



Region II EMS Council

Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart,
Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White

Members Present: Lanier Swafford, Jack Moody, Mike Carnes, Rick Hamilton, Terry Harris, Jeff Hood, Will Lockwood, Scott Masters, Lorraine Morris, Ken Nicholson, Terrell Partain, Rick Rexroat, Wesley Rogers, Bill Scandrett, Trampes Stancil, Greg Taylor, Randall Townley, Aaron Wilkinson, David Wimpy, Kristin Halligan,

Members Absent: Jim Barnes, Robert Carpenter, Barry Church, Joey Dorsey, Greg Hearn, Gene Jones, Matt McRae, Martin Nethery, James Norris, Robert Wilkins, Charles Worden

Excused: Deb Battle, Jason Shivers, Christie Grice, David Murphy, Dr. Westfall

District Staff Present: Mark Palen, Brandin Gillman

Guests: Lizbeth Ortiz, Sarah Holcombe, Dixon Marlow, Brian Panell, Derrick Moody, Shane Noel, Michael Day, David Kimbrell, Lizbeth Ortiz, Sam Stone, Bridget Rigby, Lance Hansard, Daniel Morris, Chris Threlkeld, Jason Grady, Joe Pardue, David Shanks, Debbie Whitlock

Call to Order:

The North Georgia Region 2 EMS Council met in regular session on September 15, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Chairman Swafford. Minutes from the last meeting were approved as distributed by council members, Randall Townley so moved and was seconded by Will Lockwood. Motioned Carried

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Swafford.
The prayer was conducted by Daniel Morris.

AGENDA TOPICS

- Aaron Wilkinson introduced, Danielle Roads , 911 director, John Wilkins State Senator
- John Wilkinson introduced guests – Thank you for having me, along with representatives from the northeast corner of the state. I have Senator Steve Gooch, Commission Chairman Dennis Bell, Commissioner Michelle Ivester, and Chairman of Senate Public Safety-Senator Tyler Harper joining us today.
 - Heartfelt thanks for all you do. I am personally proud of the job of Aaron Wilkinson.
 - Dennis (Piece office of the State of GA)
 - County Commission, County Administrator, Sheriff,
 - Lisa Thomas, she runs the senior center, and thank her for allowing us to be here
 - Lynn Anderson – CEO Stephens County Hospital sends her regrets for not being able to attend.



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- Aaron Wilkinson – thanks to all do of the duty crews who helped cook today's meal.
 - Donna, Todd, Willy, Blake, Chris, and Bobby

Chairman Swafford – Thank you Aaron and give him a hand, thanks to your community officials

Guests: Lizbeth Ortiz – GEMA Evacuation and Logistics Planner

- Lizbeth Ortiz w/ GDPH & GEMHSA
- I work between both agencies, evacuation of people w/ functional and medical needs, hospitals, long-term care populations
- GEMHSA has a vulnerable population's plan that will now be used state wide.
- We need more EMS service providers in order to evacuate the coast
- GEMHSA is contracting motor coaches, EMS transport, etc. in order to plan for coastal population
- I'm promoting these contracts and why you should have a contract with the state
 - Benefit of reimbursement process will be easier
 - Direct communication w/ providers and situational awareness
 - Hurricane mitigation activities begin 5 days out from landfall
 - We have a contract initiation form w/ basic information of provider
 - Attach business license and state EMS license
 - Later we will need to eVerify, vendor id, address, multiple phone contact #s
 - Send info to Brandin and she will forward out to the Council
 - Then please send it back to me
 - You can find my business card on the back table, and I can answer any questions you may have
 - We do not wait until a federal declaration; we at the State will begin operations. This is important to know.
- Chairman Swafford – thank you Lizbeth for coming tonight

➤ **State Office of EMS – Ernie Doss not present**

➤ **District Public Health Office:**

➤ **Dr. Westfall – not present**

➤ **District 2 Emergency Preparedness and Response: Mark Palen**

- Dr. Westfall would like to remind everyone that he retires on 30 December.
- 3 candidates have been screened and packets sent to Dr. Fitzgerald
- Hope to have a successor chosen in order to allow 4-6 weeks of overlap w/ Dr. Westfall
- Zika - 80 travel related cases in State of GA
 - County list on GDPH with travel related cases



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- Gives an approximate number for each county dph.ga.gov
- Flu Clinics / drive-through clinics
 - 9/23 Lumpkin County
 - 10/17 Hall County in partnership with the YMCA
 - Nurse manager in your county can also give you information of drive through clinics in your area

Committee Reports:

- **Region B coalition**
 - met last week
 - Encourage you to contact Jennifer Davis of NEGA
 - Good group, meets quarterly
 - Jack Moody – grant money coming through coalition
 - \$ will be dispensed over 5 years
 - 2nd phase of funding now open and available
 - Called Ebola Grant
 - Contact her w/ requests
 - Chairman Swafford – encourages group to please complete Gap Analysis
- **EMS-MDAC – Dr.Halligan**
 - Chairman Swafford – thank you for being here and glad to have you
- **District 2 Regional EMS Director – Dan Yeargin/Chris Threlkeld**
 - Dan Yeargin is out on medical leave. He is doing well, and we hope for a speeding recovery.
 - Chris Threlkeld
 - Update w/ Medical license renewal
 - Changed renewal dates in order to line up with National Registry
 - You will renew in GA each year also, period opens up October 1
 - You can renew online or through the Office of EMS website, or paper form.
 - Down load document, and mail it in w/ check \$75
 - Renewal period ends March 31st 2017,
 - then late penalty assessed \$125, 4/1/2017 – 12/31/2017.
 - After that, it will be a more difficult road
 - I ask you to verify license renewal for current staff and those you may be potentially hiring.
 - You can verify license on our website If there are any actions against that license, it will indicate this
 - Ask medic's full and part-time, medic can update their profile. Please do this, many info changes through the years
 - We will disseminate information through these contacts and it's useful to have current info for all medics



Region II EMS Council

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- They can also print their license from this link
 - National registry has changed their renewal process
 - Not dates
 - National Registry certificates, many medics choose to retain these
 - When they open recertification process, if you do it 10/1,
 - Any continuing education credits will be carried forward until your next renewal
 - Continuing education – ped’s 8 hrs needed,
 - ped’s day through webex, CHOA 9/19
 - Can register online, approved for 7.5 ped cont ed
 - Athens Region – Sept 30th EMS conference
 - Mentally Ill 10/13
 - University of Colorado, 8/29
 - 9/3 Presentation on Aurora Theatre shooting
- **EMSAC – Scott Masters**
 - Met in Forsyth 8/16
 - David Newton – 5822 helo flights in GA last year
 - David Wilkes – ACCG and State office of Rural health
 - Regionalization of EMS
 - Region 7 has shut down ambulance services because they didn’t have money to keep operations
 - Looking at merging some counties together
 - Peachcare – will reimburse trips on BLS rates, but you can appeal and get ALS rates
- **GA Association of EMS (Directors) – Chad Black**
 - Election – Chairman has changed Paul ??
 - Lee Oliver has been replaced by Jimmy Carver in his place
 - Thank NEGA, Chief Hood and his staff, thank you for your support and feeding. Scott, Jason, thanks to all
- **Region 2 Directors’ Association –Dixon Marlow**
 - Small group session no official business
 - We will do a better job of notice of reminders and meeting dates
 - Coincide with RTAC meeting just prior
 - Scott encourages attendance of next meeting
- **EMS-C - Rick Hamilton**
 - We are revamping our missions
 - About to come up with a solution that should work out well
 - This will take help from others and organizations as well
 - Training online that will provide appropriate CEU’s
 - We have some spring board ideas, and will have more information to come



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- If you wanted to pull this training, you can get access to it with lesson plans, sign in sheets, and track it for audits
 - Have not abandoned the conference, it just won't happen annually
 - If you have ideas, or training material for peds, just let us know.
- **Trauma Committee –Deb Battle (Mike Day on behalf)**
- Mike Day , Deb apologizes for not being here, interviewing new Trauma director
 - 1450 increase of 10% over physical, Trauma pt's
 - Initiated new trauma activation criteria
 - 10% down to 6%
 - State expectation less than 5%
 - Recruiting for Trauma Med Director and 6th Trauma surgeon
 - Anticipate next spring
 - Hired 3rd Trauma ortho surgeon, coming Nov
 - Preparing for re-designation Dec 5th
 - Question posed to Mike –
 - Are there any plans to expand the ER?
 - Mike says not at the moment.
- **Regional Trauma Advisory Committee (RTAC) –Chad Black**
- Chairman Swafford on behalf of Chad Black
 - Please come to next RTAC if you haven't
 - RTAC has put a lot of time into developing the Region 2 Trauma Plan
 - Very good document that defines who we are as a region
 - More than just NEGA
 - This final draft will be reviewed and final at next meeting
 - Still needs this council approval.
 - I encourage you to attend the next RTAC meeting, or we will get it out once it's been approved for your review. Make comments known, this needs to be adopted in January
- **STEMI – Jason Grady**
- Working with GHA department of Rural Health on STEMI grant
 - Went to Albany to speak down there
 - Nice to share our story and have you guys back us.
 - GAEMS conference in Savannah, Dr. Marshall keynote STEMI systems
 - Senate resolution 1154, in study committee, 1st meeting 9/30th. Making criteria following footsteps of trauma stroke,
 - Reduce liability for EMS on where to transport pt's
 - 9th annual STEMI summit March 10th, Chateau Elan
 - Outgrown last place, great testament
 - Introduce guests, George Orway, Daniel Thompson
 - NG Heart Foundation
 - We are trying to eradicate cardio vascular disease
 - Will start in north GA with one of the best hospitals
 - Using pharmaceuticals, prevention activities



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- Start blood pressure monitoring program
 - Lawrenceville, Dahlonega, 1 more ???
- Education campaign
 - Risk factors – tobacco, NEGA highest percentage of adult smokers
- AED's in as many business' around the state.
 - 4 business so far
- If you know of a business, please let us know pulseoftomorrow.org
- Have been trying to teach bystander CPR to as many people as we can
 - 8-9000 people so far have had this training
 - Using EMT students through Lanier Tech

- **GEMA – CJ Worden**
 - GEMHSA new logo coming
 - Chairman Swafford – contemporary issues next Tuesday at GPSTC

- **By-Laws Committee – David Murphy (not present)**

- **Rules and Regulations – Scott Masters**
 - nothing

- **Communications – Barry Church (not present)**

- **Training Committee – Sam Stone**
 - George has been very helpful with Lanier Tech's program also. Lectured to several of our classes
 - TRAUMA conference 11/11/2016
 - I have a copy of agenda for anyone needing it
 - Will be honoring veterans
 - Leader in Trauma will be keynote speaker
 - Dr. Bruce, and Dr. Krill speaking
 - CHOA
 - Rafael and EJ were at the Boston Marathon bombing in ER.
 - He has story to tell.
 - Rafael sets up tactical medicine programs around the world
 - Michael Day will speak as well.
 - Pam Darling RN from Gwinnett System
 - Over 70 people already registered
 - \$20 w/ food and book
 - Please share trauma pics with us to use
 - Paramedic Program going through re-accreditation
 - We may ask for some level of support from you
 - 3 day venture for this
 - STEMI conference will be big this year



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- Advanced Medical Life Support at Lanier Tech
 - Open statewide
- Looking at grants to support other training
- Starting new EMT programs at both campuses Jan 17, May 17
- Please let me know of any other programs you would like me to mention
- Chairman Swafford says – Habersham has one more also, and 10/12 @ NEGA

- **Old Business –**
 - None

- **New Business –**
 - Contacted by NGHS, looking for joint partnership
 - This is why they reached out to us.
 - Would Region 2 EMS council be willing to joint sponsor for the Trauma Conference on 11/11/2016.
 - This request came through Dan, and Chris would ask if the council would approve.
 - Randall Townley motioned, Jack Moody 2nd. Motion carried

 - This will need to be annually approved by council

 - Scott – Neurology, a lot of momentum
 - Regional stroke destination protocol,
 - through this protocol, 2 patients were diverted and flown to comprehensive hospital.
 - Controversial protocol, does have impact on how we assess in field
 - But we've seen it work. It will change along the way. Just want to recognize Hall county for this
 - Jack Moody– anything via telemedicine for recognizing ambulances?
 - FAST ED could be used

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - Thanks to the folks from LifeForce for being with us this evening.
 - Scott asks if the Council has properly recognized Dr. Dave'
 - Chairman Swafford would like to do this when we have a meeting closer to Hall county

- **OTHER BUSINESS**
 - Derrick Moody – Open house 10-12 will send out info through Brandin.
 - Food available!!
 - Gene Jones is not here – Blairsville was our 1st base, to be our 1st CBS program to have blood products on the aircraft
 - Other bases are in line to complete before next Thanksgiving



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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. Randall Townley motioned, 2nd Trampes Stancil.

The next Region II EMS council meeting will be hosted by Forsyth County EMS on January 19, 2017 at 5:00 p.m... Details TBD