

Piney Woods Regional Advisory Council General Assembly Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2025

Louise & Joseph Z. Ornelas Academic Amphitheater – Building G, 3rd floor

Call to order 10:07 a.m. with a welcome to allShawn Salter

- Introduction of Chair, Board Members, and Committee Chairs to the General Assembly.
- Introduction of new general assembly attendees.

Topic 1: Chair Talking Points... Shawn Salter

Discussion:

- Approval of the Oct. 1, 2024 General Assembly meeting minutes.
 - Motion to approve minutes by Roy Langford
 - Seconded motion by Michael Lawyer
 - All were in favor with no further discussion.
- RAC Executive Board Report – from Dec. 6 and Jan. 13 Board Meetings.
 - Recap outstanding projects
 - Trauma Plan – ongoing, living document
 - Trauma Cmte – seeking new co-chair
 - Amy Hooten retired, stepped down from Chair of EMS Cmte. Brian Wilkinson is chair and would like a co-chair. Jimmy Lawrence FD Chief, Longview FD introduced to body. EMS MOAs not submitted yet? Contact Loretta Kuhn if you are uncertain if you have turned yours in.
 - Stroke Cmte. Once data received they will work on
 - Injury Prevention. Strategy to focus on top 2 injury cause. Fall prevention and Car Fit program.
 - 2025 Priorities
 - DSHS requires an ad hoc multidisciplinary cmte to work on regional focus items. For example, delay in any critical patient, regardless of category. Wall patients are another issue. Need all disciplines represented on this PI cmte.
 - Wristbands. Shawn summarized wristband effort which began 5 years ago. Not fully implemented within our RAC. Trauma rules released last September and indicated wristbands were for MCIs. Broader utilization increases likelihood of use within MCIs. Therefore, all EMS patients to have wristband.
 - Pulsara. Provided at no cost to EMS and hospitals. Most agencies are using in some form for select patients. Goes to main contact in hospital and can provide communications upstream. Two-way comms possible throughout. Fully functional, can store pictures in a HIPAA-protected platform. Need to use uniformly as a region to prevent patchwork usage. Loretta requested show of hands who uses in some capacity; most raised hands. Josh Jordan of Pulsara present; agreed to make list available of agencies currently using Pulsara.
 - Shawn recognized ED directors attending. Suggested ED Director cmte. Shawn to meet with these people at break for contact information. ED educators as well.
 - EM Resources is paid for by DSHS. Forgotten passwords and turnover has contributed to non-reporting. Those affected to talk to Shawn on break.

- GETAC events pending – GETAC council and cmte chairs meeting for strategic planning session in Austin later this week. Looking at GETAC rules, Trauma plan, Systems plan, and DSHS present for open and future initiatives discussion. GETAC PI framework and 5 different PI measures.
- Loretta provided overview of soon-to-be posted Data Collection job description for the RAC; may become full time. At this point, can be PRN and remote. Encourage people to apply. Great for retired person, they don't need to have clinical experience.
- Open for input for general assembly's priorities.
 - FRO cmte suggested by Shawn.
 - Whole blood cmte suggested by Jim Speier. Likely to address later in the year. Freeze-dried plasma also becoming available.
- Highlighting "Hospital Facility of the Year" UT Health Tyler! They were recognized at TX EMS Conference in Ft. Worth in November.

Action:

- None at this time

Topic 2: RAC Office Updates Loretta Kuhn

Discussion:

- Scholarship program closeout Dec. 31, 2024. Keep up with reports if you received, so final reporting can be completed.
- Wristbands. Staff counted 180,000 still in warehouse. Our RAC is lacking in compliance. Need education, other initiatives to assure usage on every patient that EMS picks up.
- All committees need a co-chair.
- Approximately 1.0 CE planned for each General Assembly as a goal.
- Waletta Wilbur introduced, Administrative Support to RAC-G.
- Loretta thanked the Board and assembly for supporting her and RAC-G in recent months and expressed gratitude for progress by the RAC staff. Notably, Aaron is almost ready to release the new website.
- Tammy provided a report (to be included in the minutes.)

Action:

- None at this time.

Topic 3: Preparedness & Response Division Report.....Lisa Modisette

Discussion:

- Glen House of RAC-F, Eric Bailey and Lisa attended conferences in Galveston, Ft. Worth, and Orlando in recent months. Currently building a training program with TJC. UT Athens hosted ICS class. Ideally hosting in several areas, not just Tyler. Peer Support program differs from CISM; provides ongoing support. Still in development as a regional resource. May 19-21 Peer Support training upcoming, see the TEEX website.
- Getting ready for Spring Mercy collaborative exercise with F & G. Invites sent to hospitals, EMS,

working on Air Medical. Usage of EM Resources and Pulsara are the goals of the exercise. Virtual meeting planned tentatively for Feb. 10 for those who have volunteered to be on this planning cmte.

- Thanks to Hopkins County EMS for sending a crew to combat wildfires in California.
- Longer range: cybersecurity training pending.

Action:

- None at this time

Topic 4: Operations Support.....Aaron Wells

Discussion:

- Offering handouts today re: restructuring. Initial info. needed. EM Resource will be required by the state to be drilled. Drills start in Feb. lasting 24 hours, eventually only lasting 1 hour. 19 responses to invitation so far from G and F.
- Will want to be able to report facility info direct from facility (cannot wait days for hospital corporate office reporting, if done this way in the past). This is required by the state and will be part of our RAC compliance.

Action:

- None at this time

Topic 5: RAC-G Trauma Systems Data Report.....Ashley Hanson

- Presented PPT featuring Time to Transfer, top 5 facilities Transfers out of RAC-G (Children’s Med. Ctr, Parkland Mem Hosp., UTMB, Hillcrest, Medical City Dallas.)
- Shawn highlighted the review of trauma registry, specifically 7236 traumas from our RAC. Age breakdown, breakdown by Injury severity scores, top 5 mechanisms of injury: falls, mvc, struck by or against an object, cut or piercing, mvc non-traffic. Fatalities by age, trauma patients that presented with shock, double-transfers (transferred twice in short period.) Spinal cord injuries, TBI patients. This info to be given to trauma cmte to identify actionable items.

Action:

- None at this time

Topic 6: Committee Chair Reports

- Air medical.....Chad Solomon
 - Wristbands. Working on plan to make sure all are using.
 - Tyler Unicom – changed to 123.025 to avoid conflicts with airport
- EMS.....Brian Wilkinson
 - Thanks to Amy who is departing/retiring. Brian to be voted on as new Chair by the Board
 - Whole blood initiative
 - MOUs on file reviewed. Please turn yours in if outstanding.

- Clinical Education.....Dr. DeSai
 - Open call for education; CE credits for EMS and nursing planned.
 - Wristband – encouraged all to assure these are in use; reach out for assistance. May suggest a deadline. Will be established and announced by EMS and Air Medical cmte. All agencies, including Hospitals need to enter the wristband number and avoid cutting it off.
- Finance.....Roy Langford
 - Meets today. Will set parameters for spending.
 - If you need something, request it. Roy commented how many more educational experiences are available now that
- Hospital Preparedness – HCC Governance.....Karen Adams
 - Meeting today.
- Injury Prevention.....Brittany Ray
 - Injury Prevention met on 1/15.
 - Reviewed Car Fit. 10/30 7 tech 5 coordinators. Request for a Spring Class to target areas of high MVCs.
 - Heat safety also a Spring focus. April class of 100 for Fall Prevention. Night lights available for events; f/u required.
 - Pediatric readiness coordinated drill on 1/24; another 1/30 upcoming.
- PediatricGreg Lamay, Dr. Catherine Goetz
 - Meeting today.
- Perinatal.....Hillary Hill
 - Met Oct. 8. Bracelet project progressing. Patient ed. handouts, pink bracelets given to new moms/OB patients. Short videos of preeclampsia, other perinatal conditions (short “TikTok” style)
 - Meeting Today.
 - RAC recap meeting next week online.
- Stroke..... Jennifer Reeves
 - Meeting to be scheduled this week. Flu has been a factor
 - RDC data, PI project pending: possibly door in, door out
 - Goals for 2025. Peds code stroke protocol possibly
- Cardiac – no report
- Trauma.....Ashley Hanson
 - Meeting today. Now offering hybrid meetings and same day as general assembly for convenience.

Topic 7: Pulsara.....Josh Jordan, Guest

Discussion:

- Brief presentation re: implementation of Pulsara with wristbands. Showed webpage that has presentation materials, demos and executive summaries that are 5-minute videos.
 - Pulsara from EMS to ED is free. Downstream ancillary department services added get

- charged: lab, CT, etc.
- Can see who's connected right on the map in real time. Can join the network on this site.
- Has FAQs, region-specific info. 24-hr support will respond. Shows steps to use on your phone, for EMS, nurse in hospital, etc. State tracking is included.

Topic 8: Final Items

Discussion:

- Advise Shawn and Loretta if there are additional items you think the RAC should address.
- Cold and flu season is upon us; many affected. Keep shared items at work clean, wash hands.
- Per Shawn, Jory is awaiting final legal disposition, but it will become a requirement to offer hybrid meetings, even to the point of allowing voting online. Do need to verify voters, so camera must be on.

Next RAC-G General Assembly meeting: April 29, 2025 @ the UT Health North Campus

Upcoming Meetings/Conferences/Symposiums

March 5-7, June 4-6, August 20-22, Nov 21-23	GETAC Meetings in Austin this year
April 11	CTMF Stroke Symposium at Wisenbaker
July 31 and Aug. 1 st	UT Trauma symp.

Adjourn: 12:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Dawn Johnston – Jan 28, 2025