



OASPR TSA-O Regional Preparedness and Response Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2011

Agenda:

- I. Sign In / Introductions
- II. Review / Approval of RPRC meeting minutes: March 11, 2011
- III. Old Business: EMTF, Hospital Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA), Other
- IV. Public Health
- V. Drills / Exercises/ Events: 2010 AAR, 2011 Exercise Planning
- VI. EMTrack Patient Tracking: Workgroup, Events (ABIA Exercise and MS150), Software and Equipment, Mutual Aid Agreements
- VII. OASPR Inventory List
- VIII. Hospitals MOUs
- IX. Regional Discussion / Concerns

Attendees: Billy Atkins, Rolando Benevidez, Renee Buhman, Joe Canfield, Mike Elliott, Michelle Fillman, Chris Freeman, Kim Gill, Phil Gordon, Robert Haugland, Pete Kessler, Cristy Knapp, Lauri Laudano, Nancy Maschal, Dallas Mellichamp, James McClung, Mark Montgomery, Ricky Nevels, Sally Pawsat, Bill Shaffell, Guy Stevenson, Asma Vahora, Ron Weaver, Robin Wiatrek

Handouts:

Next meeting: May 13, 2011, 9am – 11m, CATRAC office

- I. Sign In/Introductions. Robin Wiatrek led the meeting.
- II. Review/Approval of RPRC meeting minutes: Rolando moved to approve, Phil Gordon seconded. Approved.
- III. Old Business:
 - EMTF – Mike Elliott reported: EMTF-5 is continuing to build teams and more contacts have been made. An Ambulance Strike Team Leader course will be held May 3-4 and information can be found on www.PreparingTexas.org. The Ambus purchase, using the Homeland Security Grant Program funds administered through CAPCOG, is in process. Some of the EMTF Regions were approved to receive PHER funding for equipment. Each of the regions is trying to do some type of exercise in conjunction with an event in their area. Central Texas RAC (CTRAC) in conjunction with Fort Hood will be conducting an exercise in May which will include a small EMTF-5 component. San Antonio (EMTF-2) will be doing an exercise in conjunction with Fiesta. Most of the EMTF coordinators have been hired. Melanie Tucker is no longer the director of Lockhart EMS and since February 2011 has been the Central Texas RAC (CTRAC) Executive Director (TSA-L) in Belton. CTRAC is also the lead RAC for EMTF-5. Each EMTF was given \$250k for the initial implementation. The CAPCOG Emergency Notification System (ENS), specifically CommunicatorNXT, will be used within EMTF-5 for notifications of teams and deployments. Ed Schaffer trained the EMTF-5 RAC Executive Directors on ENS CommunicatorNXT on April 4.

- HVA – Robin will be coordinating the Hazard Vulnerability Assessments (HVAs) for the region. Please send Robin or Dave whatever is your facility’s most current version by May 13, 2011. If there are plans to revise within the next few weeks, just send the most current one. The City of Austin’s HVA is available on the web. It was adopted by the city council in November 2010. (To find the publication go to AustinHSEM.com, then at the top of the page, look for About Us, then go to HSEM Publications.) The Joint Commission requires that the HVA in hospitals be reviewed once per year.
 - Other – CATRAC is starting to consider the budget for regional application FY12 funding. DSHS will give about 10-12 days to put it together. Besides needs at hospitals, think about regional projects that need to be considered and funded.
- IV. Public Health – Asma Vahora reported for Austin-Travis County and said that a bat was found in a patient area of a hospital. Parking garages are good place for bats to roost so they advise that garages have permanent signs to advise guests not to touch bats. Asma will email Robin information for the hospitals to adapt and post. Also, they have seen an increase in pertussis and are working on a vulnerable populations study to identify groups within the county. ATC met with Williamson and Hays county regarding vulnerable populations and it was determined that a consistent definition was needed across the region. A presentation will be given at the Capital Area Public Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition on April 21. Ryan Moeller reported for Williamson County and said they are increasing syndromic surveillance, partnering with Scott & White in both Round Rock and Taylor. Also a Williamson County resident was attacked and bitten by a rabid skunk.
- V. Drills / Exercises / Events – 2010 AAR: Ryan, Ron and Robin met to discuss the 2010 AAR and are working to finalize the overall AAR. When CATRAC hospitals submitted their FY11 equipment form requests, some sent in a smaller synopsis of what was done within their agency as their AAR. These individual AARs will be included in the large regional AAR. A panel made-up of Ryan, Ron, Robin, Dave, and Scott Parker will present at the Homeland Security conference at the end of April. They are also planning on developing the next AAR at the beginning of the drill process, so it’s not so arduous at the end. The focus will be on building from the ground up, as well as ensuring that all are working on demobilization. At the end of drills, it is easy to just stop, but in a real world scenario there will need to be processes for sending volunteers home, moving the incident command center and so on. The next drill may possibly include Chempak deployment to include working with the Department of Health or CDC. If your organization will need to do something separate, let the drill committee know for better preparation. The next drill will be within the November timeframe.
- VI. EMTrack Patient Tracking – Mark Montgomery, Austin/TC EMS, has been helping on this project and will be testing out the equipment at the ABIA exercise on Monday, April 11. They will have a 2-hour time frame to use an airplane being provided for the exercise to triage mock airplane passengers. During this time, EMTrack will be used so we can evaluate how the system can be used across the region in the future. EMTrack will also be used for the BP MS150 Bike event, organized by the Multiple Sclerosis Society, which begins in Houston on Day 1 and ends in Austin on Day 2 with an overnight stay at the Fayette County (LaGrange) Fairgrounds. Houston’s RAC,



SETRAC, will track anyone up to the Fayette County line, and then our region will track from Fayette line into Travis County.

SETTRAC is bringing about 3 dispatchers to the EMS 150. Mobile medical rovers will be present so that if a rider has an issue, an ambulance can be called and dispatched. St. David's MC will be staffing an aide tent at the finish line in Austin. If you don't remember your EMTrack login, let Dave and Robin know so they can get it to you. CATRAC staff also want to get a workgroup going to work through policies and procedures. Ideally, we would like representatives from the 3 major hospital networks, and another rep from a hospital not in a network, plus EMS reps from the counties.

- VII. OASPR Inventory List – Robin will send out a request via email. Hospitals need to send the CATRAC a list of equipment acquired via OASPR funds.
- VIII. Hospital MOUs – We are looking at the current MOUs to see if any wording or content needs to be changed. **This is not the OASPR sub recipient agreement but the regional MOU.** May get input from the group on language.
- IX. Regional Discussion / Concerns
Kim Gill went to an OSHA class earlier in the week where she met with people from other regions who had done a drill with the Long Term Care facilities and Specialized Nursing Facilities. They explained that they had reached out to the faith-based organizations for extra hands. Our RAC may need to make contact with facilities like Long Term Care, Specialized Nursing and Nursing Homes in order to loop them in, and get feedback/input on disaster planning. Robin will follow up with Christine Reeves, Executive Director for TSO-M, (HOTRAC) who has area has done work in this.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10am