



RHPC Board Meeting
November 1, 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 1:30 pm.

RHPC Board Roll Call

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

Toni Carnie	Michael Olivier
John Fleming	Kevin Schulz
Raymond Lomelo	Sean Simmonds
Gabriella Lopez	Mark Sloan
	Lydia Worthen

Approval of Minutes (C101)

Dr. Schulz requested review and approval of the September minutes. Mark Sloan (Harris County OEM) made a motion to approve the minutes, Michael Olivier (Memorial Hermann TMC) second the motion, and the coalition members carried the motion.

New Business

- **Apprise**

Lori Upton gave a brief overview of the Apprise pilot which will identify real time bed reporting, ED saturation, mental health, length of stay, etc. Links to the pilot information has been sent out to the hospital CNOs for review.

- **World Cup**

Dr. Schulz reported the World Cup is scheduled for the month of July 2026 with the projected number of additional people coming into Houston being anywhere from 40,000-100,000 people increasing the Houston population by five percent which will place stress on our systems. He suggested the corridor members place this date on their calendars now as this will be a topic of discussion and planning on our agendas from now until July 2026. Dr. Schulz stated this is a great opportunity and a time for us to come together to work internally to make this a successful event.

Mark Sloan advised there will be alternate traffic routes and an increase in rail traffic. He stated, not only are we hosting the World Cup along with other nations, but July 4th 2026, is the 250th anniversary of the United States so Freedom Over Texas will be going on as well as we will be hosting a game with Philadelphia vs. (possibly the US or England at the same time. Mr. Sloan asked the corridor members to pay attention as this is an event that is a magnitude of ten times a super bowl event and we will be doing it seven times over a month-and-a-half period.

Ms. Spivey reported there will be a lot more trainings coming out during this time (MCI, Pulsara, WebEOC, EMResource, etc.) to assist with preparedness.

Healthcare Preparedness Capabilities

Long Term Care Update (C102)

Fidel Calvillo reported on the following Special Population's issues:

- Hurricane Beryl AAR meeting was held for Special Populations. Lessons learned will be incorporated on 2025 workshops.

- Continue coordinating with dialysis corporate agencies to identify areas of improvement
- SETRAC presented at HHSC provider meetings August, September, and October. Nursing homes, Assisted Living, ICFs, and Home Health and Hospice agencies were in attendance
- Collaborating with Texas HHSC Leadership to improve on communications and collaboration to improve response activities.
- Continue to finalize agreements

Training and Exercise Update (C104)

James Meaux and Timothy Chapman reviewed the Training and Exercise Schedule distributed to the coalition members (*filed with RHPC Board minutes filed binder*). The regional exercise is scheduled for May 8, 2024, and the tabletop exercises will be conducted at the corridor meetings in March/April 2024 (invites will be sent out).

EMTF Update (C104)

Troy Erbentraut reported the following EMTF update:

EMTF 6 had a very successful Prehospital IDRUs (Infectious disease response unit) course at the beginning of October. The course was hosted at the SETRAC office for two days. There was discussion regarding emerging diseases of high consequence including the Marburg virus. The class practiced donning and doffing the prehospital PPE along with practicing skills such as IV initiation and transferring of patients while wearing the PPE. There are plans to host the Hospital Augmentation IDRUs team course in the coming months with a date to be announced soon.

EMTF currently has WLFS teams prepositioned in five locations across the state in response to the increased fire weather. EMTF 6 has activated one-MEDL, one-Tech Spec, three-WPU, two-Ambulances and one-MIST.

Upcoming Dates: Nov 15th EMTF6 Workgroup / Workday at the SETRAC warehouse

EMS Conference Nov 24th – 27th EMTF will host Work Groups likely on the 25th location TBD

EMS Update (C104)

Clayton Ehrlich reported SETRAC has distributed wristbands to the EMS partners in the region and working on getting them to hospitals. The EMS Blood Subcommittee has been formed to a Blood Committee by the SETRAC Board. We are working on getting this Committee engaged to establish regional guidelines on pre-hospital blood administration and rotation.

Inventory Update (C104)

Deferred

Sub-Committee Updates

RHPC Award of Excellence Committee (C101)

Ms. Carnie reported Memorial Hermann TMC (large facility category), Memorial Hermann Northeast (medium facility category), and Huntsville Memorial Hospital (small facility category) won the Award of Excellence awards this year, and Memorial Hermann Pearland won the Partnership award. She encouraged the hospitals and EMS to begin gathering their information to submit next year's applications.

Symposium Planning (C101)

Ms. Upton reported we had approximately 540 attendees this year. Planning for next year's symposium is scheduled for October 15th-17th at the Galveston San Luis Convention Center. Anyone interested in serving on the planning committee may contact Roxie Ward at roxie.ward@setrac.org.

Clinical Advisory Committee (C101)

Mr. Meaux reported the Clinical Advisory Committee has been invited to the risk assessment workshop hosted by SETRAC.

Corridor Updates (C101)

Downtown Corridor – Michael Olivier reported Downtown Corridor met on October 4th with discussion regarding Pulsara, WebEOC/EMResource MCI notifications, and the World Cup. The radio checks seem to stay consistent, and the Downtown Corridor had a good turnout at the symposium with good feedback. The next meeting is scheduled for December 5th at SETRAC.

South Corridor – Jeremy Way reported the South Corridor members discussed best practices and areas of improvement. The next meeting is scheduled for next week, November 8th at HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast.

East Corridor – Lydia Worthen reported the last East Corridor meeting was on September 20th with discussion regarding Pulsara, Hurricane Beryl, and public health issues. The next meeting is scheduled for December 6th at the Chambers County Health Services building.

West Corridor – Andrew Fisk reported the last West Corridor meeting was held on October 25th at Columbus Community Hospital with good feedback from the symposium and discussion on public health issues, the World Cup, and possibly centralizing corridor meeting locations. The next meeting is scheduled for December 20th at Huntsville Memorial Hospital.

North Corridor – Gary Litton reported the North Corridor met on September 11th in Lufkin where the Lufkin Asst. Fire Chief gave a presentation on a false active shooter notification. The next meeting is scheduled for November 13th in Nacogdoches with discussion surrounding risk assessment and the World Cup.

Partner Updates (C101)

Public Health

DSHS

Meaghan Chesley reported multi-state outbreak E. coli associated with McDonald's quarter-pound hamburgers. There are no cases in Texas and the supplier issued a voluntary recall of the onions. There is an outbreak in Rwanda of Marburg virus and the US is screening travelers from Rwanda at four airports that all flights from Rwanda are routing through. There has been an increase in pertussis cases this year and Texas has seen a 300% rise in cases this year compared to this time last year. A health alert has been sent out due to the increase in pertussis cases. RSV cases are up this year as well.

Brazoria County Public Health

Matthew Grout reported has a person monitoring the Marburg virus in their area.

Fort Bend County Public Health

Charles Brockett reported they have two H5N1 events coming up for farm and dairy workers where they will be handing out PPE and providing education. He stated they are working to improve their communication coverage when activated.

OEM

Harris County OEM

Mark Sloan reported it is looking like we will be getting some rain in the area hopefully bringing the drought level down. Harris County OEM is monitoring the polls as we move into the election day (Tuesday, November 5th) and will be monitoring after the outcome as well. There is an expectation of rain with some area could see rain throughout the day, but nothing severe.

Montgomery County Hospital District

Sean Simmonds reported they have several ICS trainings, 300/400 classes, and other trainings available to MCHD.

EMS

Wharton County EMS

Christy Gonzales gave an update on the challenges and concerns they are facing with the ongoing saline solution shortage. Ms. Upton

Other Partners

No other partner updates were presented.

Open Discussion/Other

UTMB Exercise

Mr. Fleming inquired if there were any plans to schedule the UTMB partnership exercise and Ms. Spivey advised there have been no discussions, but agreed it is something we probably need to bring back to the table for discussion. She reported SETRAC is working on updating the CMOC plans which will be done in parts along with the RETA plan.

RHPC Board Position

Ms. Spivey announced the County Public Health position is open on the RHPC Board and she requested the coalition members to submit their nominee by November 15th.

Mental Health Workgroup

SETRAC has scheduled a trip to San Antonio with city/county representatives, and a commissioner's office policy advisor to meet with and observe the processes of the folks that run MEDCOM which is their patient coordination group, and they work with mental health patients as well. This will hopefully give us a better understanding so we can bring it back to our region and duplicate it to help mitigate the mental health issue.

CenterPoint Energy Request

CenterPoint has asked SETRAC to assist in gathering contact information for the person at the facilities; they recommend the maintenance/facility manager as this person needs to know where the generators are located and the address of the power source, so this information can be shared with them for disaster preparedness purposes. This information should be sent to Ms. Spivey at lisa.spivey@setrac.org.

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 2:35 pm. The next RHPC Board meeting is scheduled for January 3rd at SETRAC (1111 North Loop West, Suite 160, Houston, Texas 77008) in the conference center.

Attendees

Kevin Schulz, Toni Carnie, Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte, John Wingate, Danny Shine, Michelle Rodriguez, Fanny Frederick, Raymond Lomelo, Michael Olivier, Evelyn Locklin, Alexa Wilson, John Gomolka, James Meaux, Aaron Velasquez, Lisa Spivey, Kenton Barnett, Ashlee Thuman, Carrie Cox, Lydia Rogers, Santonio Hoke, Jackeline Cervantes, Lisa Valenzon, Cristian Reynoso-Garcia, Trey Frankovich, Fidel Calvillo, Chris Jannise, Sarah Morris, Cathy Muscat, Kevin Crump, Royce Worrell, Christina Watkins, Arthur Anderson, Jonathan House, Christy Gonzales, Christina Hatcher, Janie Ochoa, Glenda Self, Neal Dorflinger, Nancy Mathew, Charles Brockett, Robert Laffey, Matthew Grout, Julie Matson, Meghna Bhatt, Timothy Chapman, Bonnie Macius, Mike Jaquez, Michele Carter, Michael Wilcox, Lauren Burns, Andrew Fisk, Joe Schorre, Sean Simmonds, Scott Reeves, Joseph Murray, Katherine Samuel