

**Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke
Meeting Minutes**

**Friday, November 13, 2020
1:00 p.m.**

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

Following table represents member attendance at the Texas Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Council meeting held November 13, 2020.

Member Name	In Attendance
J. Neal Rutledge, MD (Vice Chair)	Yes
Samantha Kersey	yes
Suzanne Hildebrand (Chair)	Yes
Stanley Duchman, MD	No
E'Loria Simon-Campbell, PhD	Yes
Sherron D. Meeks, RN, PhD	Yes
Shilpa Shamapant	No
Harry "Kyle" Sheets, MD	Yes
Maricella "Marcie" Gonzalez Wilson, RN	Yes
Janet Hall Hewlett, RD, LD	No
Elie Balesh, MD	Yes
NON-VOTING MEMBERS	
HHSC - Chelsea Couch	Yes
DSHS - Kelly Fegan-Bohm, MD	Yes
TWC - Karen Brajcki	Yes

"Yes" indicates attended the meeting. "No" indicates did not attend the meeting.

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

The Texas Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Council (CVDS Council) meeting was convened at 1:02 p.m. by Ms. Suzanne Hildebrand, Council Chair, and she welcomed members, staff and public.

Agenda Item 2: Welcome, Roll Call, Introductions, Opening Remarks

Ms. Hildebrand introduced Ms. Sallie Allen, Advisory Committee Coordination Office, HHSC. Ms. Allen provided logistics, conducted a roll call, instructed members to introduce themselves and noted a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of August 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Hildebrand requested a motion to accept the August 19, 2020 meeting minutes.

MOTION:

Ms. Sharon Meeks moved to accept the August 19, 2020 minutes. Ms. Marcie Gonzalez Wilson seconded the motion. Ms. Allen conducted a roll call vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Approval of 2021 Council Meeting Dates

Ms. Hildebrand advised members of the following confirmed meeting dates for 2021:

- February 12, 2021
- May 14, 2021
- August 13, 2021
- November 12, 2021

Meetings will begin at 1:00 p.m. and the location (in person or virtual) will depend on the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Agenda Item 5: Planning for Representation and Guidelines for the 87th Legislative Session

Ms. Jessica Hyde, DSHS, provided following highlights:

- It is the charge of the Tx CVDS Council to make recommendations to the Legislature.
- Council members face the same restrictions on lobbying as State employees.
- Members can exercise their rights as a private citizen however they may not do so on behalf of the Council or DSHS.
- The Government Affairs Office is drafting additional guidance in the near future.

Agenda Item 6: Chronic Care Workgroup and Stroke Survivors and Caregivers conference

Ms. Hildebrand has been in contact with Dr. Savitz, SETRAC, and discussed the possibility of hosting a virtual conference in Houston in late spring of 2021. Topic of interest is the impact of COVID-19 across the state.

Agenda Item 7: Agency Representative Reports

Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Report

Ms. Jessica Hyde, DSHS, presented the following highlights:

- Submitted Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) for 2022-2023 on October 9, 2020.
- Budget reflex a 5% reduction in State funding.
- Reduction represents approximately \$600,000 for the bi-annium.
- Final budget will be out in May 2021.
- Bill prefilng opened November 9, 2020
- Program updates include Heart Disease and Stroke Program which is collaborative with American Heart Association, American Medical Association, and the Texas Cardiovascular Partnership to encourage population monitoring of hypertension control rates.
- COVID-19 has created a shift from the summit to webinar programs. Links can be found at: [DSHS.texas.gov/heart](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/heart).
- Texas is one of 5 States chosen to participate in the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors of Medication Therapy Management Learning Collaborative to increase the State capacity to engage with payors, pharmacy managers, and prescribers toward best practices for hypertension and cholesterol management in a pharmacy setting.
- Heart Disease and Stroke Program is working with YMCA and local Public Health to expand self-measured blood pressure monitoring.

Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Report

Ms. Chelsea Couch, HHSC, provided the following highlights:

The Agency Coordination Office initiatives are:

- Aging – to engage in health lifestyles.
- SnapEd – 12-week nutrition initiative in older adults' campaign.
- Intergeneration healthy activity workgroups.
- COVID – highlighted need for engagement and connection for older adults, through Know your Neighbor campaign.
- Commission will share SnapEd data at next meeting.
- StarPlus Medicaid managed care program to be completed by September 1, 2023.

Ms. Karen Brajcki is the new agency representative for the Texas Workforce Commission. The council will contact Ms. Brajcki about topics and questions for the next meeting.

Agenda Item 8: Liaison Reports

a) Office of Acquired Brain Injury

Dr. Carrie Bradford provided the following highlights:

- OABI is the center of awareness and education on brain injuries in Texas
- Connects people to resources and services and raises awareness to prevent brain injuries.
- Provides support to the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council (TBIAC).

Two new educational fact sheets are available on the website:

- Falls Prevention Fact Sheet
- Brain Injury Myths and Facts Fact Sheet

Social Media Awareness Messaging

- Stroke Awareness Month (May)
- Concussion Awareness Day (September 18)
- Falls Prevention Week (September 21-25)
- World Stroke Day (October 29)

Currently participating in 2 Technical Assistant grants.

- OABI and Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services (CRS) program – Brain Injury Learning Collaborative (joining 14 other States).
- Technical assistance from National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems (NCAPPS),
- Best practices and strategies from other States to enhance person-centered thinking, planning, and practices for persons with brain injury.

Goals of the Collaborative.

- Develop person-centered training for persons with a brain injury and those who support them.
- Develop a peer mentor model for people with a brain injury.
- Ensure service delivery including assessments and treatment plans.
- Update the brain injury resource guide to ensure person-centered language.

Attended the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators Virtual Conference in September.

- 9 staff members and 3 TBIAC members attended.
- Hosted a virtual exhibit table to share educational materials.

- Hosted a virtual hospitality room along with Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and Administration For Community Living (ACL).
- Discussed the intersection of brain injury, mental health, substance abuse, and peer support.

Role of Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council (TBIAC)

- Addresses strategic planning, policy, rules and services related to preventing brain injury.
- Recommends best practices for rehabilitation, long term services and supports for people who have experienced brain injuries to improve their quality of life and the ability to function independently in the home and community.

TBIAC Update

- Administrative rules were amended in June to extend the Council to July 2024.
- Six people were appointed in July. (Five new members and one reappointed member).
- Membership terms for five members will expire in December.
- Approved the Annual Report to HHS Executive Commissioner.
- Approved Biennial Report to the Texas Legislature.
- Subscribe to OABI to receive updates on program and council events and activities: <https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXHHSC/subscriber/new>

b) Governors EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC)

Catherine Bissell, GETAC, Cardiac Care Committee (CCC) provided the following highlights:

- CCC developed "Statement of Purpose". As heart disease is the leading cause of death in Texas, the purpose of GETAC is to strive for improved cardiac wellness through impactful community education, health promotion and outreach, evidenced based system improvements and robust data collection.
- A motion was made for GETAC to encourage DSHS to continue its efforts to educate EMS on how to manage health challenges related to working in PPE and special focus on EMS provider mental health.
- GETAC Air Medical and Specialty Transport Committee ask for support from GETAC to adopt standardized response time language to reduce confusion of providers when communicating between agencies.
- Advise that David Wampler will be the new interim liaison for the CCC.

c) Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Partnership Liaison Report

Melissa Lamberton introduced Mr. Leon Jerrells, Partnership Chair, and he provided the following highlights:

Held 2nd virtual meeting for the year with 36 participants. Topics discussed:

- Health and risk disparities, including hypertension presentation
- Rural health disparities, presentation by Ms. Rebecca Joseph, Texas Tech
- Reviewed new heart system for hospitals
- How to provide information to other Partners during COVID.
- In progress to submit a recommendations cover letter to the 87th Legislators focusing on additional funding for prevention, restructuring hospital reimbursement, stroke care programs, reimbursement for team and non-team members, and State and Federal mandates for improvement of Electronic Medical Records Systems.
- More restriction on sale of flavored E-cigarettes.

- d) American Stroke Association/American Heart Association
Christopher Roller, AHA, provided the following highlights related to their preparation for the upcoming legislative session:

AHA State Policy Agenda for the 87th Legislature:

- Defend against preemption
- Tobacco and E-cigarettes taxes
- Tobacco retail licensure
- Telecommunicator CPR (T-CPR)
- Stroke hospital designations
- Defense of priority program funding

Agenda Item 9: Discussion and Action Concerning any of the above items and future meeting topics

Members provided following comments:

- Funding that is needed for cardiovascular and stroke in this State and it is separate from our response to COVID. Equitable stroke care is needed across the State, especially in the western regions.
- Hypertension programs in East Texas; DSHS is willing to work with community-based organizations and local health departments to expand the program.

Topics for next meeting:

- Invite Ms. Rebecca Joseph, Texas Tech, to give presentation on her health screening program at next meeting. Mr. Jerrells will provide contact information to the Council.
- Presentation on recognizing onset of a stroke for the Spanish speaking communities.

Agenda Item 10: Public comment

No public comment was offered.

Agenda Item 11: Adjourn

Ms. Hildebrand advised the next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2021 at 1:00p.m. and hearing no other comments the meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.