the emergency preparedness grant are continuing. We receive an email this morning from the CDC, that in order to find funding for the Zika battle they are looking at a 5 to 10 percent reduction in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness funding. That will be effective in a couple of weeks. This is the biggest thing on our radar at this time.

Mr. Wages reported Mr. Doss met with Imagetrend and we are confident we will be able to start accepting data in version 3.4 format in Oct of this year, and this will be the standard.

Ms. Morgan what we are going to show you is an aggregated report, of what we ask for and what we report.

This has an aggregated count for each level. Please see **attachment 2**.

Dena will send this out to everyone on the phone and the Trauma Coordinators.

## **EMS Subcommittee on Trauma**

Presented by Mr. Courtney Terwilliger

Mr. Terwilliger reported the EMS subcommittee and the AVLS workgroup met on Friday, March 11, 2016.

At the AVLS working group we discuss how to make sure everyone is using the equipment and monitoring the use. Tim Boone from GTRI is doing most of the monitoring and managing this program.

Mr. Terwilliger continued to report we have created a draft of a MOA for all services receiving airtime. They can agree to sign this agreement or if they do not want to sign, we will tell them thank you but we are going to turn your services off. Another agreement that is in there is the Commission is allowed if they elect to, they could utilize the data to study how ambulances are utilized in the Trauma system as part of an improvement process. It also states if they choose to do that, you will be notified, and at that time you can elect to bow out of the system before this study is done. After this draft is approved I will send this out to everyone.

We also discussed during the meeting, in the past Tim Boone and GTRI has managed this program, kept up with the orders, and the service through InMotion. GEMA has backed off of this and GTRI still has a few contracts with them. Tim Boone is not sure those contracts will continue to support his work in keeping up that project. If Tim Boone is unable to continue, it may become a problem for us. We may need to hire someone to run this program and monitor the services.

Mr. Terwilliger stated we have a quote from Sierra Wireless please see pages 33 – 35 of the administrative report. The bid is for 90 units. The antenna that is on the old units can be used for the new units but some services may want to upgrade this antenna to one that is more capable of doing what it needs to. The other quote is for 40 brand new units for ambulances that have never had a unit, antennas, and all additional items that are needed to make these 40 units useable.

Other than the AVLS issues that I have stated the EMS subcommittee also discussed the need to decide if we are going to have a competitive grant or if we are going to divide \$298,743 in funds by ten. We decided that the competitive grant was the best way go.

The regional system improvement grant will be statewide with a specified deadline for all applications, to allow this group to score and evaluate those applications before the close of the fiscal year and this to be communicated through the ten regional councils.

**New Business**

Dr. Ashley asked if there was any other new business to discuss, there was no other new business.

Ms. Abston stated in your packet is the Report from the Georgia Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:51 PM

*Minutes crafted by: Lisa McDowd*

DRAFT