

**BIG COUNTRY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MEETING
1/18/2023**

Roll Call: See Sign in Sheet for Attendance

A quorum was present. Meeting called to order by Russel Thomas at 1009.

Minutes of October 19,2023 meeting approved as posted on website on motion by Marta Pagura; second by Tammy Hamilton, all in favor, none opposed.

Financial Review –

EMS RAC	\$ 35,269.26
EMS County	\$ 143,743.06
Tobacco	\$ 42,226.77
SB8	\$ 420013
Dues Account	\$ 9817.85

Grant Review –

EMS County –Pass-through monies have been received and a letter has been sent to the providers. Deadline for submitting receipts/invoices and cancelled checks is 3/31/2023. Dates for invoices are 9/1/22 – 3/31/23
Recommendation made to present to BCEMSPO that any funds that could not be distributed due to compliance issues would be pulled for Regional Projects. These Regional Projects include but are not limited to continuation of the programs already in place for Fall Prevention and Injury Prevention and education for EMS outlined below.

EMS RAC – These funds are used for administrative purposes including ED hourly pay, office rent and expenses

RAC Development – Propose that the fiscal budget for RAC Development that was presented in July 2022 be approved by the Education and Injury Prevention committees as follows

funds were proposed and approved follows:

- 20 % administration as needed including travel as need
- 80% split as follows
 - Reimbursement of education and injury prevention expenses as submitted up to an amount equal to all submitting parties. Receipt and proof of payment due date is 3/31/2022.
 - Fall prevention items including but not limited to: night lights, non-skid socks, grabbers, toilet rails, bed rails, bath tub rails, socks assist
 - Fire Extinguishers & CO2 monitors
 - Rescue Me Tags and all expenses associated with Project Rescue me including, postage & 1-800 #
 - File of Life magnets
 - Child ID Safety tags
 - Vehicle Thermometers
 - STEMI/Stroke magnets
 - Tx Wristbands

Above will be available for all members

Senate Bill 8 (EMSE) – Presented an overview of the SB8 (EMSE) funds as follows which will be presented specifically to BCEMSPO and also summarized for the General Assembly. EMS Agencies will partner with

current employees benefiting from sponsorship opportunities for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic training. Employees will obtain all necessary paperwork and return that paperwork to the RAC office. The student is responsible for verifying the paperwork was received within the office and after enrolling in an accredited program verifying payment has been made to that program. If a student approaches the RAC for sponsorship, the RAC will help facilitate the relationship between the student and EMS Agency in order for a sponsorship to occur. If the student fails to complete the program, the Sponsoring Agency will attempt to collect the scholarship from the student and reimburse the RAC the amount paid. If the EMS Agency is unable to collect the funds, the RAC office will attempt to collect the funds. The student will also commit to work 96 hours a month for one year if EMT and 2 years if AEMT or Paramedic with the sponsoring agency. Failure to complete this commitment will also result in the student repaying the scholarship to the RAC. Administrative expenses are left to the discretion of the RAC Executive Director and should mirror other RAC's similar in size.

A list of current educators in the RACD area are as follows:

Abilene Fire Department EMS Training Program
AXON Education Texas EMS School
Percom Online EMS Education
South Taylor EMS
TSTC West Texas
Throckmorton County Memorial Hospital Training Center

Please refer to the attached EMSE Overview for additional information

Due to the additional funds from Senate Bill 8 (SB8) it was recommended and approved that two additional accounts be opened at two different banks to maintain accounts at an amount less than the insurable FDIC amount of \$250,000. An account will be opened at First Financial Bank in Abilene and Haskell Nation Bank in Abilene. Signors for these accounts will be Chair – Russel Thomas, Treasurer – Marta Pagura, Secretary – Sarah Alvarez and Executive Director – Marlee Puckett

Motion to approve the Financial and Grant Review by Jonathan Galinak; second by Marta Pagura all in favor, none opposed.

Committee Review:

Stroke Committee –

STEMI –

PI Committee – Third quarter PI report is due 10/31/22. The PI Compliance will be uploaded to the website several times within the month for members to monitor their own compliance better in addition to the email reminders that are sent out by the RAC office. AS of 10/18/2022 at 10:00am the only PI reports completed were as follows: Abilene Fire Department, Air Evac Abilene, Air Evac Eastland, Comanche EMS, Dublin EMS, Eastland EMS, Taylor County EMS & Throckmorton County Hospital

Hospital Committee –

Education and Injury Prevention – Recommendation to use funds as follows:

- Reimbursement of education and injury prevention expenses as submitted up to an amount equal to all submitting parties. Receipt and proof of payment due date is 3/31/2023.
- Fall prevention items including but not limited to: night lights, non-skid socks, grabbers, toilet rails, bed rails, bath tub rails, socks assist
- Fire Extinguishers & CO2 monitors
- Rescue Me Tags and all expenses associated with Project Rescue me including, postage & 1-800 #
- File of Life magnets

- Child ID Safety tags
- Vehicle Thermometers
- STEMI/Stroke magnets

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Finance Committee –

Open Forum – The RAC will start providing a virtual option for Medical Directors to attend General Assembly meetings. This option is not available for RAC members as they are still required to attend GA meetings in person and attendance is registered by the members signature on the sign in sheet.

**REMINDER ALL DOCUMENTS - Needs Assessment,
Membership Application, Dues and Affidavit are due
and found on the website**

Meeting adjourned at 1155 on motion made by Jonathan Galinak, second by Harold “Red” Gerhart; all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlee Puckett, Executive Director