



**TEXAS RADIATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**  
TOPIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Friday, January 31, 2025  
Scheduled to convene at 8:30 a.m.

**1. Call to Order**

Darshan Sachde, PhD, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

**2. Roll call of committee members present.**

Members present: Mark Harvey, PhD; Sam Kannappan; William Pate, DrPH; Tim Powell; and Darshan Sachde, PhD

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

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

Guests present: David Carlson, Waste Control Specialists; and Luke Cogburn, Texas Division of Emergency Management

**3. Review, discuss, and take possible action concerning the amendment and approval of the TRAB Topic Research Committee meeting minutes for October 25, 2024.**

Dr. Pate mentioned that Item 1 needed to be corrected from DrPH to PhD for Darshan Sachde. Dr. Harvey mentioned the word Chair was misspelled in Item 6B. Dr. Pate moved to approve the minutes with the corrections. Mr. Powell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**4. Public Comments**

None

**5. Routine and Continuing Business**

**A. Review and development of TRAB position statements**

No Updates.

**B. Review of DSHS Rule Changes**

Brian Vamvakias gave updates on DSHS rule changes.

## **6. New Business:**

### **A. Review Texas Advanced Nuclear Reactor Working Group Report**

The report was discussed. It was decided to keep this item on the agenda and continue to consider it as we move through the legislative session.

### **B. Identify topics to recommend for further discussion and to be addressed at future meetings of the Topic Research Committee; Medical Committee; Industrial, Nuclear Power, Uranium, and Waste (INUW) Committee; or TRAB**

- Recommend to the Full Board to have a guest speaker come to speak on the needs of Health Physicists for the upcoming small modular reactor influx. Dr. Harvey has a colleague who would speak on this topic. Dr. Sachde made a motion to recommend having a speaker present this topic to the Full TRAB. Dr. Pate seconded the motion. All agreed.

## **7. Summarize the TRAB Topic Research Committee meeting and recommendations for the Committee Report and proposed action items for TRAB or future agenda items for TRAB, the Medical Committee, the Topic Research Committee, or the INUW Committee**

Dr. Sachde summarized the topics covered in this meeting.

## **8. Adjourn**

Dr. Harvey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kannapan seconded this motion. Dr. Sachde adjourned the meeting at 8:56 a.m.