

**Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 5, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted virtually using Microsoft Teams only. There was not a physical location for this meeting.

Table 1: Texas Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Review Committee attendance Friday, March 5, 2021 meeting.

MEMBER NAME	IN ATTENDANCE
Ms. Nancy Sheppard- Alderman	No
Dr. Eumenia Castro	Yes
Dr. Meitra Doty	Yes
Dr. Kelly Fegan-Bohm	Yes
Dr. Pamala Gessling	Yes
Dr. Manda Hall	Yes
Dr. Lisa Hollier	Yes
Dr. James Maher	No
Dr. K. Kimberley Molina	No
Dr. Sherri Onyiego	No
Dr. Carla Ortique	Yes
Dr. Lavannya Pandit	No
Dr. Amy Raines-Milenkov	Yes
Dr. Christina Murphey	No
Dr. Patrick Ramsey	Yes
Ms. Nancy Jo Reedy	Yes
VACANT	

Agenda Item 1 and 2: Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions and Determination of Quorum

Dr. Lisa Hollier, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Hollier thanked all members of the review committee for their dedication and time during the pandemic and the most recent winter storm event. Dr. Hollier turned the floor over to Mr. John Chacón, HHSC, Advisory Committee Coordination Office. Mr. Chacón read logistical announcements, called roll, and asked the members to provide a brief introduction, providing their name, profession/organization and location, and determined a quorum was not present. Dr. Hollier, Chair, proceeded with agenda item #4 until a quorum could be established to take action on agenda item #3 regarding the December 11, 2021 meeting minutes and agenda item #5 regarding the MMMRC Bylaws.

Agenda Item 4: Subcommittee on Maternal Health Disparities Update

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Dr. Carla Ortique to provide the subcommittee update.

Highlights included:

- Met on January 12, 2021 to discuss activities and goals of the Subcommittee.
- Discussed additional goals of the Subcommittee including review of potential impact of rural vs. urban settings on racial and ethnic inequities in maternal death outcomes.
- Anticipate that the number of reviewed cases will be large enough to begin to provide statistically significant data regarding potential cause-specific differences based on socio-economic status or race.
- The Discrimination Assessment and Social Determinants of Health (DASH) Facilitated Discussion Tool along with a technical guide, created in partnership with the MMMRC and Department of State Health Services (DSHS), has been finalized. The pilot to evaluate the DASH Tool will begin after final IRB approval.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of December 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Chacón announced that a quorum was present with ten members. Mr. Chacón noted members received a copy of the December 11, 2020 meeting minutes in their electronic packet. Mr. Chacón requested a motion.

MOTION:

Dr. Patrick Ramsey made the motion to approve the December 11, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Dr. Carla Ortique seconded the motion. Mr. Chacón conducted a roll call vote, and the motion passed unanimously with ten approves, no disapproves, and no abstentions.

Agenda Item 5: Approval of Bylaws

Dr. Hollier, Chair, noted members received a copy of the Draft MMMRC Bylaws in their electronic packet. Dr. Hollier asked for any edits or necessary changes and hearing none, requested a motion.

MOTION:

Ms. Nancy Jo Reedy made the motion to approve the MMMRC Bylaws as presented. Dr. Carla Ortique seconded the motion. Mr. Chacón conducted a roll call vote, and the motion passed unanimously with ten approves, no disapproves, and no abstentions.

Agenda Item 6: Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee Operational Updates

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Mr. Jeremy Triplett, DSHS, Maternal and Child Health Section Director & Ms. Julie Stagg MSN, RN, IBCLC, RLC, DSHS, Healthy Texas Mothers and Babies Branch Manager, to provide the updates.

Highlights included:

- The Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance to Eliminate Maternal Mortality (ERASE MM) Program Grant awards DSHS \$600,000 a year and four full-time employees to enhance the efforts of the Review Committee and enter standardized data into the CDC's Maternal Mortality Review Information Application (MMRIA) database system. This system allows CDC to see maternal mortality review data from across the nation. We are meeting all of the requirements of the grant and are preparing the renewal application for Year 3.
- The application deadline for open vacancies for the MMMRC including a physician specializing in obstetrics and maternal fetal medicine, medical examiner, community advocate, certified nurse midwife and registered nurse has been expanded to March 5, 2021.
- Today we have 14 cases prepared to review in the Closed session.
- The 87th session of the Texas Legislature opened on January 12, 2021. DSHS Governmental Affairs staff have been reviewing bills that may have an impact on our agency. As of March 5, DSHS is tracking 367 bills, 69 have been assigned Community Health Improvement Division for further analysis. DSHS will present on any bills that have been filed and executed during the June meeting. MMMRC members are free to participate in legislative advocacy during the session as long as they represent themselves and not on behalf of the MMMRC or DSHS without prior authorization from DSHS.
- Mr. Triplett thanked DSHS staff for assisting in identifying and preparing these cases for review and the colleagues at UNTHSC who redact, abstract and enter data into MMRIA, and the MMMRC members for their recommendations.

Agenda Item 7: Senate Bill 748: Prenatal and Postpartum Depression Screening and Treatment Data

Dr. Hollier introduced and turned the floor over to Ms. Meagan Guilfoyle, PhD, DSHS, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Research Specialist & Ms. Anna Sirugo, MPH, DSHS, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Research Specialist, to present to the committee and referenced a PowerPoint titled "Senate Bill 748: Prenatal and Postpartum Depression Screening and Treatment Data".

Highlights included:

- An overview of Senate Bill 748 was provided.
- An explanation and review of the study period, population, and data collected.
- The bill directed the collection of data on 15 points related to depression screenings, treatment and claims.

Agenda Item 8: Future Agenda Items

Dr. Hollier opened discussion for new business and potential agenda items for the June 4, 2021 meeting.

Members discussed:

- No future items discussed by members.

Agenda Item 9: Public Comment

No written public comment was received.

Agenda Item 10: Executive Session

Dr. Hollier read the legislation allowing the Review Committee to move into a closed executive session at 10:07 a.m. Mr. Chacón announced to members of the public that this concluded the open meeting for the morning and the public was informed that the review committee would return later in the afternoon to open the closed session and then adjourn.

Agenda Item 11: Open Session & Adjournment

Dr. Hollier opened the MMMRC meeting at 2:03 pm and hearing no new business, adjourned at 2:03 pm.

Below is the link to the archived video of the March 5, 2021 Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee (MMMRC) that will be available for viewing approx. two years from date meeting was posted on website and based on the DSHS records retention schedule.

[Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee \(MMMRC\) Agenda](#)