

**Texas Statewide Health Coordinating Council  
Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday, August 9, 2023  
9:00 a.m.**

**Location: Department of State Health Services, 1100 West 49th Street, Moreton  
Building, Austin, Texas, 78756, Room K-100**

**Teleconference from: [https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting\\_YjM2MmQ0NjctYWU2Zi00YmVmLWExMmMtN2NmYmlzNzU1ZGM1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%229bf97732-82b9-499b-b16a-a93e8ebd536b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22fe5cb71f-5b48-4b61-a496-4e4504a5786c%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_YjM2MmQ0NjctYWU2Zi00YmVmLWExMmMtN2NmYmlzNzU1ZGM1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%229bf97732-82b9-499b-b16a-a93e8ebd536b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22fe5cb71f-5b48-4b61-a496-4e4504a5786c%22%7d)**

Call-in Number: 1-512-580-4366

Access Code: 359321484#

**Members Attending**

Angel Angco-Barrera, MBA, BSN, RN  
Serena Bumpus, DNP, RN, NEA-BC  
April Ernst, MSN, RN, CNE  
Lula Pelayo, PhD, RN, FAAN  
Cora Rabe, DNP, CRNA  
Susan Ruppert (Co-Chair), PhD, APRN, FNP-C, ANP-BC, FNAP, FCCM, FAANP, FAAN  
Rena Schumann, PhD, RN, CNE  
Lisa Taylor, PhD, RN, CNS, FNP  
Katherine Thomas, MSN, RN, FAAN  
Remy Tolentino, MSN, RN, NEA-BC  
Grace Werckle, BSN, RN  
Sally Harper Williams (Left at 10:00 AM)  
Linda H. Yoder, PhD, MBA, RN, AOCN, FAAN

**Members Absent**

Diana Dolan, PhD, CNML, RN  
Sheila Fata, MBA, BSN  
Cheryl L. Johnson, RN, MSN, CDP, CADDCT  
Karen Kendrick, MSN, RN, CPHQ  
Elizabeth Mayer, M.P.Aff.  
Tamara Rhodes (Co-Chair), MSN, RN  
Linda Rounds, PhD, RN, FNP, FAANP, FAAN

**Public Present**

Kristin Benton  
Lyn McCright  
Elizabeth Merwin  
Rebecca Stokes  
Teresa Walding

**Staff Present**

Lisette Curry, Ph.D.  
Kayla Davis, MS  
Kristina Juarez, MPH  
Pam Lauer, MPH  
Cheyenne Neese, MPH

TCNWS Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes August 9, 2023

<p><b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b></p>	<p>Dr. Ruppert called the meeting to order at 9 a.m., and welcomed the committee members, staff, and guests present, who introduced themselves. Dr. Ruppert announced that the meeting would be recorded as required by the Administrative Procedures Act and the Open Meetings Act, and that members should state their name for the record when making motions.</p>
<p><b>2. Establish Quorum and Approval of Excused Absences</b></p>	<p>With over 50% of members present, a quorum was established.</p> <p>Diana Dolan, Sheila Fata, Cheryl Johnson, Karen Kendrick, Elizabeth Mayer, Tamara Rhodes, and Linda Rounds requested excused absences.</p> <p>A motion to approve excused absences was made by Kathy Thomas and seconded by Remy Tolentino. The motion carried.</p>
<p><b>3. Review of August 9, 2023, Agenda</b></p>	<p>The agenda was not reordered.</p>
<p><b>4A. Minutes of the March 1, 2023 Meeting</b></p>	<p>No revisions were requested for the March 1, 2023, meeting minutes.</p> <p>A motion to approve the minutes was made by Serena Bumpus and seconded by Sally Williams. The motion carried.</p>
<p><b>4B. Organizational Updates</b></p>	<p>Serena Bumpus gave an update on behalf of the Texas Nurses Association:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serena Bumpus reviewed several bills that passed during the Texas 88<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session. These bills included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SB 25 which relates to support for nursing education programs including scholarships for students, loan repayment assistance, and grants for nursing education programs.</li> <li>○ SB 240 which relates to workplace violence prevention and creates a comprehensive approach that requires facilities to establish committees, policies, plans, responses, and enforcement.</li> <li>○ SB 840 which enhances the penalty for assault of health care professionals including nurses.</li> <li>○ SB 294 which relates to the use of auto-injectors and medication designated for treatment of respiratory illness and distress and allows for school nurses to maintain, administer, and dispose of such medications.</li> <li>○ HB 3162 which relates to the Advanced Directive Act .</li> <li>○ SB 1343 which relates to the number of positions on the Board of Nursing and expands the positions from 13 to 15 including the addition of an APRN.</li> <li>○ HB 12 which expands Medicaid coverage for women following pregnancy from 2-12 months.</li> <li>○ SB 629 which relates to the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonists on school campuses and the permissible uses of funds appropriate to state agencies from the abatement account.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• TNA will be hosting a student nurse policy summit in November.</li> </ul>

TCNWS Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes August 9, 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TNA is conducting a workshop in October: “The Nuts an Bolts of Nursing Leadership for Charge Nurses, Emerging Leaders, Team Leads, and Clinic.”</li> <li>• The 2024 Annual Conference will be held in San Antonio on May 30 – June 1st, 2024.</li> </ul> <p>Kathy Thomas gave an update on behalf of the Texas Board of Nursing which included information on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathy Thomas is retiring August 31, 2023 and Kristin Benton will be the new executive for</li> <li>• The BON is continuing Operation Nightingale. There are updates available on that page. The attorney general will help with trying the cases due to the large volume.</li> <li>• Kathy also covered some bills that passed and impact nursing including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HB 4123 which relates to criminal history record information.</li> <li>○ SB 1343 which expands the number of members on the Board from 13-15. It adds an APRN to the Board.</li> <li>○ SB 1429 which relates to standardized exams and how they are used by schools of nursing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Updates from Karen Kendrick from the Texas Hospital Association and Elizabeth Meyer from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board were provided via email to all advisory committee members.</p>
<p><b>4C. TCNWS Update</b></p>	<p>Pam Lauer provided an update on The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce’s current activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing: Kayla Davis was promoted to team lead, leaving a vacancy for a Research Specialist 4. Our Research Specialist 3 position was vacated and then had to be given up due to funding limitations.</li> <li>• Nursing Education Program Information Survey for 2023 is being updated. Data will be collected in October.</li> <li>• The School Nurse Survey is ready to go to print and will be distributed in October.</li> <li>• Individual Survey of Nurses related to Workplace Violence has been updated and will be distributed in January of 2024.</li> <li>• Staff have been working on 2020-2022 nurse supply numbers from licensure data. Once the data is finalized the dashboards, supply tables, and demographics and trends reports will be updated.</li> <li>• Employer nurse staffing studies will be updated and distributed in Spring 2024. Staff will reconvene the employer nurse staffing study taskforces in October 2023.</li> <li>• The Workplace Violence Against Nurses Grant Program will be publishing a new RFA in the coming months. Current grantees have until February 2024 to implement their projects and presentations on those projects are likely to be scheduled in April of 2024.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4D. September 2023-August 2025</b></p>	<p>Pam Lauer presented the September 2023-August 2025 Operations plan:</p>

<p><b>Operations Plan</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking Newly Licensed Nurses and Tracking APRNs was not completed in the last biennium but can be moved to this biennium.</li> <li>Pam asked for any feedback on adding ambulatory surgical centers and freestanding emergency medical centers to the nurse employer survey.</li> <li>Sally Williams asked if TCNWS could still analyze data for these two employers separately. Pam confirmed that yes it would be analyzed separately.</li> <li>Remy Tolentino moved to include the two tracking projects and exclude the addition of ambulatory surgical centers and freestanding emergency medical centers from the nurse employer surveys. This was seconded by Serena Bumpus. The motion carried.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4E. 2020-2022 Nurse Supply Numbers</b></p>	<p>Cheyenne Neese presented the 2020-2022 nurse supply numbers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Variable categories have changed due to the BON using a new data collection system. The variables that have changed include: employment status, employment setting, and highest degree.</li> <li>Cheyenne reviewed the new proposed method for counting active nurses in Texas.</li> <li>The LVN supply numbers for 2022 were presented.</li> <li>Cheyenne asked for any feedback. Kathy Thomas mentioned that during covid there was a waiver given by the governor that could be accounting for some of the difference in the numbers.</li> <li>Cheyenne went over the demographics for LVNs as well as the employment status and highest degree in 2022 in comparison to the 2017 numbers.</li> <li>The RN supply numbers were reviewed next. Cheyenne asked for feedback regarding the RN supply numbers. No feedback was given.</li> <li>Cheyenne went over the demographics for RNs as well as the employment status and highest degree in 2022 in comparison to the 2017 numbers.</li> <li>The APRN supply numbers were reviewed next. Cheyenne asked for feedback regarding the APRN supply numbers. Angel asked if there was anyway to indicate APRNs that are working as RNs. Cheyenne answered that there was not a way to indicate that.</li> <li>Pam Lauer stated that these are the numbers that the TCNWS will be moving forward with as well as moving forward with the new method for counting nurses.</li> <li>Susan Rupert asked if APRNs are also broken down by subtype. Cheyenne replied that those numbers are broken down as well.</li> <li>Cheyenne went over the demographics for APRNs as well as the employment status and highest degree in 2022 in comparison to the 2017 numbers.</li> <li>Susan Rupert asked if these slides can be shared with the committee members.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4F. Workforce Visualizations</b></p>	<p>Kayla Davis gave an update on a nursing workforce visualization project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nursing workforce visualizations started about two years ago as a collaboration between TCNWS and the Health Professions Resource Center.</li> </ul>

TCNWS Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes August 9, 2023

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<p><b>5. Public Comment</b></p>	<p>Dr. Ruppert opened the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Teresa Walding thanked the committee and asked everyone to be kind to themselves.</p> <p>Lyn McCright provided excerpts from poems Teresa Walding has written.</p> <p>There were no other comments from the public.</p>
<p><b>6. Adjourn</b></p>	<p>Dr. Ruppert called the meeting adjourned at 10:18 A.M.</p>