



## **General Membership Minutes**

March 20, 2026

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST

Valley Baptist Medical Center Harlingen – Woodward Center  
(2101 Pease St, Harlingen, TX 78550)

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 11:42 AM.

### **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 – December 5, 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 a brief overview of the board meeting on January 30, 2026. The meeting began with elections for 2026 for the Cameron County 911 EMS, Hidalgo County Non-911 EMS, Starr County EMS, Cameron County Physician, Hidalgo County Physician, Starr County Physician, Willacy County Physician, and the following Officers of the Board: Vice Chairman and Parliamentarian. The Board then reviewed and approved an update to the TRAC-V Bylaws with the only pending item being finalization of the increase to TRAC-V membership dues beginning in FY 2027, and reviewed progress being made on the 2026 TRAC-V Symposium.

## **b) Financial Report – Rene Perez**

### FY26

EMS RAC - \$43,432

EI - \$93,598

RAC Systems Development - \$56,692

EMS/CO - \$74,782

Whole Blood - \$182,397

The financial report was provided by Board Treasurer, Rene Perez. The financial balances provided represent the amount remaining in the Fiscal Year for each DSHS grant TRACV receives as of March 1, 2026. The Whole Blood grant is valid for a 2-year term that doesn't expire until August 31, 2027.

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 is due to DSHS on March 31, 2026 for the second quarter of RAC activities. TRAC-V is up to date and in good standing.

### **b) Other RAC initiatives and activities**

- TRAC-V held its annual meeting with regional hospital CEOs in December to discuss RAC initiatives and priorities, as well as present potential updates to the TRAC-V Bylaws and requested feedback on updates to membership dues for hospitals, FEDs, and other entity types.
- TRAC-V has continued its support of regional blood drives with both Willacy County EMS and the City of Brownsville EMS hosting drives on December 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Earlier this month on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, the City of Brownsville held a friendly competition between EMS and Police to see who could receive the most blood donations during scheduled blood drives.
- The TRAC-V Injury Prevention committee has continued various outreach initiatives with events such as: Car-Fit, Stop the Bleed, TBI and Trauma awareness, and impaired driving. The biggest initiative has been the Shattered Dreams event held in Alton with

Mission Collegiate Highschool that simulated a car accident and funeral of a student to raise awareness on the risks of driving under the influence.

- TRAC-V has continued to review trauma transfers within the RGV, an initiative spawned from discussions at GETAC and the state level aiming to reduce the time to transfer for time sensitive and emergent patients. A survey done by TETAF concluded the main causes for delay in the RGV as a delayed decision time to transfer by the physician, delayed transfer support, and delayed image reads.
- The TRAC-V Whole Blood program continues to grow and expand with more EMS agencies being onboarded as part of the DSHS pilot program. The Rac Data Collaborative is piloting a data collection app, funded by DSHS, that will incorporate pre-hospital vitals with hospital outcomes to review cases for patients transfused with pre hospital whole blood.
- TRAC-V has continued to organize and support multiple mass gathering events and track patients via Pulsara for incidents like Sombrero Fest, Charro Days, Citrus Festival Parade, SPI Spring Break, and the Los Fresnos Rodeo.
- The 2026 Symposium is only a few weeks away and registration is still open. It will be held April 16-17 at the Courtyard by Marriott SPI.
- TRAC-V has partnered with Texas Roadhouse locations in the RGV for a Dine to Donate fundraiser on March 25<sup>th</sup>

## **VI. GETAC & TETAF Update – Nathan Ramon / Others**

- TRAC-V has a record number of representation at GETAC with 12 appointments on GETAC Committees and 1 appointment on the GETAC Council.
- Pulsara presented on 2025 patient volume / utilization and there were approximately 1.5 million case records created in Pulsara
- The GETAC Disaster Preparedness Committee has presented and is seeking approval for utilization of triage buckets under a parent incident for MCI events to track: triaged patients, known well persons, reported missing persons, and decedents. Pulsara has also created a “WHITE” triage color for evacuees and patients not physically harmed that do not need to be tagged as “Green”.
- The GETAC Air Medical and Special Transport committee also reminded attendees about the Helicopter LZ training available to EMS and Hospital staff, which is a requirement in the new Texas trauma rules.
- The NPRP assessment for 2026 is still live and CE through the Pediatric Readiness Improvement Series still takes place every month.

- TETAF conducted a statewide survey of trauma centers to receive feedback on the biggest obstacles being faced that cause delays in trauma transfers. The top 5 barriers across the state were: delayed transfer decision time, delayed transfer support, complex interventions required, delayed transfer acceptance, and delayed image reads.
- The GETAC Stroke Committee presented data from the AHA GWTG and TSA-V shows one of the lowest rates of stroke screening compliance across the state, however also has the lowest Door to Needle time across all TSAs with an average of 28 minutes.

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

None.

**VIII. TRAC-V Committee Reports**

**a) Allied Health**

The committee is working on finalizing items for the 2026 TRACV Symposium. Speakers are still being finalized and volunteers are welcome to contact TRACV for more information.

**b) Cardiac**

The committee has recruited speakers for the Symposium and is beginning to discuss data metrics that the committee will collect and evaluate for performance improvement in 2026. There are also multiple outreach events and initiatives being discussed.

**c) Disaster Preparedness**

The committee has not met in 2026 but is in contact with HPP, EMTF, and TDEM to plan drills and activities in preparation for the 2026 hurricane season and regional needs for the FIFA world cup games taking place in Arlington, Houston, and Mexico.

**d) Injury Prevention**

The committee has been actively coordinating more STB classes and attending other community events. More car seat and car fit events are being discussed, as well as planning for an Injury Prevention community fair in November.

**e) Perinatal / NICU / Maternal**

The committee has recruited speakers for the Symposium and continues to review data on a quarterly basis and is now beginning to have

committee members report out best practices and case studies at monthly meetings.

**f) Pre-Hospital**

The Committee is pushing more EMS attendance at the TRACV Symposium and is sending students for the ASLS Instructor Course. The Committee is also planning a Sim Games competition similar to the one conducted in 2024.

**g) Stroke**

The Committee has recruited speakers for the Symposium and is working on updates to regional transportation guidelines and pediatric stroke resources, with new guidance released from the AHA.

**h) Trauma Systems**

The committee has recruited speakers for the Symposium and is continuing to submit data to TRACV and review trauma transfers and any delays in care for performance improvement.

**i) TMD & EMS Advisory**

The committee met in February to review OOVV data for Q4 of 2025 and is scheduled to meet again in May. The committee has approved and recommended implementation of a real time reporting process through the TRAC-V RMOCC to the TRAC-V Board of Directors for consideration.

**IX. Open Forum**

- The annual Texas Ambulance Association conference is scheduled for April 29-May 1 in SPI at the Courtyard by Marriott hotel.

**X. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 12: 55 PM.

**Next Meeting:**

June 12, 2026

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST

Pharr One Community Center