



*Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum*

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES**

**June 11, 2024**

**Embassy Suites Central - Austin, Texas**

**Registration** – Opened at 07:30 with vendors present: BTG Pharmaceuticals, CSL Behring, ESO, and ImageTrend.

**Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by President Koepp at 08:02. Agendas were provided and attendance was counted as 108.

**Approval of Minutes** – There was a motion to approve the published March 5, 2024 General Meeting minutes by Rhonda Manor-Coombes with a second had by Kristie Brown. There were not suggested revisions or edits, and the motion passed.

### **President's Announcements** – *Dawn Koepp*

Upcoming Election Nominations – Ms. Koepp notified the membership that nominations will be accepted today via QR code for the following Board positions, with the election scheduled for the August General Membership meeting: President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, Parliamentarian, Director At Large #1.

Trauma Rules Revisions – Ms. Koepp presented a overview status of the current 157 trauma rules 157.2 Definitions, 157.123 RAC, 157.125 Facilities, 157.128 Denial Suspension, and 157.130 Funding. The DSHS Trauma/EMS Director is scheduled to address the membership this afternoon. See below for details.

Challenge Coin presentation – Ms. Amanda Stabler was awarded a TTCF coin for obtaining her CAISS certification.

August General Meeting – Ms. Koepp stressed the importance of members to pre-register for hotel room block discounts for the August 20, 2024 meeting and noted the room block deadline is published as July 29, 2024.

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**Treasurer Report – Jacky Betts**

Mr. Betts presented a written financial report reflecting a current L&E balance of \$-2,475.96 and a current checking balance of \$18,353.26. He encouraged the membership to visit today's vendors and reported the impact that vendor fees have for the financial stability of the organization. Mr. Betts also stated the importance of pre-registering for General Membership meetings and also the importance of utilizing the TTCF room blocks. He also reported that hotel meeting fees are increasing throughout the region and are not exclusive to the current hotel. The meeting location and fee issue is scheduled for discussion at the November 2024 Strategic Planning meeting.

**Secretary Report – Brett Dodwell**

Mr. Dodwell announced that today's educational offerings have been published to the committee/workgroup webpages for reference. Quarterly meeting fees vs. annual membership fees were announced.

**Historian Report – Joseph Murray**

No in-person report was offered. Ms. Koepp reiterated that the suggested TTCF promotional video project has continued Board support.

**At Large Report – Danielle Sherar, Rhonda Manor-Coombes**

Ms. Manor-Coombes was introduced as the Texas ENA President-Elect.

**Parliamentarian Report – Courtney Edwards**

Ms. Edwards provided the QR nomination code for the August 2024 General Membership meeting election for the positions: President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, Parliamentarian, and DAL #1.

**StopTheBleed Educational Offering – Rachel Lindsay, CATRAC Emergency Healthcare System Program Manager and Texas Coalition StopTheBleed Chair**

Ms. Lindsay presented the membership the latest Texas version of the StopTheBleed course PowerPoint offering. It was noted that the national version 3.0 will hopefully be released this fall.

**Trauma Registry Data Quality Plan and Validation Educational Offering –**

*Christine Campbell AVP Trauma Services HCA Houston Healthcare Gulf Coast Division*

Ms. Campbell presented the attendees a PowerPoint presentation relating to the ACS Data Quality Plan and Validation standards.

**Case Study OB Trauma Educational Offering – Kristie Brown, Director of Nursing Trauma Services, Parkland Health**

Ms. Brown led a PowerPoint case study offering concerning a obstetric trauma patient from her facility.

**Breakout Meetings** – The Level I/II, Level III, and Level IV trauma committees conducted a one-hour breakout session.

**Lunch** – a buffet lunch was provided to the membership with inaugural meeting attendees partaking in a membership-mentorship meeting.

## **Ask The Surveyors – TETAF Trauma Surveyor Panel**

The membership participated in a Q&A session led by TETAF trauma surveyors.

### **External Reports**

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) OEHS/TS – Jorie Klein, Elizabeth Stevenson, Audrey Green, Katie Foarde

Ms. Klein informed the membership on the current 157 rules status. In April, the department withdrew the Chapter 157 proposed rule project published in the Texas Register on January 19, 2024. That rule packet received approximately 4,000 comments during the formal comment period. The department, in collaboration with a stakeholder workgroup, reviewed each comment. Four major themes were identified in the comments: Align the trauma facility designation with the American College of Surgeons (ACS) standards and processes, provide 12 to 18 months for trauma facilities to prepare for the new rules prior to implementing the new rules, decrease the overall cost burden for trauma facility designation, and decrease the cost burden for the rural trauma facilities to maintain their designation. The department has implemented a new rule project. The rule project will include a revision of Section 157.125 instead of a repeal, and the revised 157.125 will terminate on August 31, 2025. A new rule, Section 157.126, concerning Requirements for Trauma Facility Designation, will be implemented on September 1, 2025. This allows the trauma facilities time to review and prepare for the new rules prior to their implementation. The department has aligned the trauma facility requirements and designation process with the ACS Committee on Trauma (COT), verification standards, and processes when feasible. The department focused on reducing the cost of trauma facility designation for all trauma centers and identified options to decrease the cost burden for the rural trauma facilities with limited volume and resources. This includes a survey team of 2 surgeons only for Level I, II, and III facilities. Facilities can, at their cost, request an ED physician and/or a RN surveyor to be added to the survey team. It was also noted that the public comment period will commence for 30 days once the rules have been published to the state Texas Register website. Also noted that DSHS has scheduled several rule meetings for the public to attend with sign-up via the DSHS website.

Ms. Stevenson stressed the importance of signing up for DSHS trauma announcements via their webpage. In closing it was noted that the funded DMAT online course list has been finalized and that the current list of attendees can not be changed.

State Trauma Registry – Gavin Sussman

Mr. Sussman announced that the new registry platform has been functional for 7 months and the increase in case submission census has been substantial. It was noted that there are no immediate plans to adopt the NTDS 2024 standards and that the current platform affords the 2020 and 2023 submission standards. It was requested that all 2023 cases be submitted to the state registry NLT July 1, 2024.

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Texas EMS Trauma & Acute Care Foundation – *Terri Rowden*

Ms. Rowden announced that TETAF has hired an additional staff member to support in survey scheduling and that the organization is hosting a 35 year anniversary celebration of the Texas Trauma System. Event registration via the TETAF website and planning volunteers were solicited.

Pediatric Readiness Project – *Dr. Remick, Sally Snow*

Ms. Snow reported there are currently 33 pediatric coordinators (PECs) on board the project and that the entire project scenario offerings take about one hour to complete (including debriefing). Virtual webinars are being conducted monthly with sign-up via the Texas ENS website.

Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) – *Courtney Edwards*

Ms. Edwards announced the next state meeting is scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup> in Houston. The national ENA has offered free memberships for Texas RNs and the national conference is scheduled for September 2024 in Las Vegas. In closing it was noted that Texas award nominations are now being accepted.

Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) – *Courtney Edwards*

No current updates noted.

American Trauma Society (ATS) – *Brett Dodwell*

Mr. Dodwell instructed the membership to visit the ATS website for numerous course offerings to include trauma registry, trauma program management, and injury prevention. The 'wear orange' campaign for gun violence was noted.

Trauma Centers Association of America – *Lori Adams*

Ms. Adams announced that numerous courses can be located on the TCAA website.

ACS – *Christine Campbell*

Ms. Campbell reported that the survey pass rate beholden to the charcoal book standards is at 51%. She solicited the membership for future educational ideas.

Texas Stop the Bleed Coalition – *Suzanne Curran*

Ms. Curran announced that the national version 3.0 is anticipated to be released in October 2024.

## **Internal Reports**

Education – *Jennifer Carr, Maysoon Bader*

Ms. Carr announced the next scheduled TTDEC course is October 22, 2024 via virtual format with registration via the TTCF website homepage.

Injury Prevention – *Ashley Kopech, Amy Tucker*

The leadership announced that future educational offerings being considered are 'game warden' related, sportsman, hunting, and outdoorsman. The June 2025 'wear orange' gun violence awareness campaign was also noted to occur the first Friday in June.

Special Populations – *Kristie Brown, Lydia Camacho*

Ms. Brown noted the August educational offering will be bariatric focused and invited the membership to communicate any desired educational offering topics to the leadership.

Registry – *Christine Campbell, Lori Foster*

The leadership noted that today's educational offering has been posted to the committee webpage.

Public Relations / Legislative – *Cathy Glenn, Kristi Gamel*

The leadership announced the newly created newsletter will be published to the committee webpage this week.

Membership / Mentorship – *Rebecca Crocker, Jenny Olivier*

The leadership reported 13 inaugural membership attended today's meeting where the e-book was discussed and distributed.

Fundraising / Finance – *Melanie Vanderford, Suzanne Curran*

Ms. Curran reported that additional shirts will be ordered and confirmed the suggestions for TTCF quality stickers and water bottles have been received. She modeled a potential TTCF jacket for interest and noted that any jacket orders would require a \$25 deposit paid of the total \$50 cost.

Level I/II – *Sheryl Cloud, Lori Robb*

Ms. Adams announced 35 attendees at today's meeting where the new rules, recent surveys, PRQ, clinical practice guidelines best practices, and IR response times were discussed. It was noted that Ms. Sherar will share orthopedic response additions to EM plans, and that Ms. Carr will share best practices regarding monitoring guideline compliance. The 'charcoal' standards 51% survey pass rate was noted with frequently cited deficiencies listed as: 4.32, 4.31, 4.33, 5.30, 5.31, 5.17, 5.29, 6.2, 7.6

Level III – *Laura Wagley, Colyn Turnbow*

The leadership reported 20 attendees at today's meeting where the following were discussed: TPM wellness, the stress continuum, obstacles to self-care, overcoming FTE shortages, TQIP benchmark reports, documentation guidelines for the ED, and timely trauma activations. Action items included: uploading stress continuum handout to the TTCF webpage and uploading trauma documentation guide to same.

Level IV – *Janice Markwardt, Joy Henry*

Ms. Markwardt announced that 40 members attended today's meeting where a successful Q&A session with DSHS's staff and TETAF staff was conducted.

**Adjournment** – *Dawn Koepf*

The meeting was adjourned by President Koepf at 15:15.

***Recorded by,***

***Brett Dodwell  
TTCF Secretary***