



RHPC Board Meeting
September 6, 2024
SETRAC Conference Center
1111 North Loop West, Suite 160
Houston, Texas 77008



Call to Order

Dr. Kevin Schulz called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

RHPC Board Roll Call

Dr. Schulz called roll for the Board members in attendance.

Stephen Bennett	Raymond Lomelo	Mark Sloan
Toni Carnie	Michael Nixon	Lydia Worthen
John Fleming	Michael Olivier	
Gabriella Lopez	Kevin Schulz	

Approval of Minutes (C101)

Dr. Schulz requested review and approval of the March minutes. Toni Carnie (HCA Tomball) made a motion to approve the minutes, Scott Reeves (HCA Houston Healthcare Northwest) second the motion, and the coalition members carried the motion.

New Business

- **Board Positions Review**

Lisa Spivey reported the RHPC Board has three At Large positions open, with one recently filled by Lt. Lomelo, and an open Public Health County position.

- **Pulsara**

Ms. Spivey reported SETRAC will be meeting with Pulsara in the next couple of weeks to discuss issues from recent feedback and especially issues with entering MCI events to ensure the process is corrected.

- **Hurricane Berly AAR Briefing**

James Meaux reported the OEM/Public Health AAR was held yesterday morning and the hospitals AAR was held yesterday afternoon. Once the AARs are completed, the Training and Exercise team will distribute them to the coalition members.

Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities

Long Term Care Update (C102)

Lisa Spivey reported Special Populations AARs are scheduled in person as listed below, and the email reminder to register will go out next week.

- September 24th in Wharton Civic Center from 9:30-12.
- September 25th in Houston. At Harris Education Center from 9:30-12.

Training and Exercise Update (C104)

James Meaux reviewed the Training and Exercise Schedule distributed to the coalition members (filed with filed binder).

EMTF Update (C104)

Grant Kelley reported the following EMTF update:

New MOAs:

Colorado County EMS and TEXAN EMS

Deployments:

Severe weather in May

Full severe weather package 1 Task Force Leader, 2 Mist personnel, 1 Ambulance Strike Team Leader, 5 Ambulances, and 1 Ambus. Assisted with welfare checks and o2 exchanges

Hurricane Beryl, 92 member agencies and 469 members deployed from across the state. Four task force leaders, 42 MIST, Type 2 Staging, 9 Ambusses, 110 Ambulances, Type 6 MMUS, 10 Coach Busses staffed with two paramedics each. 2,034 total patient encounters, 1065 total patients treat, and 866 total patients transported EMTF integrated into multiple agencies and assisted with the increased call volume, provided o2 exchanges, deployed MIST and ambulance personnel to mitigate the increased wall time, welfare checks at licensed and unlicensed long term health care facilities.

Upcoming events:

EMS IDRUC (Infectious Disease Response Unit) training course Oct 2-3 held at SETRAC.

Warehouse Day TBD

SETRAC Symposium Oct 16th-18th

EMS Update (C104)

Ms. Spivey reported SETRAC will be sending out an email later this month regarding the EMS CAD Broker which will assist in knowing how many ambulances are in route, how many are at the hospital, and what is the average wait time. Other EMS agencies will be invited to join this program.

Inventory Update (C104)

Deferred

Sub-Committee Updates

RHPC Award of Excellence Committee (C101)

Ms. Carnie reported several submissions have been received and all submissions are due by August 31st. The committee will meet mid-to-late September to review the submissions and select the winners.

Symposium Planning (C101)

Ms. Spivey reported the dates for this year's symposium are October 16th-18th at the Galveston San Luis Convention Center. All hotels are full and SETRAC is expecting a full house. The Thailand group will be attending as well as others from Arizona, New Mexico, and Arkansas.

Clinical Advisory Committee (C101)

Deferred

Corridor Updates (C101)

Downtown Corridor – Michael Olivier reported Downtown Corridor met on April 5th and the meeting was dedicated to the tabletop exercise. The latest meeting was August 2nd where Pulsara, ASPR Work Plan, Hurricane Beryl were discussed. The next meeting is scheduled for October 4th at SETRAC.

South Corridor – Mike Nixon reported the South Corridor members dedicated the last meeting to the Hurricane Beryl hot wash. The next meeting is scheduled for next week, September 13th at Houston Methodist Clear Lake.

East Corridor – Jeremy Way reported the last East Corridor meeting was dedicated to the Hurricane Beryl hot wash and the next meeting is scheduled for September 20th.

West Corridor – Gabriella Lopez reported the last West Corridor meeting was held on August 23rd at the Montgomery County Hospital District location. There was discussion regarding issues the corridor members have been experiencing

with Pulsara, public health issues within the area, and communication during Hurricane Beryl where some members mentioned StarLink. A brief tabletop was held which helped bring up speakers we need to present at the upcoming meetings with cybersecurity being a big topic for future discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for October 25th at Columbus Community Hospital.

North Corridor – Stephen Bennett reported the North Corridor meeting was scheduled for July 10th at CHI St. Luke’s Livingston but was cancelled due to Hurricane Beryl. The next meeting is scheduled for next week (September 11th) at Lufkin Civic Center where the corridor members will discuss the Hurricane Beryl response, the City of Lufkin Fire is scheduled to present the recent mass casualty event, and Pulsara.

Partner Updates (C101)

Public Health

DSHS

Meaghan Chesley gave an update on COVID information and Epi data for the region and state. She introduced Alexa Wilson new to their department.

Harris County Public Health

Danielle Calhoun reported on the mosquito program and initiatives. They are preparing for a POD exercise in October and working on the AAR for Hurricane Beryl.

Houston Health Department

John Fleming reported they continue to work on AARs for Hurricane Beryl. The Health Department is publishing a weekly public illnesses report and anyone who would like to receive it may contact him.

OEM

Michael E. DeBakey VA Hospital

Danny Shine gave an overview of their tabletop held on August 23rd advising some of the issues found, and they will be updating their plan to include Pulsara and remove EMTrack from their patient tracking plan. He will be reaching out to their NDMS partners to continue NDMS bed drills.

Brazoria County OEM

Matthew Grout reported they met with their county oxygen representative to discuss the Hurricane Beryl response and will be touring their air/gas facility.

Harris County OEM

Mark Sloan reported the low-pressure system we have been dealing with for ten days is now moving through the south and to the east but will merge with a tropical wave now going into the Bay of Campeche and then we will see what it does later into next week, but for the weekend we will be at 68 degrees on Sunday. He appreciates the discussions on cybersecurity among the corridors. As we move closer to the election, we are going to see an uptick in critical infrastructure potentially being impacted by nation/state cyber attacks with public health being a primary area (which has been on the potential list for several years) making cybersecurity remain a critical topic for discussion.

EMS

Fort Bend County

Mike Nixon reported their Ambus was sent to San Antonio during Hurricane Beryl but with the impact of the storm it was recalled to Fort Bend. An Ambulance Strike Team was called to the county to assist, and they were there for four or five days which was tremendously helpful. Their MODs trailer was used at the fairgrounds along with a shelter setup. This was posted on Facebook announcing people could come and fill their bottles.

Houston Fire Department

Dr. Schulz reported on their response during Hurricane Beryl.

Other Partners

No other partner updates were presented.

Open Discussion/Other

Dr. Schulz reviewed the fiscal year 2024-2025 RHPC Board meeting schedule with the coalition members and, with no one opposed, the schedule was approved.

SETRAC

Ms. Spivey announced during the AAR discussion EMS requested a more tailored view of EMResource. SETRAC will bring the EMResource Workgroup back to review the current status.

FBI

John Large and William Briscoe with the FBI introduced themselves and reported they are replacing Joel Holmes' position and are happy to assist and participate in exercises, meetings, etc.

Adjourn

There being no further business or discussion, A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded, and Dr. Schulz adjourned the meeting at 2:46 pm. The next RHPC Board meeting is scheduled for November 1st at SETRAC (1111 North Loop West, Suite 160, Houston, Texas 77008) in the conference center.

Attendees

Kevin Schulz, Toni Carnie, John Fleming, Gabriella Lopez, Mike Nixon, Michael Olivier, Mark Sloan, Lydia Worthen, Meaghan Chesley, Paula Carrasco, Wiliam Briscoe, John Large, Bernard Smith, LaSonja Baldwin, Scott Reeves, Lisa Spivey, Michael Olivier, Mike Nixon, Kenton Barnett, Alexa Wilson, Lauren Burns, Carrie Cox, John Wingate, Danielle Calhoun, John Fleming, Mike Jaquez, Tim Looby, Tim Chapman, James Meaux, Kat Samuel, Arthur Anderson, Mehna Bhatt, Charles Brockett, Eddie Burleigh, Jackeline Cervantes, Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte, Andy Fisk, Beverley Foster, Fanny Frederick, Christy Gonzales, Matthew Grout, Sarah Henry, Brenda Hernandez, Jonathan House, Denis Hyams, Blake Jackson, Chris Jannise, Jonathan Keels, Superior Johnson, Dylan Lancaster, Rene Leal, Angela Lee, Evelyn Locklin, Nancy Matthew, Joseph Murray, Calvin Nicholson, Keri Reeves, Allison Reimers, Sherry Richardson, April Sanders, Joe Schorre, Glenda Self, Ashley Simon, Ashlee Thurman, Aaron Velasquez, Cassidy Werts