



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Friday, September 24, 2021

Scheduled to Convene at 10:45 a.m.

1. Call to order

William Pate, Dr.PH., Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:47 a.m. A quorum was present.

2. Roll call and introductions of guests

Members present: John Hageman, M.S., C.H.P.; Charles Cavnor; Lisa Masters, D.D.S.; Darlene Metter, M.D.; Sanjay Narayan; Ken Peters; Tim Powell; Kevin Raabe; Bob Redweik; Darshan Sachde, Ph.D.; Mark Silberman, M.D.; Lynn Silguero; Michael Britt; Roland Benke, Ph.D., C.H.P.

Members not present: Simon Trubek, M.D.; Mark Harvey, Ph.D.; and Doug Posey, D.V.M.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff present: Brian Vamvakias, Stacey McLarty, Lisa Bruedigan, Kaylie Smith, Ruben Cortez, Bob Free, Alyson Henry, Stephanie Lopez, Luis Morales, Zachary Flores, Shannon Quinn, Eric Skotak, Kevin Veal, Karl Von Ahn, Trae Windham, and Chris Myers

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) staff present: Bobby Janeka and Gehan Flanders

Texas Railroad Commission (RRC) staff present: Leslie Savage

Guests present: Eddie Selig, Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas; Denise Brooks, State Energy Conservation Office; David Carlson, Waste Control Specialists; Stephen Raines, Texas Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission

3. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning amendment and/or approval of the minutes of the June 25, 2021, meeting

Dr. Pate noted a typo in the date under item 3. Mr. Raabe noted a typo under item 7. Dr. Metter made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Raabe seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

4. Public Comments

None

5. TRAB Committee Reports and Recommendations

A. Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee

Mr. Raabe discussed the committee meeting. No recommendations to the Board.

B. Medical Committee

Dr. Metter discussed the committee meeting. No recommendations to the Board.

C. Topic Research Committee

Dr. Sachde discussed the committee meeting. No recommendations to the Board.

6. Program Reports

A. Railroad Commission of Texas

Ms. Savage stated there were no changes from the program report and no legislation under the RRC jurisdiction.

B. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Gehan Flanders updated the Board on the program report and House Bill 7 from the recent special session.

C. Texas Department of State Health Services

Mr. Vamvakias stated there were no changes from the program report. Dr. Pate suggested that DSHS show a history of incidents and complaints. A six-month history should be sufficient to see trends.

D. Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission

Mr. Raines discussed the possibility of getting the Board's input on upcoming rule amendments.

E. Waste Control Specialists

Mr. Carlson had no additions to report.

F. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. Janeka discussed the upcoming Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) for the state.

7. Routine and Continuing Business

A. Recognition of TRAB member's excused absence from this meeting

Mr. Redweik missed the previous meeting due to technical difficulties. Dr. Trubek is not present due to clinical obligations. Dr. Posey is not present due to a Veterinary Conference. Dr. Metter made a motion to excuse the three absences. Dr. Sachde seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

B. Status of the TRAB's Recommendations on Licensing Fee Structure

Mr. Von Ahn discussed the working group developing a crosswalk document.

C. Summary and TRAB recommendations to 21R035 Rule Project-Radioactive Material

Mr. Vamvakias stated that the DSHS response to the comments is in draft stage.

D. Status of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's IMPEP

Mr. Vamvakias stated it is scheduled for February 2022.

E. Status of updating the TRAB's Publications webpage

Ms. McLarty provided an update.

8. New Business

A. Election of Board Officers

Mr. Britt made a motion to elect Tim Powell as Vice Chair and Lynn Silguero as Secretary. Dr. Metter seconded the motion, and they were unanimously elected.

B. DOE presentation on the Cs-137 contamination in Seattle, WA

A video type presentation was unavailable today and now scheduled for the December meeting.

C. Continued discussion on alternate TRAB meeting locations and educational opportunities

Ms. McLarty discussed the possibility and challenges of meeting in person.

D. Update of Veterinary 25 TAC §289.233 rulemaking changes

Mr. Vamvakias stated DSHS is working on a guidance document and a frequently asked questions document for stakeholders.

E. Discuss Molten Salt Research Reactor

Mr. Janeka discussed the possibility to have a presentation in December or first quarter meeting of 2022.

9. Identification of Agenda Items and/or topics for next or future TRAB or TRAB Committee Meetings

Dr. Pate discussed topics including the DOE presentation, an IMPEP update, a TRAB website update, and a presentation on the Molten Salt Research Reactor.

10. Adjourn

Dr. Pate adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.