



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, February 28, 2020, at 10:30 AM

1. Call to order

John Hageman, MS, CHP, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

Members present at the meeting: Thierno Barry; John Hageman, MS, CHP, Chair; Stephen Harris; Mark Harvey, PhD; Neal Leavell, DDS; Darlene Metter, MD; Sanjay Narayan; William Pate, DrPH; Ken Peters; Tim Powell, Vice-Chair; Kevin Raabe; Bob Redweik; Darshan Sachde; Mark Silberman, MD; Lynn Silguero; and Simon Trubek, MD

Members not present: Ken Krieger, CHP, Secretary; Doug Posey, DVM;

2. Introduction of guests:

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff present: Lisa Bruedigan, Ruben Cortez, Robert Free, Jordan Hill, Stacey McLarty, Alyson Henry, Stephanie Lopez, Luis Morales, Stephen Pahl, Shannon Quinn, Eric Skotak, Liz Speights, Jo Turkette, Brian Vamvakias, Karl Von Ahn, Trae Windham, and Peggy Westlund

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): Ashley Forbes and Ron Thomas

Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas: Eddie Selig and Brian Christian

Waste Control Specialists (WCS): David Carlson

Lower Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission (LLRWDC): Brandon Hurley

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): Leslie Savage

Public: Melanie Dodson, Michael Ford

Texas Division of Emergency Management: David Cella

3. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning amendment and/or approval of the minutes of the November 22, 2019 meeting

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

4. Public Comments

None

5. Committee Reports and Recommendations

- A. Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee  
Mr. Raabe discussed the committee meeting.

- B. Medical Committee  
Dr. Metter discussed the committee meeting.

- C. Topic Research Committee  
Dr. Sachde discussed the committee meeting.

6. Program Reports

- A. Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)  
Ms. Savage discussed the program report.

- B. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)  
Ms. Forbes discussed the program report.

- C. Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)  
Mr. Vamvakias discussed the program report

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

Mr. Carlson identified the next Commission meeting is March 12, 2020.

- E. Waste Control Specialists (WCS)

Mr. Carlson had no updates at this time.

## F. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

No updates.

## 7. Routine and Continuing Business

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

Mr. Krieger and Dr. Posey were absent from this meeting. Dr. Metter made a motion to excuse absences from this meeting. Ms. Silguero seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

### B. Changes to the TRAB's Position Statement on Radiation (Medical Committee)

Mr. Powell made a motion to adopt the position statement with a correction. Mr. Narayan seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

### C. Status of the TRAB Working Group on new structure for Licensing Fees

The Working Group is meeting after the Board Meeting and will report at the next Board Meeting. The Working Group consists of Dr. Metter, Mr. Krieger, and Dr. Pate.

### D. Status of updating the TRAB's Publications webpage

Ms. Speights explained that DSHS has been notified by the DSHS Center for External Relations, System Coordination Unit's plan to standardize the Advisory Board website formats.

## 8. New Business

### A. Dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel

Mr. Carlson, Waste Control Specialists, provided a presentation on dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel.

### B. Decommissioning of a Cyclotron

Dr. Pate provided a presentation on the decommissioning of a cyclotron at the University of Texas Health Science Center of Houston damaged from Tropical Storm Allison in 2001.

### C. Preparation of a Strategic Plan

Ms. McLarty discussed the development of goals from each Committee to create a strategic plan on any radiation matters.

Ms. Silguero, Ms. Metter, Mr. Hageman and Mr. Krieger volunteered to be on the Working Group.

### D. Discussion and possible vote on alternate TRAB meeting locations and educational opportunities

The Board discussed the possibility of meeting at an alternate location:

- i.* TRAB members will need to weigh the potential benefits of the learning experience to carry out TRAB duties against any increased expenses for reimbursement.
- ii.* Less than a quorum of TRAB members could visit a radiation-related site for a learning opportunity outside of regular TRAB meetings and present a summary of the experience to the full TRAB at the next scheduled meeting.
- iii.* The TRAB can vote that an excursion is important for members to effectively carry out the TRAB duties or improve the efficiency of the use of funds.
- iv.* Mr. Pahl, Associate Commissioner of Consumer Protection, asked the Board to notify DSHS prior to changing the location of the Board Meeting to review travel expenses.
- v.* The Board meeting would be subject to the Open Meeting Act and must allow the public to attend the Board meeting.

Mr. Leavell will meet with Board members after the meeting to discuss visiting the South Texas Nuclear Power Plant in Bay City, Texas.

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

The next Board Meeting will be June 26, 2020.

### 10. Mr. Hageman adjourned the meeting at 12:36 pm.