



**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, February 23, 2018 at 8:30 AM**

**1. Call to Order**

Bob Emery, DrPH, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. A quorum was present.

Members present for the meeting: Mr. Darshan Sachde, Ph.D., Vice-Chair, John Hageman, MS, C.H.P.; Mark Harvey, Ph.D.; and Tim Powell, M.B.A.

**2. Introduction of guests:**

Department of State Health Services: Lisa Bruedigan, Ruben Cortez, Chuck Flynn, Bob Free, Joann Harthcock, Stacey McLarty, Eric Skotak, Liz Speights, Karl VonAhn, and Peggy Westlund

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

Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas: Eddie Selig

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC): Grant Chambless

**3. Review and, as needed, discuss and take possible action concerning amendment and/or approval of the minutes of the September 29, 2017 TRAB Topic Research Committee meeting**

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

#### **4. Routine and Continuing Business**

##### **A. Updates on rulemaking priorities**

Mr. Flynn discussed the status of the X-Ray and Radioactive Materials rulemaking.

X-Ray: §289.232 concerning radiation control regulations for dental radiation machines; draft rule has been reviewed by legal counsel and will soon be posted via our govdelivery email system and also be sent by direct email to TRAB members for a 30-day comment period.

RAM: The proposed rules will be presented at the May 24, 2018, Health and Human Services Council meeting

##### **B. Review/updating of older Advisories and Position Statements on the [Publications web page](#)**

No comments

##### **C. Radon in Texas**

Radon concerns are resolved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and this topic can be removed from the agenda.

#### **5. New Business:**

##### **A. Nuclear and Radiological Threats in Texas**

Mr. Free will send the radiation emergency drill schedule including other agencies involved to the TRAB members

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

- i. §289.251 concerning exemptions, general licenses, and general license acknowledgements
- ii. §289.252 concerning licensing of radioactive material
- iii. §289.253 concerning radiation safety requirements for well logging service operations and tracer studies
- iv. §289.256 concerning medical and veterinary use of radioactive material
- v. §289.257 concerning packaging and transportation of radioactive material

Mr. Hageman objected to §289.252, section I., page 9-11 proposed changes to disposal of extremely low levels of radioactive materials that would make DSHS incompatible with Low-Level Waste Disposal under 10 CFR 20.002. Ms. Westlund will investigate and see why the changes were made to the rule.

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

None

**D. 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**

Reduction of dose limits of radiation to the lens of the eye

**6. Public Comments**

No comments

**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**

None

**9. Adjourn**

Dr. Emery adjourned the meeting at 9:00 am.