

**TEXAS Department of State Health Services**

**Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, August 22, 2018  
9:00 a.m.**

**Dell Medical School, Health Discovery Building  
Room 1.208, First Floor Auditorium  
Austin, Texas 78712**

**Table 1:** Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders member attendance at the Wednesday, August 22, 2018 meeting.

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Mr. Byron Cordes	X		Dr. Char Hu	X	
Dr. Laura DeFina		X	Dr. Eddie L. Patton Jr.	X	
Dr. Marc Diamond	X		Dr. Mary Ellen Quiceno	X	
Mr. Joe A. Evans Jr.	X		Mr. Terrence Sommers	X	
Dr. Vaunette Fay	X		Ms. Valerie J. Krueger		X
Dr. Francisco Gonzalez-Scarano		X	Ms. Toni Packard		X
Ms. Ana Guerrero Gore	X		Vacant		X
Ms. Rita Hortenstine	X				

**Yes:** Indicates attended the meeting. **No:** Indicates did not attend the meeting. **P:** Indicates member participated by phone.

**Agenda Item 1: Call to Order**

Ms. Rita Hortenstine, Chair, called the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders (TCARD) meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

**Agenda Item 2: Introductions and Roll Call**

Ms. Hortenstine welcomed participants to the meeting, and asked members, staff and the public to introduce themselves. Ms. Francesca Kupper, Project Manager, Advisory Committee Coordination Office, Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), provided meeting logistics, called roll, and noted a quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 3: Council action on minutes from February 8, 2018, meeting**

Ms. Hortenstine referred members to the draft minutes from the February 8, 2018, meeting. Mr. Byron Cordes noted a correction on page 14 of the draft minutes.

**MOTION:**

Dr. Vaunette Fay moved to accept the minutes as amended. Dr. Marc Diamond seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote with no nays nor abstentions.

**Agenda Item 4: Council selection of Vice Chair**

Ms. Kupper explained Council Rule 801.1(b)(3) in Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code states that members of the Council will elect a Vice-Chair each year. Ms. Kupper noted the duty of the Vice-Chair is to perform the Chair’s duties when the Chair is unavailable, and

reviewed the duties of the Chair. Ms. Kupper described the procedure for electing the Vice-Chair.

Ms. Hortenstine called for a motion to adopt the procedure for electing the Vice Chair.

**MOTION:**

Dr. Eddie L. Patton, Jr., moved to adopt the procedure for electing the Vice Chair. Mr. Terrence Sommers seconded the motion. The procedure for electing the Vice Chair was unanimously adopted by voice vote with no nays nor abstentions.

Ms. Hortenstine called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Sommers nominated himself for the position of Vice Chair. Ms. Hortenstine called for the vote on Mr. Sommer's nomination. Mr. Sommers was unanimously elected to the position of Vice-Chair by voice vote with no nays nor abstentions.

**Agenda Item 5: Legal counsel overview of Council's statutory duties**

Ms. Nycia Deal, Deputy General Counsel, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), referred to the handout, "Health and Safety Code Title 2. Health Subtitle E. Health Care Councils and Resource Centers Chapter 101. Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders," and noted the legislation created the TCADR and its statutory duties. Ms. Deal advised members that the TCADR falls under the provisions of the Texas Public Information Act and asked members to notify her office when a request for information from the public is received so that DSHS may log it. Ms. Deal briefly discussed the Texas Open Meetings Act and the need for members to be aware of the quorum rules when meeting or corresponding through email. Ms. Deal spoke to the upcoming Texas legislative session, noting that while members have a right to speak with legislators as citizens, their role as an advisory council representative is to share information only. Ms. Deal invited members to contact her office with any questions.

**ACTION ITEM:**

- Ms. Deal will provide her contact information to Ms. Hortenstine, to share with the TCADR members.

**Agenda Item 6: C. Munro Cullum, Ph.D., Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium (TARCC) Research Grant Program, presentation of grant applications**

C. Munro Cullum, Ph.D., Scientific Director, Research Grant Program, Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium (TARCC), referenced the handouts on the TARCC Investigator Grant Program (IGP) and briefed members on the IGP grant submissions, review process and recommendations for funding. Dr. Cullum noted a total of 65 applications were received from nine Texas medical schools, and were reviewed by 33 leading experts in the field of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders based upon (their) area of expertise and focus of the application, with detailed multi-domain scoring in the style of a National Institute of Health review. Dr. Cullum explained applications were scored based upon scientific merit; programmatic relevance to the TARCC Request For Application (RFA); budgetary considerations; and, overall TARCC research goals. Dr. Cullum recommended the TCADR fund two collaborative grants for a total of \$2,557,375.00, and 11 single site-driven projects for a total of \$3,314,661.00, for an overall total funding allocation of \$5,872,036.00. Recommended grantees include:

- Longitudinal Continuation of TARCC Hispanic Cohort, \$2,117,376.00 (collaborative multi-site: University of Texas [UT] Southwestern Medical School; UT Health Science Center San Antonio; Texas Tech University Health Science Center; and, UT Dell Medical School).

- Assessing the utility and effectiveness of monitoring technology for reducing caregiver burden for Alzheimer’s Disease, \$439,999.00 (collaborative multi-site: Texas A&M University Health Science Center; University of North Texas [UNT] Health Science Center; and, UT Dell Medical School).
- Immune profile investigations of Alzheimer’s Disease, \$216,562.00 (UT Southwestern Medical School).
- Tau seeding and strain identification across the spectrum of Alzheimer’s Disease and Lewy Body pathology, \$208,068 (UT Southwestern Medical School).
- Diastolic dysfunction and the development of dementia, \$220,000.00 (UT Health Science Center at San Antonio).
- Blood biomarker for Alzheimer’s Disease & disease progression: Phospholipids, \$484,237.00 (UT Southwestern Medical School).
- Development of a blood test for Alzheimer’s disease diagnosis, \$220,000.00 (UT Health Science Center at Houston).
- Epigenetic risk factors for age at onset of Alzheimer’s & MCI and metabolic dysfunction among non-Caribbean Hispanics and non-Hispanic whites, \$710,804.00 (UNT Health Science Center).
- Establishing novel blood-based biomarkers for Alzheimer’s Disease in the Texas Alzheimer’s Research and Care Consortium, \$220,000.00 (UT Health Science Center at San Antonio).
- Brain targeted RNAi therapy for Alzheimer’s Disease, \$211,970.00 (UNT Health Science Center).
- Probing the role of glial endocytic genes and ROS on AB42-induced neurotoxicity, \$383,020.00 (Baylor College of Medicine).
- Stem cell-derived anti-inflammatory treatment for Alzheimer’s disease, \$220,000.00 (UT Health Science Center at Houston).
- Multi target combinatory therapy for Alzheimer’s Disease, \$220,000.00 (UT Medical Branch at Galveston).

Members discussed the possibility of expanding the original legislative grant funding mandate to include allied health care schools in the grant research program, and were provided a detailed description of the grant review and awards process. Dr. Cullum advised members that TARCC is currently planning a statewide Alzheimer’s and neurodegenerative disease symposium event next year. Dr. Patton noted the Texas Neurological Society sponsors a large biannual conference which could provide an opportunity to promote the TARCC planned event.

**Agenda Item 7: Council action on TARCC grant funding requests**

Ms. Hortenstine called for a motion to approve the grant funding request presented by Dr. Cullum in the amount of \$5,872,036.00 to support the thirteen Alzheimer’s Disease research grants recommended in Dr. Cullum’s presentation to the Council.

**MOTION:**

Dr. Patton moved to approve the grant funding request. Dr. Diamond seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote with no nays nor abstentions.

**Agenda Item 8: Public comment**

No public comment was offered.

**Agenda Item 9: Council action on Council’s 2018 Biennial Report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, and Legislature**

Ms. Hortenstine and Dr. Diamond provided members with background on the 2018 biennial report and the four broad recommendations developed by the former TCADR members. Ms. Carleigh Beaudoin, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention Branch, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Section, Community Health Improvement Division, DSHS, reviewed the four recommendations and supplemental descriptions provided by members for discussion. Members discussed several questions and concerns regarding the need to broaden the nature of the recommendations. Members reviewed and revised each recommendation. The final biennial report is due to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives and members of the Legislature by September 1, 2018. Ms. Hortenstine called for a motion to approve the revised 2018 biennial report.

**MOTION:**

Dr. Char Hu moved to approve the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Biennial Report 2018 with the additions and revised recommendations as discussed. Dr. Fay seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote with no nays and one abstention by Dr. Patton.

**Agenda Item 10: Announcements**

Ms. Hortenstine recognized Ms. Debbie Hanna, former TCADR chairperson, for her dedicated leadership over 20 years. Ms. Hortenstine noted Ms. Hanna had expanded the original two million dollars of funding for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders to over \$36 million, and under her leadership the TCADR had worked with DSHS to create one of the first state plans in the nation. Mr. Clint Hackney, on behalf of Texas Governor Gregg Abbott and First Lady Cecilia Abbott, presented Ms. Hanna with an appreciation plaque and proclamation noting her “Years of meritorious service to the State of Texas as chair of the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders 2005 - 2018.”

**Agenda Item 11: Adjourn**

Ms. Hortenstine thanked the participants and adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.