



**TETAF Board of Directors Meeting Conference Call
Friday, January 20, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. CDT
Meeting Minutes**

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The conference call meeting was called to order by Dr. Brian Eastridge at 8:34 a.m.

2. Board Member Roll Call – Dinah Welsh

Present:	Scott Christopher	Absent:	
	Brian Eastridge		Lisa Price
	Courtney Edwards		Ricky Reeves
	Raj Gandhi		Craig Rhyne
	Robin Garza		Dudley Wait
	Lisa Hutchison		
	Jim Parisi		
	Kathy Rodgers		
	Robert Saunders		
	Lori Vinson		
	Hilary Watt		

A Quorum is established at the opening of the meeting.
Dinah Welsh, Brenda Putz and Courtney DeBower were also in attendance.

3. Review, Discussion and Action Plan for TETAF Restructure

Ms. Dinah Welsh opened the discussion by reminding the Board members that TETAF has been planning a consultative visit with the American College of Surgeons (ACS) for quite some time, and it was felt that TETAF had established an acceptable timeline to get the restructure recommendations completed. TETAF has been working with the ACS to schedule stakeholder input for the consultative visit during the February 2017 GETAC meeting week. Ms. Welsh explained that there is now a delay by the ACS to get stakeholder input to May 2017 due to significant ACS provider scheduling issues. Ms. Welsh has concern that the legislative session may interfere with a productive consultative visit. The Executive Board has met to discuss the ACS delay and feels that it is TETAF's and stakeholders' best interest to move forward with a restructuring process prior to the ACS survey and recommendations. The TETAF Board has worked with interest of the patient and stakeholders and with high integrity. Ms. Welsh stressed that TETAF needs to keep the RACs involved in the restructure process. TETAF has provided a draft restructure proposal for the Board members to consider. Ms. Welsh commented that the proposal is not considered a perfect plan or reflects a perfect timeline, but since the perception is that nothing has been done, TETAF is trying to move forward with due haste.

The TETAF Executive Board still feels that there is positive value in having an ACS consultative survey, and would like to see that process continue to move forward (May? August?). All restructuring information collected and previously distributed over the last couple years was shared with the Board in a consolidated email sent by Ms. Welsh this morning. Ms. Welsh commented that despite the strong value of ACS recommendations, further delays creates a backroom discussion that can carry negative impacts to the EMS/Trauma/Acute Care systems. Dr. Brian Eastridge encouraged other Board member (non-officers) input. Ms. Kathy Rodgers stated that she appreciates and agrees with the points Mr. Dudley Wait made regarding the restructure process in an email he recently sent to the TETAF Board members. She thinks at this point TETAF is in a no-win situation. Ms. Rodgers expressed that she thinks we need to move the reorganization process forward with due diligence. Ms. Robin Garza stated that she feels that an ACS consult would be very valuable, but has concerns for what happens if the ACS recommendations are not consistent with any new proposed changes. Dr. Eastridge mentioned that the ACS recommendations are just that, and we can certainly work over time to implement.

Ms. Welsh stated that she sent an email on January 13, 2017 at 11:58 a.m. to the TETAF Board members which described a proposed new Board structure. She says this is an initial draft taken from several proposals gathered over the last year and a half and can be revised by the Board as deemed necessary. Ms. Welsh commented that the proposed Board structure would potentially provide a Board position that all existing Board members would fit into. There was discussion of possibly performing a straw poll to see which current Board members would rotate off the Board.

Ms. Welsh stressed that she thinks it critical that all RACs have input into the proposed/created structure. Ms. Welsh has performed a reconciliation of current RACs with current Board members on TETAF. She stated TETAF would propose assigning Board members to reach out RACs not currently represented on the Board for their input into the proposed restructure.

The Board was informed that TETAF is planning a face-to-face TETAF Board meeting on February 10, 2017 in Austin to review the proposed vision, mission, and board structure. The next step after the February 10th meeting would then be for TETAF staff to distribute the proposed restructure to the RACs for additional stakeholder input, and then act on restructuring during the face-to-face Board meeting on February 21, 2017. The Board members were reminded that this process doesn't need to be rushed and we can adjust the timeline at any time to meet the needs of the stakeholders. Mr. Jim Parisi stated that his desire is that the process move forward as quickly as possible. Mr. Parisi also questions the appropriateness of a 50% removal of the current Board members, and recommends a 33% removal to help insure Board consistencies. Ms. Welsh encourages all to study the proposed restructure prior to the February 10th meeting. She further stated that if a Board member will be unable to be there physically, TETAF will do everything possible to obtain everyone's input.

4. TETAF Legislative Update

Both the Senate and the House have released their proposed State budgets. Ms. Welsh stated that the 'good' news is that 5111 appropriations has been revised with \$165M (Senate) and \$114M (House). It is noted that there is \$50M difference between these two versions of the budget. TETAF has been working with DSHS to insure that RACs and EMS get their 5111 account funds. Ms. Welsh stated that TETAF learned yesterday that RACs and EMS got significantly more funds from the 5111 account in fiscal year 2016.

Ms. Welsh announced that the Tobacco fund is zeroed out in the new budget. She commented that this is initially viewed as a 'bad' thing, but does create a real environment for meaningful discussion. Gives opportunity to discuss what funding is necessary to operate the RACs.

Ms. Welsh reported that Representative Sarah Davis has filed a bill for administrative hubs for the RACs. The bill is HB 1148. Ms. Welsh stated that TETAF did not see or have input into the bill prior to its filing. She stated that the bill creates 8 regional Administrative hubs for the RACs, and the 22 current RACs would continue to exist. TETAF will monitor the bill's activity closely, but cannot lose focus of obtaining and insuring continued funding for EMS, Trauma, and hospitals.

5. Treasurer's Report

Approval of Financials

Ms. Welsh announced that the financial statements for September, October and November 2016 have been shared with the TETAF Board members. She requested that Mr. Parisi will present report at the February 10th meeting. There was no opposition voiced for this request.

TETAF Subscription Fees

The Board members were informed that the TETAF Finance committee continues to work. Ms. Welsh stated that the Finance committee has recommended to continue the current subscription fee schedule. She explained that TETAF needs to move forward with getting RAC subscription fee invoices mailed out. Ms. Kathy Rodgers provided a motion to keep the fees the same. Mr. Robert Saunders provides the second for the motion. There was no further discussion and there was no opposition to the motion voiced.

6. Secretary's Report

Mr. Scott Christopher informed the Board members that the draft minutes from the November and December Board meetings were not currently ready for distribution and Board member review. These draft minutes will be reviewed and approved during the February 10th meeting.

7. Open Discussion

There were no additional discussions raised.

8. January 2017 Action Items

There were no additional action items necessary.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Welsh at 9:15 a.m.

Scott Christopher, Secretary