

**Minutes of the Statewide Trauma and Health Systems
Advisory Council (STHSAC) Meeting
December 12, 2025 – 10 a.m.
Via Phone/WebEx/Training Annex**

Members Present by Phone/WebEx: Scott Harris, M.D., Elwin Crawford, M.D., Tracy Doughty, Teresa Grimes, Stacy Hines, Jon Howell, Rony Najjar, M.D., Benjamin Von Schweinitz, M.D.

Members Absent: Jeffery Kerby, M.D., Jon Simmons, M.D., Josh Snow

Staff Present: Alice Floyd, Jamie Gray, Sara Matthews, Chris Palmer, Melissa Tolar

Staff by Phone/WebEx: Brent Hatcher, Tabatha Ross, Steven Stringer

Guests by Phone/WebEx: Brandie Alldredge, Emily Allen, John E. Blue, II, Lianne Brown, Jim Fox, Sean Gibson, Karen Hoven, Michele Jones, Lisa Maloney, Renee Mills, Jordan Nesmith, Allan Pace, Travis Parker, Kevin Paschal, Drew Payne, Rob Russell, M.D., Stephanie Spain

Guests Present: Michael Minor, David White

Welcome

Dr. Harris welcomed all participants and called the meeting to order.

Adoption of September 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Dr. Harris asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 17, 2025, meeting. Tracy Doughty made the motion, and Teresa Grimes seconded. The Minutes were approved without objection.

System Updates

Stroke System

Dr. Crawford reported there were two action items for the stroke system. First, a Level III stroke site visit was conducted on September 18 at Atrium Health Floyd Cherokee Medical Center, which the East Region Regional Advisory Council (RAC) has approved to enter the system as a Level III Stroke Center. Second, a Level I stroke site visit was conducted on October 21 at Southeast Health, which the Southeast Region RAC approved on November 6 to continue in the system as a Level I Stroke Center. As an information item, Dr. Crawford stated that Vaughan Regional Medical Center's workstation was installed, and they are continuing to serve as a Level III Stroke Center.

Dr. Harris asked if anyone had questions or wished to discuss either of the two action items separately. Hearing none, Dr. Harris asked for a motion and second to approve Atrium Health Floyd Cherokee Medical Center as a new Level III Stroke Center and Southeast Health as a continuing Level I Stroke Center. Teresa Grimes made a motion, and Jon Howell seconded. The motion carried without objection.

Trauma System

In Dr. Kerby's absence, Dr. Crawford presented the report for the Trauma System. Dr. Crawford reported that trauma site visits had been conducted for four trauma hospitals to continue in the system at their current status. The Huntsville Hospital site visit was conducted on September 2. The North Region RAC

voted on December 5 for them to continue in the system as a Level I Trauma Center. On August 19, a site visit was conducted for Baptist Medical Center South, which was approved on October 16 by the Southeast Region RAC to continue in the system as a Level II Trauma Center. The Southeast Health site visit was conducted on October 21, and the Southeast Region RAC voted on November 6 for them to continue in the system as a Level II Trauma Center. On November 4, a site visit was conducted for Children's Hospital of Alabama, which was approved on December 1 by the Birmingham Regional Emergency Medical Services System RAC to continue in the system as a Level I Trauma Center. Dr. Crawford informed the council that North Mississippi Medical Center and Children's Hospital at Erlanger site visits were rescheduled for January 2026. Dr. Harris asked if anyone had questions or wished to discuss any of these hospitals separately. There being no further discussion, Dr. Harris asked for a motion and second to approve the continuation of the four aforementioned trauma hospitals in the system at their current status. Dr. Von Schweinitz made a motion to approve, and Teresa Grimes seconded. The motion carried without objection.

Cardiac/ST-Elevated Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) System

Dr. Crawford reported that the planning stage of the statewide STEMI system is moving ahead with the assistance and input of the regional directors. The next meeting is scheduled for January 2026 when they anticipate finalizing the plan and preparing to forward it to the STEMI Workgroup for review. After the plan is reviewed, the next step would be to launch a STEMI system pilot program, hopefully around this time next year. Dr. Crawford stated that the plan is to complete the pilot program first before developing rules for the STEMI system, since some rules may be modified based on outcomes of the pilot program. Dr. Harris thanked Dr. Crawford for the update and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Acute Health Systems (AHS) Report

Michael Minor presented the AHS Report, which included trauma and stroke system data for the date range of April 1-June 30, 2025. Due to a data pull issue, the report was abbreviated to include numbers of patients but not patient outcomes. Dr. Harris thanked Mr. Minor for the update and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Data Points for AHS Report

Dr. Crawford stated that they would like to receive suggestions from trauma surgeons and STHSAC for potential additional data points that would be helpful to reflect on the AHS Reports. Since Dr. Crawford had been unable to attend the October 10 meeting of the trauma surgeons, Alice Floyd and Dr. Najjar summarized some additional data points that had been discussed, including mortality numbers, Rescue Stop metrics, trauma transfers, and incidents of over-triage or under-triage. Michael Minor stated that he and Dr. Kerby would be meeting soon to discuss these suggestions.

Dr. Najjar added that it was discussed at their last RAC meeting to suggest expanding Rescue Stops, which are currently available for trauma system patients, to include stroke system patients. Dr. Najjar proposed that in order to simplify matters, perhaps all patients entered into the Alabama Trauma Communications Center system could be considered for Rescue Stops when needed. Dr. Crawford stated they would look into that possibility.

Next Meeting

To be determined



Scott Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
Statewide Trauma and Health Systems Advisory Council



Alice B. Floyd, B.S.N., R.N., EMT-P
Acute Health Systems Manager