

**Oklahoma State  
Department of Health  
Creating a State of Health**

SOUTHEAST REGION (5) REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD (RTAB)  
REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday May 11, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

Location of meeting: Pittsburg County Health Department •  
1400 East College Avenue • McAlester, OK 74501

The Southeast Region (5) REGIONAL TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD (RTAB) regular meeting notice was posted on the OSDH website located at <https://oklahoma.gov/health/services/licensing-inspections/emergency-systems/trauma-division/rtabs-regional-trauma-advisory-boards-/region-5-rtab.html>

as well as the Secretary of State's website located at <https://www.sos.ok.gov/meetings/notices/001302/0569422211181213.htm>

Minutes

1. Pamela Cunningham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.
2. Roll Call was taken. Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present at Roll Call	Absent at Roll Call
James Smith – AELT 129, AELT 139, AELT, 149, AELT Durant, AELT 158, AELT 022, AELT 065, AELT 073.	Choctaw County Ambulance Authority
Bradley Smith	Eastern Oklahoma Medical Center
Lisa Vowels	AllianceHealth Madill
Randy Bryant	Pafford EMS of Oklahoma (McAlester)
Rusty Cole	McAlester Regional Air Care
Brian Norton	McCurtain County EMS
Keith Lickly	McCurtain Memorial Hospital
Gerrick Johnson – Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority, Choctaw Nation EMS, Choctaw Nation Health Care Center.	Coalgate Fire Department
Cade Webb	Creek Nation Community Hospital
Larry Burrows	Colbert EMS
Benny Brooks	Konawa EMS
Jynnell Elder	Mary Hurley Hospital
Samantha McDowra	McAlester Army Ammunition Plant
Delbert Gay	Seminole Fire - Rescue
Kathy Green	McAlester Regional Air Care – Excused Absence voted 05.11.2023
Christopher Miller	International Paper EMS - Excused Absence voted 05.11.2023
Pamela Cunningham	

3. Benny Brooks moved to approve the February 9, 2023 minutes and Randy Bryant seconded. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		
Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		

4. Reports

- Dean Henke informed the committee that there is Trauma System Coordinator, an Epidemiologist position and a Research Statistician open at Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH). New unit inspections for EMS are being done at NE 27<sup>th</sup> and Stiles, in the MotorPool parking lot. 2024 OERSSIRF application link is on the OSDH website.
- Katrina Warden informed the committee that Trauma Registry is mandatory by the hospitals to enter trauma case data into the registry. We have numerous hospitals that are not current with the database. By hospital not having their data in the registry it can affect physician in their disbursement for Trauma Fund. We have some compliance letters for some of the hospitals here today and we ask that you take them back to your hospital administrator. Next quarter we will be focusing on EMS for compliance.
- Katrina Warden informed the committee that Trauma Funds based of the data that is entered into Trauma Registry. Deadline to apply for Trauma fund for hospitals is May 30, 2023, EMS and physicians is due June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. EMResource has been working on a dashboard to automatic enter data. If interested please let us know.
- Pamela Cunningham informed the committee that CQI met April 6, with 8 members present. Eight cases were reviewed, and 13 letters were sent out. The committee had 11 required responses. Next meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2023.
- Jamie Lee informed the committee the process that the Continuous Quality Improvement uses when reviewing a case. The committee uses the following formula:
  - look to see if the patient was correctly prioritized
  - if the trauma plan was followed
  - did the patient require transfer
  - did the patient go to the closest most appropriate facility
  - did the patient depart the facility in a timely manner
  - if errors were found, the committee will then make recommendations based on identified system errors or lack of system errors. Letters will be sent out the agencies. Jamie showed the committee samples of the formula and the Medical Records request form.
- Kari Beggs reported that the REPC reviewed the RTAB attendance for 2022 and she will reach out to the organizations that are not compliant according to the Region 5 Bylaws. The committee will review the attendance for the first quarter and second quarter at the August 10, 2023 REPC meeting.

- Kari Beggs, RMRS/MERC shared they will be having a drill for the Surgical Extraction Team (SET) who Lindsay DaValut MD FACS is the head. The SET will be going out to a site and they want to make it real-time to simulate an actual scenario.
5. Sarah Connelly informed the committee that EMSC is focusing on safe sleep awareness, Autism/Non-verbal training, and water safety this year. They still have Pedi-mates available if EMS needs them or needs new ones.
  6. There was no report for Stroke Systems of Care/OSSSAC.
  7. Denni, Trauma Burn Coordinator for OU Hospital, informed the committee that the purpose of the presentation today is to triage burn patients appropriately and prioritize the appropriate level of care. The purpose and goal are to identify if the patient has just burned or do they have burns with trauma. They want to know the mechanism of the burn, the size of the burn, and the burn depth of the burn. They do not include first degree burns in the percentage of burn and they need to know if the burn is circumferential. They will examine to see if the extremities have strong pulses, which will help them determine how to prioritize the patient. Pain is another factor they figure into the prioritizing the patient. If it is 3rd degree burn, pain is usually low if any at all. Some patients can handle pain better than some. The main goal today is to establish a consistent methodology of ensuring burn patient care regardless of where the injury occurred. To ensure a coordinated system that incorporates the pre-hospital, health care facilities, the burn centers and communication link and to improve the efficient utilization of burn resources within Oklahoma. They recommend stopping the burning process by removing the clothing and any jewelry and cover the patient and their burns with a dry sheet. For patient assessment does the patient have a life-threatening burn injury or can the patient be managed in an outpatient facility. When prepping the patient for a burn consultation they need to know the type of burn; is it a low/high voltage injury, flame, flash, scalding burn, the size of the burn, the burn depth, is it circumferential burn, and is the pain being controlled. When transferring the patient, they need to know their medical history, is their tetanus up to date, and is the pain being controlled, and if they are being seen in an outpatient clinic make sure they leave with the date and time of that appointment.
  8. A motion was made by Rusty Cole to continue the Pre-RTAB discussions at 10:00 a.m. and to end the Pre-RTAB discussion at 10:25 a.m. and was seconded by Randy Bryant.  
The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		
Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		

- Dean Henke reported organization in Region 5 should try to do an activity for the 2023 Trauma Awareness Month in May. It can be something simple like a Stop the Bleed class or a poster about trauma. Grace Pelley shared there are some handouts in the back of the room for trauma and can be for a church, school, or posting in your ED lobby. Other handout available through the OSDH are about helmet safety, roller blade safety, falls, motorcycle safety, and concussions. Feel free to reach out to our department for more information.
- Gerrick Johnson moved to excuse the absent for McAlester Regional Health Center for Thursday, February 9, 2023 and was seconded by Brad Smith.  
The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		
Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		

- Benny Brooks moved to excuse the absent for McAlester Regional Air Care for Thursday, May 11, 2023 and was seconded by Samantha McDowra.  
The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		
Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		

- Pamela Cunningham moved to excuse the absent for International Paper for Thursday, May 11, 2023 and was seconded by Benny Brooks.  
The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		

Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		

- Pamela Cunningham moved to excuse Marshall County EMS from the Region 5 RTAB to join the Region 3 RTAB and seconded by Randy Bryant.  
The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		
Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		

**9.**

- Kathy Green and Christopher Miller led the discussion about superficial trauma. How to triage and treat these injuries. Ms. Green shared they would be discussing lacerations over bony prominences, bruising to specific areas of the body, and large hematomas. She said these injuries can be distracting and can cause one to miss a more serious injury. It is important to keep track of vital signs such as cool pale clammy skin, low blood pressure, and tachycardia which might mean the superficial injuries may be hiding more serious injuries. Ms. Green shared that a proper assessment will begin with EMS and it is important to do a thorough patient exam. Christopher Miller provided an EMS standpoint where medics have become used to doing the bare minimum especially when they are busy and they just want to complete the run. Mr. Miller shared that trauma patients should be “trauma naked” as not to miss an injury. Medicine used to be practiced with the medics eyes and hands which means the medic should be putting their hands on the patients. He shared the patient deserves the full assessment by the medics. He discussed that external trauma is the road map to internal trauma. Group discussion shared that geriatrics, frequent fliers, drug users, mass casualties, and medic burnout can lead to missing a more serious injury. Documentation is a key to protecting yourself and letting the ER staff know what you observed.
- Allie Friesen, Integris Health shared about the Pursuit of the Optimal Behavioral Health and is requesting feedback from the group about problems within Region 5. Ms. Friesen is soliciting how her program can help the EMS personnel who are called out to engage with a mental health patient. The goal is to get mental health patients to where they need to be. Some of

the areas of concern is voluntary placement, patients present to the psychiatric facility and are told to go to the ER when there is no need for medical clearance, no security in some ERs to help deal with a psychiatric patient, low staffing at psychiatric facilities, having the same expectations for mental health patients as they do for trauma, and not having a state wide mental health plan.

Ms. Friesen shared that each facility has their own acceptance criteria for legal reasons. Ms. Friesen asked if the first responders had access to I-PAD, many said they did not have them. Ms. Friesen shared it sounds like expanding the I-PAD for first responders is possibly not the best option. She left her business cards at the back of the room.

**10.** No new business.

**11.** Future meeting dates for 2023

- Thursday, August 10, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, November 9, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

**12.** No public comments.

**13.** Randy Bryant moved to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Samantha McDowra at 12:23 p.m.  
The motion carried as follows:

Ayes	Nays	Abstain
James Smith - AELT		
Lisa Vowels		
Randy Bryant		
Rusty Cole		
Brian Norton		
Gerrick Johnson		
Brad Smith		
Keith Lickly		
Kathy Green		
Benny Brooks		
Pamela Cunningham		
Samantha McDowra		
Jauquetta Trotter		