



**Task Force of Border Health Officials (TFBHO)  
APPROVED Meeting Minutes  
1:00 p.m., June 13, 2024**

**Physical Location: Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)  
Robert D. Moreton Building, Room M-100, First Floor  
1100 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78756**

**TEAMS Virtual/Hybrid Meeting**

Table 1: TFBHO attendance at the June 13, 2024, meeting.

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Dr. Richard Chamberlain	X		Mr. Eduardo Olivarez	X	
Ms. Esmeralda Guajardo		X	Dr. Emilie Prot	X	
The Honorable State Representative Bobby Guerra (Ex Officio)		X	Dr. Lillian Ringsdorf	X	
Dr. Cynthia A. Gutiérrez	X		Dr. Arturo Rodriguez (Chair)	X	
Ms. Shannon Harvill	X		Ms. Nancy P. Treviño		X
Mr. Steven M. Kotsatos	X		VACANT		
Dr. Hector Ocaranza (Vice-Chair)		X	VACANT (Ex Officio)		

**Agenda Item 1: Call to order, welcome, Chair remarks, meeting logistics, and Roll Call**

Dr. Arturo Rodriguez, Chair, convened the TFBHO meeting at 1:00 p.m., and welcomed attendees. Mr. John Chacón, Associate Director, Advisory Committee Coordination Office (ACCO), Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), provided logistical announcements, conducted the roll call, and noted a quorum was present.

**Agenda Item 2: Consideration of April 10, 2024, draft meeting minutes**

Dr. Rodriguez called for any edits or changes to the draft April 10, 2024, meeting minutes. Receiving no edits or changes, Dr. Rodriguez called for a motion to approve the draft.

**MOTION:**

Mr. Steven Kotsatos moved to approve the April 10, 2024, draft meeting minutes as written. Dr. Cynthia Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no nays nor abstentions.

**Agenda Item 3: Update: DSHS Immunizations Unit**

Mr. Adrian Sanvictores, Manager; Mr. Timothy White, Research Specialist; Ms. Cheryl Garcia, Nurse; Mr. Austin Knaplund, Vaccine Ordering Lead, Vaccine Operations Unit, and Ms. Nurriya Mohammad, Epidemiologist; all of them from the Immunizations Unit, DSHS, provided members with an update on vaccinations. Key points included:

- There were some challenges cleaning migrant client data in the Texas Immunization Registry (ImmTrac2) after the COVID-19 pandemic. Lessons learned will help obtain accurate data in a future public health emergency.
- CDC encouraged completing vaccine series for adolescent children: meningitis ACWY at age 11 and 16, and Human Papillomavirus at age 9 as a 2-dose series or age 15 and older in a 3-dose series.

- Several of next season's flu doses are still available for prebooking by reaching out to DSHS and a provider's responsible entities. 2024-2025 flu doses will be trivalent.

**Agenda Item 4: Presentation: Congenital syphilis on the border region**

Ms. Amy Carter, Congenital Syphilis Coordinator, HIV/STD Prevention and Care Unit, DSHS, presented a PowerPoint titled "Congenital Syphilis". Highlights included:

- Inadequately treated syphilis includes treatment less than 30 days prior to delivery as well as historical treatment that does not match the surveillance stage of syphilis for the mother.
- Texas is currently ranked 1st nationally by case count and 4th by case rate. Congenital syphilis investigators completed over 3000 investigations in 2022.
- DSHS conducts data matching with maternal syphilis cases and Medicaid services data to increase treatment adequacy data.

**Agenda Item 5: Discussion: 2023-2024 Recommendations Report**

Dr. Rodriguez asked Ms. Karin Hopkins, Office of Border Public Health Director, DSHS, to provide a refresh of the timeline for the 2023-2024 Recommendations Report and the work session convened in the morning prior to the meeting. A final working meeting will be scheduled virtually for the upcoming weeks. Ms. Hopkins suggested alternative dates for the October 9 meeting due to events scheduled that week; members choose October 3. Then Dr. Rodriguez lead the discussion about Community Mental Health. The results will be included in the 2023-2024 Recommendations Report.

**Agenda Item 7: Public comment**

Mr. Chacón acknowledged a written public comment from Moises Arjona, Collective Impact Director, Unidos Contra la Diabetes, was received and shared with TFBHO members. No other further public comment was received.

**Agenda Item 8: Closing remarks, thank you, and adjourn**

Dr. Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

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***Please click on the link to the archived HHSC video to view, and listen to, the entirety of the June 13, 2024, Task Force of Border Health Officials (TFBHO) meeting; this video will be available for approximately two years from the date the meeting video is posted in accordance with the HHSC records retention schedule:***

[Task Force of Border Health Officials \(TFBHO\)](#)