

Stock Epinephrine Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Friday, December 8, 2023

10:30 a.m.

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Virtual: Teams Meeting Platform

In Person Meeting Site:

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Robert D. Moreton Building

Room M-100, First Floor

1100 W 49th St

Austin, TX 78756

Agenda Item 1: Welcome/Call to order/Introduction of members and staff

Dr. Drew Bird, Chair, called the Stock Epinephrine Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

Ms. Jacqueline Thompson, Advisory Committee Coordination Office, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) read the logistical announcements and stated the meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Ms. Jacqueline Thompson conducted the member roll call and announced the presence of quorum.

Dr. Drew Bird, Chair, welcomed committee members and members of the public and asked Ms. Dianna Pierson, School Health Team Lead and School Nurse Consultant, to introduce DSHS staff. She asked DSHS staff to introduce themselves.

Table 1: The Stock Epinephrine Advisory Committee member attendance at the Monday, December 8, 2023 meeting.

Member name	Attended	Member name	Attended
Bethea, Louise, MD	Y	Jeffrey, Douglas, MD	Y
Bird, Drew, MD	Y	Rivera, Jose, Pharm.D.	Y

Member name	Attended	Member name	Attended
Bostic, Natalie, RN	Y	Rozneck, Paulette, MSN	N
Buheis, Maria, MD	N	Svatek, Mandie, MD	Y
Davis, Carla, MD	N	Swan, Sally, RN	Y
Freeman, Theodore, MD	Y	Varshney, Pooja, MD	Y
Gonzalez-Reyes, Erika, MD	N		

Agenda Item 2: Consideration of October 16, 2023, draft meeting minutes

Dr. Drew Bird, Chair, referred members to the draft minutes emailed by the program liaison and called for any edits.

Dr. Louise Bethea requested an edit on page 7 to say "Dr. Louise Bethea shared that many highschoolers are allowed to carry their epinephrine auto injectors but do not do so. That may explain the increased use of unassigned epinephrine in the teen-age group."

Dr. Bird called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023, meeting.

Motion: Dr. Theodore Freeman moved to approve the minutes as amended by Dr. Bethea from the October 16, 2023 meeting. Dr. Pooja Varshney seconded the motion. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed by a majority vote with 9 Approves (Bethea, Bird, Bostic, Freeman, Jeffrey, Rivera, Svatek, Swan, Varshney), 0 Disapprove, and 0 Abstention.

Agenda Item 3: Development of a subcommittee to implement committee responsibilities from Senate Bill 294 from the 88th Legislative Session, 2023

Dr. Drew Bird, Chair, provided a brief overview of Senate Bill (SB) 294 from the 88th Legislative Session, 2023 and the intent to establish a subcommittee. Dr. Bird then called for volunteers to chair and join the subcommittee.

Dr. Bird stated there were some submissions online prior to the meeting, including Dr. Gonzalez-Reyes, Dr. Svatek. Dr. Rivera, Dr. Varshney, Dr. Jeffrey, and Dr. Bird volunteered. Dr. Bird also volunteered to be chair of the subcommittee. Dr. Bird

listed the members of the subcommittee: Dr. Gonzalez-Reyes, Dr. Svatek, Dr. Bird, Dr. Jeffrey, and Dr. Varshney.

Dr. Bird then called for Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) that the committee recommended including in the subcommittee. Dr. Bird stated there were SMEs already proposed online prior to the meeting, including Dr. Leslie Allsopp, Dr. Folashade Afolabi, and Mr. Charlie Gagen.

Agenda Item 4: Update from DSHS

Dr. Bird, Chair, recognized Ms. Dianna Pierson, School Health Team Lead and School Nurse Consultant, to provide an update from the Texas Department of State Health Services. Highlights of the update and member discussion included:

- Ms. Pierson shared the opioid antagonist required reporting form is now available on the DSHS School Health Program website, located under the tab titled "Required Reporting Forms."
- Ms. Pierson mentioned the new guidelines document that was created to explain how to submit an opioid antagonist report. The document will be posted under the Required Reporting Forms section within the next week or so.
- Ms. Pierson shared that during the last meeting in October, some members requested a list of independent school districts (ISDs) reporting unassigned medications. Any schools (public, open-enrollment, or private) that adopts a policy for unassigned medications are required to report the administration of the unassigned medication within 10 business days of the date of the administration. The information captured on the reporting form would include the name of the ISD, and if the school reporting is K-12 or an Institution of Higher Education. The list of schools that have submitted a report can be obtained by a committee member by submitting an open records request. You can do this by emailing OpenRecords@dshs.texas.gov. This list will be limited to only the schools that have reported and may not reflect all school districts that have a policy.
- Ms. Pierson shared during the October 16th committee meeting there was a request for epinephrine auto injectors and asthma medication use trend data. At this time, DSHS is analyzing the data and will have an update early next year. When the data is posted, DSHS School Health Program will email the committee.
- Dr. Bird thanked Ms. Pierson and moved on to Agenda Item 5.

Agenda Item 5: Future SEAC agenda topics and priorities

Dr. Drew Bird, Chair, led the discussion regarding future SEAC agenda topics and priorities. Highlights of member discussion included:

- Dr. Pooja Varshney asked about prior conversation about renaming the committee. Dr. Bird asked DSHS for an update on the status of renaming the committee. Mr. Brett Spencer, Community Health and Wellness Branch Unit Director, stated DSHS has it on record to go on a future meeting discussion. There was a specific name mentioned in previous legislation, so DSHS is working through discussion on if we want to make any name change at this time.
- Dr. Douglas Jeffrey asked how the new subcommittee will start talking about what topics will be covered. Dr. Bird stated it won't be an agenda item for the next meeting. It will be a discussion had in coordination with DSHS, who will outline responsibilities. Ms. Pierson explained the School Health Program and DSHS will draft the rules. The proposed rule packet will be due to our leadership in May, with a rule effective date of March 2025. DSHS anticipates 2 to 3 subcommittee meetings to have the subcommittee advise on the rules. Meetings need to happen before Spring 2024. An email will be sent to the subcommittee in January to set up these meetings.
- Dr. Bethea stated at the last meeting the committee also discussed epinephrine auto injectors standing orders in the schools. Dr. Bethea asked if there will be future discussion about what the committee can do to carry this out and if the committee and DSHS could make changes to the information available to the nurses. Mr. Spencer answered stating this topic is on DSHS records for a future meeting based on the public comment from last meeting. DSHS is currently looking into defining what the committee is able to do and potential strategies for creating standing orders.

Agenda Item 6: Public comment

Ms. Jacqueline Thompson, ACCO Facilitator, read the public comment announcement and coordinated with the ACCO production team the requests from stakeholders who registered or were on-site to provide public comment.

Oral public comment –

- **Dr. Leslie Allsopp, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Women's Health at University of North Texas Health Science Center and Faculty Partner for Asthma 411 at Safer Care Texas**

Dr. Allsopp thanked the DSHS staff and the committee for taking this step, meeting more frequently, to advance this. They are receiving numerous requests from school districts to provide support to them as they look forward to implementation. She shared they are continuing to reach out to stakeholder groups around the state, such as Texas Pediatric Society on the school nurses, American Lung Association, and others to best map implementation to meet the large and diverse needs of communities and children in Texas. She stated she looks forward to our next steps and is here as a part of a learning process and to thank everyone for the steps being taken to advance this implementation. Dr. Bird thanked Dr. Allsopp.

- **Dr. Daniel Deane, Retired Pediatric Pulmonologist**

Dr. Deane emphasized the role of the asthma action plan in the implementation of unassigned albuterol. He stated that every child with asthma should have an asthma action plan and what is not appreciated is that the asthma action plan is an emergency medical management plan for the school and home. There is a need for albuterol in the school, which is implicit in the asthma action plan. He referred to DSHS data indicating that 90% of children required unassigned albuterol and emphasized that if every child with asthma had an action plan, the need to fund unassigned albuterol would decrease significantly. He stated that to facilitate the implementation of unassigned albuterol, there should be collaboration with TMA and TPS and have representatives here. He suggested to open up the subcommittee to others in the community. Dr. Dean stated that the implementation of unassigned albuterol in schools is a scope of practice issue because it disconnects the primary care physician and inserts a physician with no management of the patient. Dr. Bird thanked Dr. Deane.

Agenda Item 9: Adjournment and Thank You

- Dr. Drew Bird, Chair, announced the next SEAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 1, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in Moreton-Room 100.
- Dr. Drew Bird thanked committee members and members of the public for their attendance, and adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Below is the link to the archived video recording of the December 8, 2023, Stock Epinephrine Advisory Committee meeting to view and listen for approximately, two years from date meeting is posted in accordance with the HHSC records retention schedule.

[Stock Epinephrine Advisory Committee](#)