

**HILL COUNTRY VETERANS COUNCIL
KERRVILLE, TX 78028**

A meeting of the Texas Hill Country Veterans Council was held on March 17, 2015 at the Administrative Conference Room at Kerrville VA. Attending the meeting were:

Vicki Marsh, President
Bill Bacon, First Vice President
David Rittenhouse, Second Vice President
Members Bill Cantrell
Paul Gregory, Chief Administrative Officer Kerrville VA, Dr. Mary Ballinger, Dept of Veteran Affairs
Susan Junker, Cord Switzer, Dennis Birchall,

The meeting was called to order at 0900 by President Marsh.

The AOD, Administrative Officer of the Day, is on duty only from 0800-1600 weekdays due to shortage of clerical help.

Mr. Gregory said there is no MD on tap for the Green Team as yet. Local tenens (c0ntracted doctors) currently have 2 temps for the hospital. Dr. Chatham is leaving as of the end of April, 2015.

Patient Centered Medical Home is similar to the PACT tems in that they are a team approach to care. Vicki Marsh broached the subject of Non-VA Emergency Care which is not covered in the new patient orientation nor by PACTS. Weekend calls are supposed to be routed to the Tele-Care Nurse.

Neurology: Dr. Bahamon is currently assisting part time.

Nurse Executive due on board in April.

Dental Hygienest has been identified.

Audiologist is on board and going through training.

Dr. Metzger may leave. His position will be temporarily filled by 2 MDs from Audie Murphy.

Speech Pathologist is fairly assured they will accept the position soon.

Short term care up to 20 filled beds.

Release of Information has not changed their hours, patients need to call downstairs for service.

*Definition: an episode of care is up to 90 days.

*Definition: a Clinical Indicator Date. When a follow up appointment is made for a future time, then the 30 day criteria begins with the time set. For example, a veteran makes an appointment for a follow up visit, then the 30 day criteria begins with the date set at the original appointment. Further example: A follow up appointment is made on 1 January, then the VA has until 30 January to finalize the appointment even though the original appointment may not have been held for several months prior.

**Suggestion: The DVA should rule that records from third parties should be completed in proper form by a specific time period or face reduced claims.

**Suggestion: Tri West must be required to provide contracted staffing or face reduced claims.

Taking Notes,

Bill Bacon