

General Membership Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 11, 2023 @ 1000 hours

*Via Zoom***THOSE IN ATTENDANCE**

Michele Aboud – Three Oaks Hospice
Elias Adair – Desert Haven EMS
Carlos Alarcon – RevIVE Medical, PLLC
Kardha Alvarado – Las Palmas Medical Center
Daniel Ames – El Paso County ESD #1
Rosalia Arzate – Fort Hancock EMS
Richard Avitia – Las Palmas Medical Center
Tony Baird – Dominion Ambulance
Amber Bechtel – El Paso Psychiatric Center
Erika Bergeron – UMC of El Paso
Carlos Bravo – Kindred Hospital
Henry Brutus – Pro-Action, Inc.
Mikie Buldra – Trans Aero MedEvac
David Bustillos – THOP: TM Campus
Lydia Camacho – UMC of El Paso
Imelda Cazares – Peak Behavioral Health Hospital
Daniel Cedillos – Culberson Fire-Med Services
Chris Celaya - Tenet Healthcare
Sadhana Chheda - TTUHSC
Celia Cisneros – Las Palmas Medical Center
Jayson Connally – Culberson County Hospital
Roxann Contreras – UMC of El Paso
David Cummings – Culberson Hospital
Carla Escobar – UMC of El Paso
Yvonne Estrada – Del Sol Medical Center
Yvette Felix – THOP: East Campus
Vanessa Figueroa – BorderRAC
Cristina Fore – THOP: East Campus
Rafael Garcia – BorderRAC
Karen Gardea – WBAMC
Amanda Gary – Culberson Hospital
Patricia Gelinias – THOP: Memorial Campus
Roseann Gomez – Kindred Hospital
Bianca Gonzalez – THOP: East Campus
Michellee Gonzalez - THOP: Memorial Campus
Sandra Gonzalez – UMC of El Paso
Leroy Granado – EP OEM
Raul Guerrero – DSHS
Todd Haugen – Memorial Medical Center
Alan Tyroch - TTUHSC
Wanda Helgesen – BorderRAC
Adeliz Hernandez – THOP: Memorial Campus
Imelda Hernandez-Sokol – Urgent Care Hospice
Cynthia Holguin – Del Sol Medical Center
Peggy Jaime - BorderRAC
Don Janes – UMC of El Paso
Noreen Jaramillo – Emergence Health Network
Sonia Lopez – Tenant Healthcare
Kenneth Lujan – American Medical Response, LC
Fonda Marler – THOP: Transmountain Campus
Vanessa Marquez – Elite Medical Transport
Angie Martinez-Romero - WBAMC
Miriam Mendoza – THOP: Memorial Campus
Manny Munoz – THOP: East Campus
Bryan Olson – BorderRAC
Grace Ortiz – Adult Protective Services
Jose Ortiz - EPFD
Luis Ortiz – ProAction Emergency Services
Amber Ozaeta – LPMC
Anne Pacheco – UMC of El Paso
Karla Parra – THOP: Transmountain Campus
Monica Peralta – Del Sol Medical Center
Diego Perez – Culberson Hospital EMS
Julie Perez – Del Sol Medical Center
Cynthia Quintana – UMC of El Paso
Alex Ramos – Tenet Healthcare
Amber Rey – Rio Grande Council of Governments
Frank Rios – Del Sol Medical Center
Elen Rodriguez – THOP: East Campus
Luis Roman – ACHSNM/RHSNM
Eddie Sanchez – Life Ambulance Service
Susan Sharp – BorderRAC
Andrew Shay – THOP: East Campus
Heather Styles – WBAMC
Martha Vasquez – THOP: TM Campus
Verne Walker – HCA Healthcare
Zyon Zate – BorderRAC EMTF
Gabriel Zubia – UMC of El Paso

All members and invited meeting participants agree to protect the privacy and security of confidential information at all times, both during and after association with BorderRAC has terminated. It is understood that any breach of confidentiality may be grounds for immediate termination of membership and occlusion of future meeting attendance; as well as any appropriate legal action.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ms. Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 1000 hours.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Helgesen reported she received notification the last two paragraphs of the System PI section were actually from the July meeting. She apologized for the confusion and has removed those paragraphs. She received no other notifications regarding revision requests for the October minutes. Dr. Tyroch made motion to approve with the above-mentioned revision and Ms. Peralta seconded. The motion carried to accept the minutes with the revision.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report

Mr. Garcia reviewed quarterly snapshots of each grant.

ASPR21 TSA-I Quarterly Report							7/1/2022	6/30/2023
<u>Cost Category</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>July - Sept</u> 1st Qtr	<u>Oct - Dec</u> 2nd Qtr	<u>Jan - March</u> 3rd Qtr	<u>April - June</u> 4th Qtr	YTD	YTD Remaining	
Personnel	\$109,571.00	\$35,487.18	\$24,548.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60,035.28	\$49,535.72	
Fringe Benefits	\$28,488.00	\$10,881.75	\$7,400.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,282.67	\$10,205.33	
Travel	\$12,658.00	\$1,359.51	\$3,428.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,787.90	\$7,870.10	
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$1,135.08	\$473.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,608.42	(\$108.42)	
Contractual	\$50,631.00	\$13,740.00	\$16,997.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,737.00	\$19,894.00	
Other	\$53,160.00	\$14,110.07	\$8,126.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,236.65	\$30,923.35	
Indirect	\$64,001.00	\$18,350.10	\$15,005.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,355.15	\$30,645.85	
	\$320,009.00	\$95,063.69	\$75,979.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$171,043.07	\$148,965.93	

There was a reduction of approximately \$20,000.00 from Q1 to Q2. Ms. Helgesen reported one of the reasons Q1 was higher is because insurance was billed and paid within Q1 (as it is a substantial expense) to provide BorderRAC a clearer picture of the remaining funding to expend through the grant year. Straight line to actual expense variance is 3.45 %.

FY23 EMTF Rider Quarterly Report							START: 9/1/2022	END: 8/31/2023
<u>Cost Category</u>	<u>Budget</u>	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD Remaining	
Personnel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Fringe Benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Travel	\$4,425.00	\$1,132.57	\$3,919.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,051.88	(\$626.88)	
Equipment	\$13,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,500.00	
Supplies	\$34,850.00	\$370.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$370.78	\$34,479.22	
Contractual	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other	\$72,225.00	\$8,201.10	\$25,508.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,709.87	\$38,515.13	
Indirect	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	\$125,000.00	\$9,704.45	\$29,428.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$39,132.53	\$85,867.47	

Q1 expenses were significantly lower than Q2, as this is the funding utilized to pay the majority of our warehouse rent, which houses the MMU and related equipment. Straight line to actual variance is 2.03 % below estimated expenditures to date.

FY23 Systems Development Quarterly Report							9/1/2022	8/31/2023
Cost Category	Budget	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD Remaining	
Personnel	\$31,470.00	\$10,395.04	\$20,492.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,887.25	\$582.75	
Fringe Benefits	\$9,297.00	\$3,489.56	\$6,222.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,712.23	(\$415.23)	
Travel	\$3,225.00	\$0.00	\$659.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$659.88	\$2,565.12	
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Supplies	\$1,166.00	\$24.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24.99	\$1,141.01	
Contractual	\$6,945.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,945.00	
Other	\$12,872.00	\$2,735.68	\$4,600.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,335.94	\$5,536.06	
Indirect	\$12,779.00	\$1,171.03	\$3,677.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,848.38	\$7,930.62	
	\$77,754.00	\$17,816.30	\$35,652.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$53,468.67	\$24,285.33	

Q2 expenditures were significantly increased over Q1 in the area of personnel expenditures due to the work performed in this category of our funding. Whereas we should be at 33.33% expended, we are currently at 68.77%, a variance of almost 36 percent. Moving into the second half of this grant year, personnel workload associated with this grant will be adjusted to decrease the variance



FY23 EMS RAC Quarterly Report							START:	END:
Cost Category	Budget	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	9/1/2022	8/31/2023
Personnel	\$27,702.00	\$0.00	\$7,984.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,984.53		
Fringe Benefits	\$9,097.00	\$0.00	\$2,611.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,611.15		
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Supplies	\$3,230.00	\$0.00	\$721.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$721.44		
Contractual	\$3,283.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Other	\$18,452.00	\$7,806.45	\$10,471.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,277.97		
Indirect	\$21,414.00	\$1,979.24	\$9,898.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,877.91		
	\$83,178.00	\$9,785.69	\$31,687.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,473.00		

Q2 expenditures increased by approximately \$21,000.00 mainly in the categories of Personnel, Fringe, and Indirect. The variance is 6 percent over the RAC goal threshold. Personnel workload will be adjusted to decrease the variance.

FY23 EMS County Quarterly Report							9/1/2022	8/31/2023
Cost Category	Budget	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD Remaining	
Contractual	\$163,027.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$163,027.00	
	\$163,027.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$163,027.00	

This is the pass-through EMS funding. BorderRAC informed eligible entities of their awarded allotments. Currently, have been no expenditures. The required spreadsheet for submissions have been sent to all eligible agencies. Since this report, we have received one submission of expenses for reimbursement from Elite Medical Transport.

FY23 EMS RAC/SB8 Quarterly Report							9/1/2022	12/31/2024
Cost Category	Budget	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD	YTD Remaining	
Personnel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,299.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,299.85	(\$1,299.85)	
Fringe Benefits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$306.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$306.44	(\$306.44)	
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Equipment	\$34,271.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,271.66	
Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Edu/Scholarships	\$428,395.75	\$24,000.00	\$199,671.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$223,671.02	\$204,724.73	
Incentives	\$102,814.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$102,814.99	
Indirect	\$137,086.64	\$14.29	\$53.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67.96	\$137,018.68	
	\$702,569.04	\$24,014.29	\$201,330.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$225,345.27	\$477,223.77	

This is the newest grant funding we are managing. The majority of expenditures thus far have occurred in the *Education/Scholarship* category. The variance is 17.79 % over the expected expenditures for the timeframe. This should level out as the early classes are complete.

Ms. Gonzalez inquired what the incentives category covers. Ms. Helgesen responded incentives paid to

the education agencies if the student passes their national registry exam on their first attempt. In some regions, agencies have requested the incentive be rolled back into the scholarship funding but we have not yet had that discussion for this region yet. The category allocations were determined by the state.

Mr. Sanchez inquired if the \$702,569.00 is the full amount and if, once that has been expended would be more funding forthcoming? Ms. Helgesen replied that is the total amount the legislature appropriated for our region and we do not anticipate receiving further funding. However, if other RACs are unable to expend all the funding they received, there is a chance the funding can be shared with other RACs.

Action taken: Motion made, second and approved to accept the financial report as presented.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

The following updates were given for the committees.

Acute Care Committees

Cardiac Subcommittee

Ms. Helgesen reviewed Q3 2022 data. STEMI patient arrival via EMS (48% versus the goal of 80% demonstrates community education opportunity. The median time (min) first onset to FMC (89.2 min goal of ≤ 120 minutes). Data indicates we have opportunity on the pre-hospital side regarding:

- Pre-hospital ECGs received at facilities
- Pre-hospital ECG ≤ 10 minutes

Stroke Subcommittee

Mr. Munoz reported 318 strokes in Q2 2023; 77% were *Ischemic*, 10% *ICH*, 5% *SAH*, 7% *TIA* and 1% *Other*. Regarding the arrival mode, 55% the majority are still arriving via POV.

NIH stroke scale were performed on 89% of the patients. Of those, 14% (34) with ischemic strokes received thrombolytic therapy, all of those within the 60-minute benchmark.

Data indicates continued issue with delayed presentation of patients with stroke (outside the 4-hour window), with a majority falling within 301 min-1 day. The community focus is education on identification of the signs and symptom of stroke, contacting 911 immediately and education regarding additional high-risk factors such as high blood pressure.

Mr. Lujan inquired if there is a way to break down the 301 min-1-day category and indicate how many of those wake-up strokes are (with LKW being bedtime the night before). This item will be referred to the Stroke Subcommittee for discussion.

Hospital Trauma Committee/Regional Registry

Ms. Styles displayed Q3 Demographic data. There were 2,338 total patients in the trauma registry. Thirty percent of patients are ≥ 65 years of age, with 20% under the age of nineteen. Approximately 50% of patients suffered a fall, with the next highest mechanism being MVC (occupants). The majority, at 65.27% were admitted directly from the scene and 96.92% of those were discharged alive. There were 72 deaths.

Pediatric Subcommittee

Ms. Rodriguez reported the committee continues to work on the launch of the Non-Accidental-Trauma (NAT) guidelines and measuring compliance within the facilities. The goal is to ensure all incoming pediatric patients with an injury are screened for NAT. Current hospital EMRs make capturing data of those screened and not screened challenging. The committee is developing ways to monitor whether metrics within the guideline, including proper work up and potential transfers are met.

EMS Committee

Mr. Sanchez reported review of the CDC Trauma Field Triage Guidelines is occurring in System Performance Improvement. The participation has been successful in completing the red and yellow criteria revisions and are pending completion of the green. Discussions of changing nomenclature (Red, Yellow, Green versus Level I, Level II or Level III or a combination) continues.

Once the pre-hospital triage categorization is finalized, this committee will begin work with the cardiac subcommittee regarding EMS data components.

SB8-Texas EMS Workforce Initiative

- Scholarships Approved – 47
 - EMT – 17
 - AEMT – 7
 - Paramedic – 23
- Rural 21 and Urban 27
- \$236,658.04

Ms. Helgesen reported several scholarships were not approved - 2 were withdrawn by the student, and 2 were submitted after the class started. Dr. Tyroch remarked it is impressive how many Paramedics are in training due to the Initiative and he believes it is a good mixture between the rural and urban approved scholarships.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee

Ms. Helgesen reported on the on-going COVID response. Limited PPE distribution continues on Tuesdays, mainly to long term care facilities. Hospitals are required to continue their COVID reporting. Additionally, BorderRAC continues weekly meetings with hospital leadership. This was reinitiated in December with the rise in RSV and new COVID variants and subsequently the migrant crisis. These will decrease as issues wind down.

BorderRAC should have an assessment regarding the Med 2 repeater by the end of the week, giving us the opportunity to make decisions regarding how to proceed. Mr. Sanchez inquired regarding the agreement with the City. If only a repair is needed, we would want the City to complete the repair as soon as possible. That repeater is probably at end-of-life and the way the discussions have gone thus far, the replacement would probably fall to BorderRAC. We would prefer to plan and budget for that large of an expense. We will give updates as information becomes available. Additionally, we have been working towards a rural network and have completed some preventive maintenance in Hudspeth and Culberson County.

EMTF

To advance the Far West Texas / Southern New Mexico trauma and emergency healthcare system through prevention, education, preparedness, and response.

Mr. Zate displayed the EMTF regional map, a QR code to create a contact card, a link to the EMTF-9 Facebook page, and his contact information (zyon@borderrac.org, 915-479-4110). He reported the current objectives for EMTF 9:

- 2023 Recruitment Priorities
 - 1) Mobile Medical Unit
 - 2) Infectious Disease Response Unit
 - 3) Ambulance Strike Team
- Bataan Memorial Death March – Sunday, March 19, 2023 – If interested in volunteering, please contact Mr. Zate.
- Gearing up for Wildland Fire Season, and Hurricane Season

Perinatal Committee

Ms. Gonzalez reported newly adopted rules by the State for maternal designation. The facilities are working toward being in compliance of the new rules.

Additionally, beginning this month is the TCHMB Post-Partum Emergency Department Hypertension cohort will begin - three facilities are participating: THOP: Memorial Campus, LPMC, and UMC. Texas A&M is also re-starting their hypertension initiative and they will be giving education.

Prevention Committee

Ms. Helgesen reported prevention focus in social media for Q4 was reviewed as follows:

October Spotlight Review

- School Bus Safety Information
- Halloween Safety Tips – Halloween Reflective Safety Bags were distributed at the *1st Annual FireFest*. Additionally, Bicycle Safety information and helmets were also disseminated.
- Mental Health Awareness Month

November Spotlight Review

Encompassed awareness month for several topics and we included information for the following:

- Alzheimer's Disease and Falls
- Diabetes Information
- National Injury Prevention Day (today, November 18): *Shine a Green Light on Prevention*.

Ms. Helgesen reported as a group led by UMC went to Commissioner's Court for a resolution and declaration of National Injury Prevention Day in El Paso. Additionally, she displayed the local facilities that participated in the National *Shine a Green Light* initiative by shining a green light on their building or place of business (UMC Scherr Legate Trauma Center and El Paso Children's Hospital, THOP: East Campus and BorderRAC).

December Spotlight Review

- Holiday Decorations and Fire Safety
- Christmas Trees and Holiday Gift Age-Appropriate Safety
- Holiday Parties and Keeping the Spirit (Designated Safe Drivers)

Please follow BorderRAC, like us, and repost our community education posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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System Improvement

Ms. Helgesen reported the committee is also reviewing the regional replant guidelines, which should receive final approval next week.

Additionally, the committee continues work on integrating the newly released CDC Field Triage Guidelines with our current regional guidelines.

The next GETAC meeting is March 7 and 8, 2023, with the Council meeting the morning of March 9, 2023 in Austin. There is a virtual option – online registration is available.

The Texas Legislative session began yesterday. Members of GETAC and the Trauma Systems Committee are strategizing on how to approach the potential funding reductions in the 5111 fund. Dr. Tyroch has already had conversations with the Governor's office. Ms. Helgesen reported the Comptroller has found an excess of 32 billion dollars and we are hoping they will be able to make 5111 whole with the extra funding.

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION

BorderRAC participated in the 1st Annual FireFest – October 1, 2022 at *The Beast Community Park*. We distributed Halloween Safety Tips on Halloween Reflective Safety Bags, coloring books, bicycle safety information, bike flashers, and helmets.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Ms. Helgesen reviewed Q4 Professional Education Activities:

Direct

There were no direct professional education activities in Q4.

Joint

October 20 – Mission Possible: Health Information Exchange (EPCMS/1 hr.)

November 29 – Illicit Fentanyl Awareness (EPCMS/1 hr.)

December 1 – Rio Grande Trauma and Pediatric Update (TTUHSC El Paso / 8 hrs.)

Enduring for credit

EMS Jurisprudence Fee \$10

EMS Capnography (**EMS** Credit)

Closing a Medical Practice (**CME** credit)

One of BorderRAC's goals for 2023 is to increase the number of enduring education for credit offerings.

FUNDRAISING

The BorderRAC Annual Top Golf Fundraiser is May 6, 2023. BorderRAC will send sponsorship requests. We hope to registration open by early February.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Helgesen reported a number of our partners have inquired how to become full members. The Board worked on the following dues schedule for those entities that did not fit under the Hospital Facilities or standard EMS Agency dues schedule:

- Free-standing ED - \$750
- Educational –
 - University/college - \$250
 - EMS education program - \$100
- First Responder Organization - \$100
- Air Medical - \$500
- LTC facility - \$100
- Other - \$500

If you fall into one of the above categories and wish to become a full member, please contact BorderRAC.

RAC Assessment

Ms. Helgesen reviewed the upcoming RAC Assessment guidelines. If we do NOT score a 3 or above in any area, we are required to submit an action plan for that component.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Ms. Gonzalez reminded all Trauma Centers that the *Uncompensated Trauma Care Applications* are due February 10, 2023.

Additionally, she congratulated Ms. Helgesen for being selected to serve another TETAF term.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS –April 12, 2023

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1112 hours.

/scs