



TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD (TRAB)
MEETING MINUTES

Austin-Health and Human Services Commission, MHMR Center
Conference Room 164, 909 W. 45th Street, Austin, Texas 78751
Friday, December 9, 2016 at 10:30 AM

1. Call to order

John Hageman, M.S. C.H.P., Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

Members present at the meeting: John Johnson, D.V.M, Secretary; Bill Campbell, Stephen Harris; Mark Harvey, Ph.D.; Ken Krieger, C.H.P.; Neal Leavell, D.D.S.; Mitch Lucas, P.E.; Darlene Metter, M.D.; Karen Newton; Tim Powell; Judy Raab; Kevin Raabe; Darshan Sachde; Missy Shorey; Mark Silberman, M.D.; and Simon Trubek, M.D. Members not present: Robert Emery, Dr. P.H.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff present: Lisa Bruedigan; Jerry Cogburn; Ruben Cortez; Chuck Flynn; Robert Free; Joann Harthcock; Alyson Henry; Stacey McLarty; Eric Skotak; Liz Speights, Charlotte Sullivan; Kassandra Swank; Jo Turkette; Karl Von Ahn; Helen Watkins and Peggy Westlund

2. Introduction of guests

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): Charles Maguire, Hans Weger, and Tony Gonzalez

Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas: Eddie Selig

Waste Control Specialist: Betsy Madru

Texas Low Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission (TLLRWDC): Andrew Tachovsky

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): Grant Chambless

Jacobi Consulting: Rick Jacobi

Atom Consulting: Roland Benke

3. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning amendment and/or approval of the minutes of the September 23, 2016 meeting

Mr. Krieger made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Metter seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Committee Reports and Recommendations

A. Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee

Mr. Lucas discussed the committee meeting. The committee recommended approval of the Advisory Statement for a Better Understanding of Radiation and the FY 2016 TRAB Annual Report.

B. Medical Committee

Dr. Metter discussed the committee meeting. The committee recommended approval of the Advisory Statement for a Better Understanding of Radiation with the addition of an EPA link and the FY 2016 TRAB Annual Report with changes.

C. Topic Research Committee

Mr. Sachde discussed the committee meeting. The committee recommended approval of the FY 2016 TRAB Annual Report.

5. Program Reports

A. Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

Mr. Chambless discussed the written report.

B. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

Mr. Maguire discussed the written report.

C. Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Mr. Flynn discussed the written report. The NRC Regulatory Guide 1556, Volume 9, Revision 3, is available for comment to NRC by February 2017 deadline.

D. Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission (TLLRWDC)

Mr. Tachovsky reported on the status of their import petitions. A Commission meeting was held December 3, 2016 and three new import applications were approved.

E. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – DeAnn Walker, State Liaison Officer

No report available.

6. Routine and Continuing Business:

A. Status report concerning updating the Laser Safety regulations to the latest ANSI Standards

Mr. Flynn reported Radiation Policy, Standards, and Quality Assurance (PSQA) is reviewing the ANSI Standards and will have a status update at the next Board Meeting. The laser hair removal program will be transferred from DSHS to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) on September 1, 2017.

B. Updates on the changes to the DSHS Radiation Control Program organization as a result of the GAO licensing audit

Mr. VonAhn discussed the continuing work on internal procedures and documentation in the radioactive materials licensing group.

C. Report on Health and Human Services System (HHSS) Transformation Plan

Mr. Flynn reported no new updates at this time.

D. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning the draft of the “Advisory Statement for a Better Understanding of Radiation”.

Mr. Raabe made a motion to approve the advisory statement with the addition of the EPA website and adoption date. Mr. Lucas seconded the motion and the advisory statement was unanimously approved by the Board.

7. New Business

A. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning the Fiscal-Year-2016 TRAB Annual Report to the Commissioner

Mr. Krieger made a motion to approve the annual report with changes. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

B. Presentation on the Texas Southern University

Dr. Harvey presented a slideshow on the Texas Southern University Health Physics Program.

8. Public Comments

Mr. Jacobi discussed concern of Item 6.A. and 6.C. during the legislative session to the Board and how the Board may be called on by the Legislature.

9. Identification of agenda items and/or topics for next or future TRAB or TRAB Committee Meetings

None

10. Adjourn

Mr. Hageman adjourned the meeting at 11:50 p.m.