



TOPIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE  
of the TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD (TRAB)  
MEETING MINUTES

Austin-Health and Human Services Commission, MHMR Center  
Conference Room 164, 909 W. 45<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78751  
Friday, December 9, 2016 at 8:30 AM

**1. Call to Order**

Darshan Sachde, Ph.D., Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. A quorum was present.

Members present for the meeting: John Hageman, M.S., C.H.P.; Mark Harvey, Ph.D.; and Tim Powell, M.B.A. Members not present for the meeting: Robert Emery, Dr. P.H., Chair.

**2. Introduction of guests:**

Department of State Health Services (DSHS): Lisa Bruedigan, Jerry Cogburn, Chuck Flynn, Robert Free, Joann Harthcock, Stacey McLarty, Liz Speights, Cassandra Swank, and Karl VonAhn.

Texas Railroad Commission (RRC): Grant Chambless

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 TRAB Topic Research Committee meeting**

Mr. Powell made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**4. Routine and Continuing Business**

**A. Update on rulemaking priorities**

Mr. Flynn provided an update to the current rulemaking priorities. DSHS received comments from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the radioactive materials rules submitted in 2015. A DSHS internal staffing meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2016 to discuss these additional rule changes. The rules will be available for review February 2017. The DSHS is also reviewing the dental rules and a draft will be posted soon for public comment.

Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) new transformation plan includes the establishment of the HHSC Executive Council and dissolved the DSHS Council.

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

Mr. Hageman discussed the draft advisory statement.

**C. Discussion and clarification regarding harmonization of OSHA regulations and NRC/DSHS regulations governing radiation dose limits to the lens of the eyes.**

Mr. Flynn reported that Mr. Cortez is not aware of any changes. Ms. McLarty added Mr. Skotak discovered information in the OSHA rules that compliance with requirements of the NRC/agreement state is “deemed to be in compliance” with the OSHA rules.

**5. New Business:**

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

Change to the header on page two from 2014 to 2016.

**B. Identify any additional topics that need further research to be addressed by the TRAB**

Mr. Hageman discussed the meeting with the Homeland Security section of the Department of Public Safety on November 15, 2016 to discuss the potential of a bogus company obtaining a license for a Category 3 radioactive material. Suggestions from the meeting:

- i.* Radiation Control establish self-audits
- ii.* Perform criminal background checks for individuals applying for a radioactive material license

Ms. McLarty added to perform background checks would require legislative authority and suggested adding this item for further discussion at the next committee meeting. Ms. Bruedigan will contact Ruth McBurney to request a survey of other agreement states.

**C. Identify topics to recommend for further discussion and/or to be addressed at future meetings of the Medical Committee, Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium, and Waste (INUW) Committee, or full Board**

None

**6. Public Comments**

None

**7. Summarize Committee meeting and recommendations for Committee Report and proposed action items for TRAB and for future agenda items for TRAB, the Medical Committee, or INUW Committees**

None

**8. Identification of Agenda Items for next or future Topic Research Committee Meeting**

Background Checks for Radioactive Material Licensees and Radiation Control self-audits

**9. Adjourn**

Dr. Sachde adjourned the meeting at 9:05 am