



General Membership Minutes

July 11, 2025

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST

Edinburg Conference Center at Renaissance
(118 Paseo Del Prado, Edinburg, TX 78539)

Attendees: Please contact the TRAC-V office at (956) 364-2022 regarding meeting attendance.

I. Call to order – Carlos Palacio, MD

Carlos Palacio called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.

II. Welcome and Introductions of new members

Introductions of new members attending a TRAC-V General Membership meeting were made.

III. Review and approval of previous minutes – March 21, 2025

A motion to accept the minutes made by Jennifer Milum and seconded by Jason Waller. All in favor. Motion passed.

IV. Board Report:

a) Board Meetings – Carlos Palacio, MD

Carlos Palacio provided an overview of the board meetings held on April 17, 2025 and May 30, 2025. During both meetings, the TRAC-V Board reviewed and discussed updates to the TRAC-V Strategic Plan, a document created last year to guide the RACs progress on the most critical areas. Additionally, the TRAC-V Board completed required elements of the FY25 RAC Self-Assessment, one of the new deliverables of the RAC DSHS contract. Through this process, TRAC-V discussed potential areas for improvement, the need to continue strengthening RAC Performance Improvement and Data Collection processes, and ways to continue building on Injury Prevention and RAC outreach efforts.

b) Financial Report – Rene Perez

FY25

RAC Systems Development - \$51,289

EMS RAC - \$10,517

EMS/CO - \$14,703

SB8 - \$0

EI - \$65,833

The financial report was provided by the Board Treasurer, Rene Perez. The financial balances provided represent the amount remaining in the Fiscal Year for each DSHS grant TRACV receives as of June 30, 2025. Mr. Perez reviewed the cash disbursements for the last couple of months and the accounts receivable aging summary. EMS/County funds have all been disbursed to date and will be reflected in the July Management Report. TRAC-V is still pending the collection of TRAC-V Membership dues from some EMS agencies and late fees will be added if not paid soon. TRAC-V is in good financial standing and has no debts.

A copy of the financial report can be requested by contacting the TRAC-V office at (956) 364-2022.

V. Executive Director's Report

a) Update/Status on State Reports

Nathan Ramon provided an overview of recent reports submitted to DSHS for state-related contracts. A quarterly support form detailing quarterly expenditure was due on June 30th and was sent in advance of the deadline.

The next DSHS reports are due at the end of August and include submission of the RAC Self-Assessment scores and other affidavits to ensure compliance with the RAC Performance Criteria document.

b) Other RAC initiatives and activities

- TRAC-V continues to push Pulsara utilization for training, everyday transports, and large scale events. Incidents were created for the management of SPI Spring Break festivities and the McAllen 4th of July Holiday parade.
- TRAC-V has now completed work on the RAC Self-Assessment with the Pre-Hospital and Trauma Committees, and the TRAC-V Board. This is one of the new deliverables that helps RACs identify opportunities for improvement and ways to document processes already in place. Final Self Assessment scores will be shared during the next GM meeting.
- TRAC-V has continued collaborating with South Texas Blood & Tissue Center to host quarterly blood drives at RAC events and in the community. The next

blood drive is being worked on with Willacy County EMS and is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2025. Marketing materials will be shared and posted on TRAC-V social media platforms.

- TRAC-V attended the South Texas All Hazards Conference and raffled off first aid kits to people who stopped by the booth and followed TRAC-V on social media. Nathan Ramon and Dr. Carlos Palacio presented a lecture on Whole Blood in the RGV and have been accepted to present the same lecture at the Texas EMS Conference in November.
- TRAC-V has sponsored a few education courses over the last few months including a PHTLS course and an ASLS course for EMS providers. TRAC-V would like to continue with the ASLS course for hospitals in FY26 and increase the EMS instructor pool as well.
- The 2025 TRAC-V Symposium held on May 1st and 2nd was a great success and multiple tracks surpassed last year's attendance totals. Final attendance this year tallied to 335 people over 2 days. TRAC-V will work on updating the speaker and sponsor agreements over the next few months to review at the September GM meeting. The dates for next year's Symposium has already been set for April 16 & 17, 2026.
- TRAC-V participated in the Cameron County Public Health Blue Tie Day Affair in Brownsville. This is a men's health focused event and TRAC-V was able to connect with other non-profits and raffle off first aid kits to attendees.
- The Texas Legislature has appropriated \$10 million for DSHS to implement a Whole Blood Pilot Program throughout the state, in collaboration with the GETAC Pre Hospital Whole Blood Task Force, RACs, Blood Banks, and other stakeholders. Conversations are ongoing but TRAC-V will be working with its members to get access to funding for equipment, training, and resources to grow and expand our local WB program.
- Both South Padre Island Fire Department EMS and Willacy County EMS are now carrying Whole Blood and SPI successfully transfused their first unit just one week after starting to carry it.

VI. GETAC and TETAF Update – Carlos Palacio, MD / Nathan Ramon

- The PHWBTF continues to work on ideas for the \$10 million in funding and met again on June 24th at STRAC offices in San Antonio to begin brainstorming ideas
- The trauma committee is examining trauma delays in transfer and continues to update the group on Mil-Civ integration with the Joint Trauma System
- The Stroke committee is discussing access to stroke care within 60 minutes for different levels of care, and beginning to evaluate RAC participation in the RDC for reporting at GETAC.

- The Pediatric and Injury Prevention committees are focusing on transport of pediatric patients.
- The National Pedi Readiness Improvement Project with Tx ENA continues to offer professional development and Zoom CE opportunities

VII. EMTF and HPP Coalition Report – John Phillips / Bernie Palacios

Multiple TRAC-V members are currently deployed through EMTF to Central Texas region for response and recovery efforts after the historic July 4th flooding. More information to come.

VIII. TRAC-V Sub-Committee Reports

a) Allied Health – Jennifer Volcy

The committee will begin regular meetings to discuss ideas and planning for the 2026 Symposium.

b) Cardiac – Melissa Aguilera & Jennifer Pena

The committee is discussing their next Performance Improvement project and looking at data to begin collecting at the committee level. The committee is looking to recruit new members and increase attendance at the 2026 symposium in the cardiac track.

c) Disaster Preparedness – Carlos Palacio & Danny Ramirez

The committee met on July 8th to discuss a regional hurricane exercise at the request of TRAC-V members since no other regional exercise has been completed. The committee is planning a Tabletop Exercise on July 29th and an invite will be sent next week by TRAC-V.

d) Injury Prevention – Cassandra Bravo, Bianca Hayes, & Alicia Cruz

The committee has been active in conducting CPR, Stop the bleed, Water Safety, ATV Safety and other Injury Prevention training. The committee is still looking for additional members and wants to start planning an Injury Prevention themed event later this year to raise awareness and funds for TRAC-V injury prevention efforts.

e) Perinatal / NICU / Maternal – Annabelle Salinas & Adriana Cantu

The committee continues to review Golden Hour data and other data points that get sent to TRAC-V every month for aggregate review. The committee hopes to continue increasing attendance at the 2026 Symposium.

f) Pre-Hospital – Gustavo Ramirez & Charlie DeLeon

The committee continues to collect resources for EMS Mental Health and is putting information on the TRAC-V website. Additionally, the committee is starting to plan another round of the simulation competition for TRAC-V agencies to compete with one another.

g) South Texas Trauma Coordinators – Jennifer Volcy & Wesley Milum

The committee has completed work on the RAC self assessment elements and will be working with the RAC to make corrections to the trauma elements of the system plan. The committee will also work with the RAC to ensure data reporting to the TRACV Repository to begin data collection and PI projects.

h) Stroke – Gene Danugrao

The committee is going to begin work on a pediatric specific stroke protocol to keep patients within the region and will continue increasing attendance at the 2026 TRAC-V Symposium.

i) TMD & EMS Advisory – Eric Panzer

The committee met in May to review 2025 Q1 data and will be meeting again on August 27th to review 2025 Q2 data.

IX. Open Forum

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.