

RURAL VETERINARY INCENTIVE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
2105 Kramer Lane
Austin, Texas 78758

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
February 23, 2023, 10:00 A.M.

The Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on February 23, 2023, at the Texas Animal Health Commission located at 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas 78758. Andy Schwartz, DVM, Presiding Officer and Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Committee Members present were: Brittany Sharkey, Executive Director of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners; Guy Loneragan, BVSc, Dean of the Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine; John August, BVetMed, Dean of the Texas A&M University School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences; Steven Golla, DVM, designee of Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine with a mixed animal practice; John Clader, DVM, designee of Texas A&M University School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences with a mixed animal practice; Courtney Pace, DVM, designee of Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine with a large animal practice; Charles Graham, DVM, designee of Texas A&M University School of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences with a large animal practice; and Ali Broyles, DVM, appointed Commissioner of the Texas Animal Health Commission.

Agenda Item 2, Roll Call for Committee Members. Committee Members and Administrative Staff introduced themselves, and Dr. Schwartz noted that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 3, Approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2022 Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee Meeting. Dr. Golla moved and Dr. Clader seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of the May 17, 2022 Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee Meeting, there was no discussion and the motion passed.

Agenda Item 4, Rural Veterinary Incentive Program administration and activity of the Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), and universities. Jeanine Coggeshall presented information on the Rural Veterinary Incentive Programs administrative roles and activities that occurred after the May 17, 2022 meeting of the Committee.

Agenda Item 5, State and federal statutes, rules, and regulations related to the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program and its funding, including Texas Education Code, Chapter 56 and 61; Tex. S.B. 8, 87th, 3d Called Sess. (2021); American Rescue Plan Act (Pub. L. No. 117-2); the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, 42 U.S.C §§ 802, 803; 31 CFR. Part 35. Jeanine Coggeshall presented information on the enabling statutes, rules and sources of funding and the funding limits. Ms. Coggeshall also presented information on reporting requirements including that funds distributed will be reported as income.

Agenda Item 6, Proposed legislation for the 88th Legislature Regular Session that relates to the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program. Jeanine Coggeshall presented information on proposed legislation for the current legislative session, specifically discussion possible budget riders that may extend the distribution time of funds.

Agenda Item 7, Administrative rule making process and requirements. Jabbar Fahim presented information on rulemaking authority and the process.

Agenda Item 8, Consideration of and Possible Action on Proposed Rules. Jeanine Coggeshall discussed the proposed rules for new Chapter 42. Ms. Coggeshall and Mr. Fahim presented proposed rules for new Chapter 42, Rural Veterinary Incentive Program. Dr. Clader moved, Dr. August seconded to move that the Rural Veterinary Incentive Program Committee propose new Chapter 42, concerning Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program, located in Title 4 of the Texas Administrative Code, with changes as necessary to the proposed text

and that notice of the proposed amendments be published in the Texas Register with a thirty-day comment period. There was no further discussion and the motion passed.

Agenda Item 9, Public Comment. There was no public comment at the Committee Meeting.

Agenda Item 10, Future meetings: agenda items, dates, and other arrangements. The Committee discussed the process to schedule future meeting dates and agreed that the Committee Members would be polled for best available dates in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.