



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

## **TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

Friday, January 31, 2025  
Scheduled to Convene at 10:45 a.m.

### **1. Call to order**

William Pate, DrPH, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. A quorum was present.

### **2. Roll call of TRAB members present.**

Members present: Roland Benke; David Dutton, DVM; Mark Harvey, PhD; Sam Kannappan; Darlene Metter, M.D.; Sanjay Narayan; William Pate, DrPH; Ken Peters; Suresh Pillai, PhD; Tim Powell; Bob Redweik; Jeannette Ruiz, M.D.; Darshan Sachde, PhD; and Simon Trubek, MD

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) staff present: Joann Harthcock, Gem Naivar, Walquiria Sanchez, Jason Callahan, Karl Von Ahn, Brian Vamvakias, Kaylie Smith, Jay Pavlkica

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) staff present: Bobby, Janecka, Ashley Forbes, Chance Goodin, Krista Kyle, Hunter Simmons, and Nick Pilcher

Railroad Commission: Adrian Charles, Christine Peters, and Betsy Peticolas

Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission: Steven Raines

Waste Control Specialists: David Carlson

Advocates for Responsible Disposal in Texas: Eddie Selig

Guests: Derick Haus, UT Austin; Kandasamy Vijayan, member of the public

### **3. Review, discuss, and take possible action concerning amendment and approval of the October 25, 2024 meeting minutes**

Dr. Metter motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Peters seconded the motion. All approved.

### **4. Public Comments**

None.

### **5. TRAB Committee Reports and Recommendations**

#### **A. Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium and Waste Committee**

Mr. Peters provided an overview of the INUW Committee meeting. The committee suggested that Bob Emery, who is a former TRAB member, be invited to speak on advanced reactor technology and health physics needs.

#### **B. Medical Committee**

Dr. Metter provided an overview of the Medical Committee meeting.

#### **C. Topic Research Committee**

Dr. Sachde provided an overview of the Topic Research Committee meeting.

### **6. Program Reports**

#### **A. Railroad Commission of Texas**

Christine Peters discussed the program report and gave some updates.

#### **B. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

Ashley Forbes discussed the program report and gave some updates.

#### **C. Texas Department of State Health Services**

Joann Harthcock discussed the program report. She mentioned that there will be a correction made to the inspection data in the report.

#### **D. Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission (TLLRWDCC)**

Stephen Raines discussed the program report.

#### **E. Waste Control Specialists (WCS)**

Dave Carlson gave a report from WCS.

#### **F. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) – TCEQ Commissioner Bobby Janecka, State Liaison Officer**

Commissioner Janecka gave updates on the NRC.

## **7. Routine and Continuing Business**

### **A. Recognition of TRAB members' excused absence from this meeting**

Michael Britt, Joseph Markham, Lisa Masters, Sandra Ramirez, and Kevin Raabe requested an excuse for absence from this meeting. Dr. Metter motioned to approve these absences. Dr. Pillai seconded the motion. All approved.

### **B. Update of DSHS Rules**

- i) X-Ray (Major Revision): 25 TAC §289.229 – This updated rule became effective on September 30, 2024. It will be enforced starting on April 1, 2025.
- ii) Laser (Major Revision): 25 TAC §289.301 – This rule has been completed and published. It became effective on December 17, 2024. It will be enforced beginning on June 1, 2025.
- iii) RAM (Minor Updates for NRC Compatibility): 25 TAC §289.201, §289.202, §289.252, §289.253, §289.255, §289.256, §289.257, and §289.258

Mr. Vamvakias gave updates on these rule revisions, which were included in the DSHS report.

## **8. New Business**

### **A. Update on Molybdenum-99 and Xenon shortages**

Mr. Von Ahn gave an update on this topic.

### **B. Update on the Texas Advanced Nuclear Reactor Working Group Report**

Dr. Derek Haas gave an update on this report.

### **C. Presentation on Theranostics**

Dr. Akram Hussein gave a presentation on this topic.

### **D. Presentation on the status of the molten salt reactor project at Abilene Christian University**

Dr. Lester Towell gave a presentation on this topic

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

- Update on the legislative session
- Presentation by Dr. Bob Emery on advanced reactor technology and health physics needs

## **10. Adjourn**

Dr. Metter motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion. All agreed. Dr. Pate adjourned the meeting at 12:09 pm.