



TETAF Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, June 22, 2021
Zoom Meeting
4:00 p.m.

Present: Jeff Beeson, D.O.
Scott Christopher, BBA, BSN, RN, LP
Nilda Garcia, M.D.
Angela Gentry, RN, MSN, TCRN
Wanda Helgesen, RN, MSN
Kenneth Mattox, M.D.
Kathy Perkins, RN, MBA
Edward Racht, M.D.
Christine Reeves
Ricky Reeves, EMT-P
Craig Rhyne, M.D.
Kate Schaefer, RN, CEN, NREMT
Dudley Wait, EMT-P
David Weisoly, D.O.

Absent: Diana Grimm-Mapp, RN, BSN, CEN, TCRN
Lisa Hutchins, RN-NIC
Danny Updike, RN, CCRN, EMT-LP

TETAF Staff: Dinah Welsh, Brenda Putz, Carla Rider, Ramon Napoles, and Erin Moore
TETAF Contractors: Doris Heinen, accountant; Kevin Reed, attorney; Brian Yarbrough, Janiece Williams, and Ashley Morgan, contract lobbyists

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions** – The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Craig Rhyne, M.D., chair. Board members introduced themselves. Dinah Welsh, TETAF president and CEO introduced Kevin Reed, attorney for TETAF, and the Erben and Yarbrough team, contract lobbyists for TETAF.
- 2) **TETAF Update** – Dinah Welsh shared the legislative session concluded and she will provide an update later in the meeting, including potential opportunities in special sessions. Welsh stated that all maternal facilities that needed a survey have been surveyed and the cycle was successful. She also provided the update on the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) meetings moving to an in-person format soon and that will also be the direction TETAF will follow for the September meeting. Welsh stated TETAF will work to have more in-person meetings. GETAC will have two in-person meetings and two virtual. GETAC has asked the Texas Department of State

Health Services if TETAF could sponsor the in-person meetings since there has been some concern with TETAF being a surveying entity and sponsoring GETAC meetings.

- 3) **Secretary's Report** – Ricky Reeves, secretary of the TETAF Board of Directors, asked for a motion to approve the December 2020 meeting minutes and the February 2021 meeting minutes. Dr. Kenneth Mattox motioned to approve the minutes and Scott Christopher seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by the board.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report** – Kathy Perkins, treasurer, provided a report on January, February, March, and April financials. The survey revenue is almost to budget. 172 surveys have been completed and 173 surveys were budgeted. The year-to-date operating expenses continue to run under budget and are currently about \$130,000 under budget. This is partially related to some virtual surveys and some surveyors being reluctant to fly, which reduces airline costs. Revenue is also under budget by about \$30,000 but Perkins stated this has improved since the previous board meeting in which revenue was under budget by about \$330,000. Perkins anticipates this to continue to improve. The gross margin is greater than budgeted by \$30,000. The net income is \$160,000 greater than budgeted. Working capital decreased by about \$630,000 and the year-to-date net change in cash negative was about \$316,000. Perkins anticipates these categories will also improve. Perkins motioned to approve the budget report. Dr. David Weisoly seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the budget report. Perkins added that the audit is taking place and a proposed budget for the next year is also in the works.
- 5) **Advocacy Committee Report** – Wanda Helgesen, chair of the TETAF Advocacy Committee, shared that the first special session has been scheduled and the Advocacy team will begin working on strategies. Brian Yarbrough, TETAF contract lobbyist, shared that the special sessions typically focus on specific items he puts on the call for that special session. The items for this special session are not related to TETAF's focus. Yarbrough stated another special session will likely be called in the fall that will focus on redistricting and federal funds. Yarbrough stated they will watch to see if those funds will be earmarked for specific purposes. He stated that during the regular legislative session about 7,000 bills were filed and passed about 1,100. Ashley Morgan, TETAF contract lobbyist, added that TETAF had to play some defense in terms of any advocating that was not focused on the winter storm or the COVID-19 pandemic. Dinah Welsh stated that the [TETAF Advocacy Report](#) has been released. Welsh stated there had been some misunderstanding in the public about a bill focused on placenta accreta disorder (House Bill 1164) and if hospitals needed to comply with the legislation by September 1. Welsh stated that the Advocacy team was able to clear this confusion up and that is not the case.
- 6) **TETAF Survey Service Line Report** – Brenda Putz, TETAF vice president of operations, stated that TETAF has been working through some post-COVID issues with surveys. She said the survey team has been working with hospitals facing staffing issues to ensure they are scheduled for a survey. TETAF continues to offer both on-site and virtual survey processes, but the virtual is only used on a case-by-case basis. Two new stroke surveyors have been trained and are now surveying. The second neonatal cycle is in process.

TETAF/Texas Perinatal Services completed surveys in June for the maternal designation cycle that ends September 2021. TETAF is exceeding its projections for surveys in all service lines. Putz commended TETAF staff members, Ramon Napoles, Aaron Rogers, and Jennifer Anderson for working hard to keep the surveys moving forward. TETAF has a Hospital Data Management Course (HDMC) coming up later in June that will be virtual. Putz recognized all faculty for the course and added there will be three HDMC offered virtually each year. TETAF has been invited by the Georgia Trauma Commission to present a proposal to provide survey services. Putz stated that TETAF is seeking additional trauma surveyors and a training will be offered in September. Dinah Welsh highlighted that Texas Perinatal Services captured 80% of the maternal market in this cycle and commended Carla Rider, TETAF perinatal program director, for her efforts. Putz commended Carla Rider for all of her efforts and strong work she did during her four years with TETAF. Dr. David Weisoly added that he is also proud of the work Carla did to build upon the perinatal division for TETAF.

- 7) **Texas Trauma Quality Improvement Program Collaborative (Texas TQIP) Report** – Brenda Putz shared that Garrett Hall has resigned from Texas TQIP to move to Maryland for a job opportunity. Putz stated that a written report will be provided at the next meeting and Texas TQIP will be looking for a new administrator to replace Garrett. Dr. Kenneth Mattox commended Garrett Hall for his work and attention to detail in data.
- 8) **Scheduled TETAF Meetings** – Dinah Welsh stated the next board meeting would be September 9 and in-person in Austin. She stated TETAF hopes to move back to all in-person board meetings. She realizes there are advantages of the Zoom meetings with more people who may be involved if they cannot travel. TETAF will also have a board and General Assembly meeting in December, likely in San Antonio.
- 9) **Open Discussion** – Dr. Kenneth Mattox shared about a movement in Houston has been formed an independent party called SAM (Serve America Momentum). Mattox shared it may cause changes in the Texas Legislature, parties, and advocacy. He added that he wanted to share this and was not taking any sides. Mattox also shared about seeing drone ambulances that can take patients over moving traffic.
- 10) **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.