



**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, February 23, 2018 at 10:30 AM**

1. John Hageman, M.S. C.H.P., Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present.
2. **Members present at the meeting:** Robert Emery, DrPH.; Mark Harvey, Ph.D.; John Johnson, D.V.M, Secretary; Ken Krieger, C.H.P.; Neal Leavell, D.D.S.; Mitch Lucas, P.E.; Darlene Metter, M.D.; Tim Powell; Judy Raab; Kevin Raabe; Darshan Sachde, Ph.D.; Missy Shorey; Mark Silberman, M.D.; and Simon Trubek, M.D.

Members not present: Bill Campbell and Stephen Harris

3. Introduction of guests

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff present: Ruben Cortez; Chuck Flynn; Joann Harthcock; John Huss; Alyson Henry; Stacey McLarty; Eric Skotak; Liz Speights, Jo Turkette; Karl Von Ahn; Peggy Westlund; and Greg Wilbern

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): Charles Maguire and Alisha Stallard

Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas: Eddie Selig

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

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): Grant Chambless

Waste Control Specialists: Dave Carson, Betsy Madru

Jacobi Consulting: Rick Jacobi

CPS Energy: Robert Nathan

Helen Watkins

4. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning amendment and/or approval of the minutes of the December 8, 2017 meeting

Dr. Harvey made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Ms. Raab seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved. Dr. Sachde and Dr. Emery abstained from the vote.

5. Committee Reports and Recommendations

A. Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste (INUW) Committee

Mr. Lucas discussed the committee meeting.

B. Medical Committee

Dr. Metter discussed the committee meeting.

C. Topic Research Committee

Dr. Emery discussed the committee meeting.

6. Program Reports

A. Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

Mr. Chambless discussed the report.

B. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

Mr. Maguire discussed the report.

C. Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Mr. Flynn discussed the report. Mr. Hageman requested a copy of the final NRC IMPEP report and DSHS responses when available.

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

Mr. Tachovsky discussed the February 22, 2018 Commissioner meeting and the next meeting will be April 5, 2018.

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

Ms. Walker was not present at the board meeting.

7. Routine and Continuing Business

A. Update on Health and Human Services System (HHSS) Transformation Plan (DSHS)

Mr. Huss discussed the status of the Transformation Plan. The Commission is required to report to the Texas Oversight Committee whether DSHS should be folded into HHSC or remain independent. The Texas Oversight Committee will propose legislation to the next legislative session.

B. Further recommendations on the older Advisories and Position Statements on the TRAB's [Publications web page](#)

- i. Ms. Raab made a motion to approve the INUW Committee dispositions of the TRAB publications on the webpage. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

- ii. Dr. Metter made a motion to approve the Medical Committee dispositions of the TRAB publications on the webpage. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

8. New Business

A. Vote to excuse absent members where there was good cause for the absences

Dr. Johnson made a motion to excuse the absences of Dr. Emery, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Sachde, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Krieger, and Stephen Harris as appropriate and excusable for good cause. Dr. Metter seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

B. Resolution for Helen Watkins

Mr. Hageman presented Ms. Watkins, recently retired from DSHS, with a resolution of appreciation for her years of service to DSHS and TRAB. Mr. Lucas made a motion to approve the resolution to Ms. Watkins. Dr. Emery seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

C. Consider and make recommendations on the proposed rule packet for the following sections of 25 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 289

- i. §289.251 Exemptions, General Licenses, and General License Acknowledgements
- ii. §289.252 Licensing of Radioactive Material
- iii. §289.253 Radiation Safety Requirements for Well Logging Service Operations and Tracer Studies
- iv. §289.256 Medical and Veterinary Use of Radioactive Material
- v. §289.257 Packaging and Transportation of Radioactive Material

Mr. Lucas made a motion to approve the proposed rules with the reservation of 252(i) and DSHS will review to ensure compatibility with 10 CRF 20.002. Dr. Emery seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

D. Introduction of Dave Carlson, WCS President and Chief Operations Officer

Mr. Hageman introduced Mr. Carlson as the new WCS President and Chief Operations Officer.

9. Public Comments

Mr. Jacobi congratulated Mr. Von Ahn and his staff for the license format improvements in the Radioactive Material licenses.

Dr. Harvey thanked Mr. Maguire and Ms. Stallard of TCEQ for coming to Texas Southern University to visit with the students and giving one of the students an opportunity to work at TCEQ.

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

None

11. Mr. Hageman adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.