

**FINAL MINUTES
TOXIC SUBSTANCES COORDINATING COMMITTEE
(TSCC)**

**June 23, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Room M-653
Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
1100 West 49th Street
Austin, Texas 78756**

1. Call to order and welcome visitors – Heidi Bojes

Attendees present: Heidi Bojes (DSHS), Natalie Archer (DSHS), Deba Dutta (DSHS), Joseph Haney (DSHS), Amanda Kindt (DSHS), Tracie Phillips (TCEQ), Michael Tennant (DSHS), David Villarreal(DSHS), Thandi Ziqubu-Page (DSHS) and Tina Williams (DSHS)

Visitors: Beth Patterson (DSHS) and Versa Burnett (DSHS)

2. Approval of minutes: March 17, 2015, December 16, 2014, September 16, 2014 and June 17, 2014 meetings were approved with corrections.

3. Presenter - Natalie Archer, MS, Epidemiologist, Environmental and Injury Epidemiology and Toxicology Unit, Texas Department of State Health Services

Topic: *“Evaluating Genetic Mechanisms for Risk of Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Among Hispanics”.*

4. Subcommittee reports:

- a. **Harmful Algal Bloom workgroup meeting update** – (Alex Nunez was not present). Mike Tennant noted that a small group is working on a response plan. The group hasn't met since the last meeting.
- b. **Fish Sampling Subcommittee meeting update** – (Mike Tennant)
 - Suspended meeting of subcommittee Parks and Wildlife
 - Nothing has been finalized, draft characterizations
 - Trinity River – SH 31 East of Corsicana looked
 - Looked at every down stream of Lake Livingston near US HWY 90
 - Re-evaluated Advisory's – still in draft TMBL fish grant.
 - ROK Assessments in review – waiting on data from the Dallas Fort Worth area
 - Re-evaluation has been postponed to a later date to be determined
 - Collecting samples from Mountain Lake this fall
- c. **The Environmental Health and Toxicology Workgroup update** – (Carrie Bradford not present).

- Proposal – No longer have regular meetings of the TSCC-EHT Workgroup but use it as a forum and call meetings as needed to discuss topics.
- Group agreed.
- Mike Tennant mentioned that the hock value fish advisory is investigating different contaminants and created a work group that will be focusing on New York.

5. Agency updates

TDA:

- New Commissioner – Sid Miller
- Endangered species is becoming more of an issue
- Fracking has become an issue with muscles
- Chemicals have become an issue for butterflies
- Pollenators have become a big issue - bees are still on the radar
- Texas Restore Act Advisory Board has funding available

Texas Parks and Wildlife: (not present)

DSHS: no bills that affect the program (Mike Tennant)

DSHS HAT Group:

- The cancer cluster investigation for east Harris County is are still being reviewed.

Railroad Commission of Texas: (Amanda Kindt)

- Paper published in regards to Tracking and Earthquakes – webcast available online
- Hazel, TX notes on from page of RRC webpage
- Monitoring hydrocarbons that may be spilling into the rivers
- Tank batteries have been struck by lightening
- Bill Renfro retired at the end of May
- PE or PG will start interviewing next week
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TCEQ: (Joseph Haney)

- Finalized DSD: Hexamethylenediamine (HMDA)
- Public Comment period open until July 17th on:
- TCEQ Guidelines to Develop Toxicity Factors (revision)
- Approaches to Derive Odor –Based Values
- Proposed crotonaldehyde (cis and trans) DSD
- Proposed monoethanolamine DSD
- Proposed trimethylbenzenes DSD
- Proposed vinyl acetate DSD

6. Public comment:

7. Approval of upcoming meetings:

2015 TSCC Meetings and locations

September 15, 2015 – DSHS, T-607, 10:00 – 11:30 am

December 17, 2015 – DSHS, T-607, 10:00 – 11:30 am

8. Adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

TSCC Mission:

Our mission is to protect and promote the health of the people of Texas through the prevention and control of adverse health effects related to toxic substances and harmful physical agents. This is accomplished through interagency coordination of regulation development, health risk assessments, cooperative studies, information dissemination, and public education efforts.