



**TETAF Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting
Thursday, December 8, 2022, 10:00 a.m. CDT
Hybrid Meeting – San Antonio, TX and Zoom**

Present: Scott Christopher, BBA, BSN, RN, LP (via Zoom) **Absent:** Jeff Beeson, D.O.
Diana Grimm-Mapp, RN, BSN, CEN, TCRN Edward Racht, M.D.
Wanda Helgesen, RN, MSN
Dan Little, M.D.
Rhonda Manor-Coombes, BSN, RN, TCRN
Kenneth Mattox, M.D.
Kathy Perkins, RN, MBA
Joseph Petty, M.D., FACOG
Christine Reeves
Ricky Reeves, EMT-P
Craig Rhyne, M.D.
Kate Schaefer, RN, CEN, NREMT
Danny Updike, RN, CCRN, EMT-LP
Dudley Wait, EMT-P
David Weisoly, D.O. (via Zoom)

TETAF Staff: Dinah Welsh, Terri Rowden, Jessica Phillips, Erin Moore, Aaron Rogers, and Jennifer Anderson

TETAF Contractors: Kevin Reed, attorney; Brian Yarbrough, Ashley Morgan, and Janiece Williams, Erben & Yarbrough

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions** – The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Craig Rhyne, M.D., chair. Introductions were made in the meeting room and on Zoom.
- 2) **TETAF Update** – Dinah Welsh recognized Craig Rhyne, M.D., for being the recipient of the Hippocratic Award from the Lubbock County Medical Society. Welsh also recognized all TETAF team members for their efforts this year and for this meeting.
- 3) **Secretary’s Report** – Ricky Reeves asked for approval of the August 16, 2022 minutes of the TETAF Board of Directors meeting. Wanda Helgesen motioned to approve the minutes and Kenneth Mattox seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by the board.
- 4) **TETAF Treasurer’s Report** – Kathy Perkins presented a fiscal year end (FYE) 2022 summary, along with a September 2022 fiscal summary. The survey income for the fiscal year end was less than budgeted by \$126K, but several surveys that were budgeted are

rescheduled for this fiscal year. Additionally, operating expenses were under budget by \$77K. The net cash flow was negative by \$450K for FYE 2022. In September 2022, the survey income was \$14K greater than budgeted and operating expenses were under budget by \$1K. The net cash flow for September was negative by \$19K. Perkins stated the Finance Committee does not believe TETAF will have losses like last year. Kenneth Mattox, M.D. asked if there is enough cash flow. Perkins stated the cash flow is above what is needed for three to four months with no revenue. Dr. Mattox asked if TETAF gives money to the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs). Dinah Welsh stated TETAF does not pay anything financially but does have costs for the RAC Summit and advocacy. TETAF has increased RAC fees and survey fees. Lori Upton, chief executive officer of the Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council, asked why there is different pricing for the RAC fees and why there isn't equality among all RACs for the fees. Dudley Wait stated the payments are based on the size of the RAC and the Texas EMS Alliance uses the same method. Melissa Whitelaw, executive director of the North Texas Regional Advisory Council, stated that funding for the RACs from the state is not equal. Christine Reeves recommended tabling the RAC fee discussion to another meeting, but Kevin Reed stated there was not a need to table since it is not an agenda item. Christine Reeves approved the report and Rhonda Manor-Coombes seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the report.

- 5) **Advocacy Committee Update** – Brian Yarbrough shared an update ahead of the 88th Legislative Session. With the recent elections, republicans are still holding a majority of seats. Bill filing begins on November 14 and there will be a large focus on property taxes and mental health. TETAF Advocacy Committee chair, Wanda Helgesen, shared an update on the TETAF Legislative Priorities. The Texas Trauma Coordinators Forum (TTCF) expressed concern that the priorities do not adequately convey the jeopardizing of trauma funding. Helgesen stated the committee has reviewed what priorities TETAF should carry and those that TETAF should support. The Texas Hospital Association (THA) and the Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals (TORCH) will carry the advocacy efforts for hospital funding. Dinah Welsh will continue to speak with THA to ensure we are doing what is needed to support their efforts. Kathy Rogers with TTCF asked if TETAF could provide updates on what THA and TORCH are doing. Helgesen stated that updates will be shared in the TETAF Legislative Work Group meetings. Helgesen motioned to approve the TETAF Legislative Priorities and Kathy Perkins seconded the motion. The Legislative Priorities were unanimously approved by the Board. Helgesen provided a review of the TETAF RAC Legislative Ask. Kenneth Mattox, M.D. asked if the document should clarify operationally who has the funding and anything regarding the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) contract. Dudley Wait stated this is a 50,000-foot level document. Helgesen made a motion to approve the TETAF RAC Legislative Funding Ask and Christine Reeves seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the document. Dr. David Weisoly asked why the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) does not include Regional Advisory Council (RAC) funding and proposed DSHS matches TETAF's RAC ask. Ashley Morgan stated that DSHS is pushing for

additional funds for the RACs and the advocacy team will look for money anywhere they can for the RACs.

- 6) **Governance Committee Update** – Dudley Wait, chair of the TETAF Governance Committee, said the committee is meeting monthly and reviewing board nominations. The committee is working on criteria for board qualifications in the TETAF Bylaws and reviewing the Bylaws to determine any changes.
- 7) **Education Committee Update** – Scott Christopher, chair of the TETAF Education Committee, shared that the committee is looking at opportunities to provide education and discussing the TETAF Hospital Data Management Course (HDMC). Kathy Perkins added that if any courses could bring in revenue, that would be good.
- 8) **Survey Verification Committee Update** – Dr. Dan Little, chair of the TETAF Survey Verification Committee, stated that the committee is focused on three goals: increasing survey evaluations and benchmarking, consistent interpretation of state rules, and targeting improvements of survey team using a dashboard. Lisa Hutchison shared that TETAF is marketable in stroke for smaller hospitals because we are more affordable than some competing organizations. Jessica Phillips shared that the maternal surveys decreased because of the cycle. There is a need for surveyors because of the contiguous RAC (Regional Advisory Council) language in the proposed rules.
- 9) **Texas Trauma Quality Improvement Program (Texas TQIP) Collaborative Report** – Dinah Welsh shared that members of the Texas TQIP would be attending the ACS TQIP Annual Conference in Phoenix next week.
- 10) **Next TETAF Board Meetings** – The next meeting for the TETAF Board of Directors is a strategic planning meeting tentatively scheduled for January. The next quarterly meeting is March 6, coinciding with the Governor’s EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) meeting.
- 11) **Open Discussion** – Dinah Welsh thanked the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for once again providing audio/visual support for the TETAF board meeting.
- 12) **Adjournment** – There being no further business before the Board, Dr. Rhyne adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.