



TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

May 20, 2011 Board Meeting

Department of State Health Services, Exchange Building, Room S-125

8407 Wall Street, Austin, Texas

Scheduled to Convene at 10:30 a.m.

1. Call to order

John Hageman, C.H.P., Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. A quorum was present. Members present for the meeting: Stephen Harris; Kenneth Krieger; Robert Emery, Dr.P.H.; Bill Campbell; Kevin Raabe; Amy Clark; Mark Silberman, M.D.; Jay Murphy, P.E.; David Nichols, M.D.; and Ian Hamilton, Ph.D.

Members not present: Mitch Lucas, P.E.; Brad Bunn; Rosana G. Moreira, Ph.D.; Darlene Metter, M.D.; Ana Cleveland, Ph.D.; Nora Janjan, M.D., M.B.A., MPSA; and Melanie Marshall, D.D.S.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff present: Richard Ratliff, P.E.; Alice Rogers, P.E.; Barbara Taylor; Carolyn Wright; Robert Free; Shannon Edson; Monica Perez; Renee Clack; Lisa Bruedigan; Ruben Cortez; Jerry Cogburn and Chris Myers

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) staff present: Susan Jablonski

Texas Railroad Commission (RRC) staff present: David Cooney

2. Introduction of new member and guests

Guests present: Eddie Selig, Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas; Pete Myers, South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society; Roger Mulder, State of Texas, Energy Conservation Office; and Ellen Anderson, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI).

3. Approval of the February 25, 2011 meeting minutes

Mr. Raabe made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Hamilton seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

4. **Committee Reports**

A. Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee

Mr. Raabe briefed the board on the committee's report on radium in the drinking water of Houston. Dr. Hamilton stated that he planned to write an Advisory Paper that would be one page in length. The paper would be ready for distribution at a June 23 TCEQ public meeting. Mr. Krieger made a motion that an advisory paper be written on this subject. Dr. Hamilton seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

(i) Synopsis of the status of the nuclear power plant events in Japan and lessons learned for US power reactors, Ellen Anderson, M.S. - Senior Project Manager in Radiation Safety and Environmental Protection for the Nuclear Energy Institute

Ellen Anderson made a brief presentation on the nuclear power plant events in Japan. Ms. Anderson shared photos of the damage to the Fukushima power plant.

(ii) Brief report to the TRAB members on the NRC's meeting (Houston, Nov. 8-9) on potential changes to the radiation protection regulations and guidance based on International Commission on Radiological Protection's (ICRP's) recommendations

Mr. Murphy discussed the new radiation protection regulations that the NRC is considering. These new standards would lower occupational dose limits from 5 rems per year to 2 rems per year. Ms. Anderson, Mr. Cortez, and Mr. Hageman discussed the possibilities of this change happening in the future.

B. Medical Committee

(i) 289.227 Rules, Draft 5: Report from the April 26, 2011, Medical Committee's meeting and teleconference

Dr. Silberman discussed the comments the committee had on the rule.

(ii) Consideration of the following proposed rules:

§289.230 - Certification of Mammography Systems and Mammography Machines used for Interventional Breast Radiography

§289.234 - Mammography Accreditation

Dr. Silberman made a motion that the §289.230 and §289.234 rules move forward as written. Dr. Emery seconded the motion and the board unanimously voted that the rules move forward in the rulemaking process.

5. **Program reports**

A. Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

Mr. Cooney briefed the board on the status of the memorandum of understanding with DSHS. Mr. Cooney discussed the recent concern of radiation from shale gas drilling.

B. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

Ms. Jablonski discussed recent legislation that affects TCEQ. Ms. Jablonski discussed the TCEQ Sunset Review.

C. Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Mr. Ratliff discussed the CRCPD conference that was held in Austin.

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

No report was given.

E. Roger Mulder - US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) State Liaison Officer

Mr. Mulder had slides available from the NRC response to Fukushima.

6. New Business

A. Brief report on response and monitoring in event of nuclear emergency in Texas, DSHS ready to respond in event of nuclear emergency in Texas, DSHS and Mitch Lucas (May be deferred until the next TRAB meeting)

This agenda item was deferred to the next TRAB meeting.

B. Standard Format of the Three Department Reports presented to the TRAB

The board members are satisfied with the format of the agency reports.

C. Comments on the draft of the TRAB's Annual Report to Commissioner Lakey

Mr. Murphy, Mr. Krieger, and Mr. Hageman discussed the format of the report. Mr. Raabe made a motion to submit the annual report. Ms. Clark seconded the motion and the board unanimously voted to submit the report.

7. Public Comments

None

8. Future Meetings Discussion

August 19 and August 26 were discussed as possible meeting dates.

9. Adjourn

Mr. Hageman adjourned the meeting at 12:23 p.m.