

STC – EC Meeting – Bastrop, TX  
Dec 4, 2017

**1) Persons in Attendance:**

**Tracy Tipping**  
**Janet Gutierrez**  
**Linda Morris**  
**John Hageman**  
**Jay Poston**  
**Sandra Ramirez (Jimenez)**  
**Latha Vasudevan**  
**Jennifer Cercero**  
**Bobby Janeka**  
**Ken Krieger**  
**Jacob Navar**  
**Will Pate**  
**Billie Harvey**

**2) Meeting Convened**

Billie Harvey  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Tracy Tipping  
Meeting Convened 6:37 pm

**3) Approval of Minutes**

Tracy Tipping  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Jay Poston  
Minutes are approved 6:39

**4) Reports Made**

**President – Amanda Sullivan**

- State Charter Submission – submitted 12/1/2017. Thanks to everyone for getting this together.
- Ali Simpkins Nomination for HPS Fellow – waiting on one last nominations letter from another group within the HPS before submission.
  - Needs three
  - Send Ali's resume to Linda Morrison and Ken Krieger and then they will send letters to Amanda Sullivan to forward

**President-Elect – Latha Vasudevan**

Suggestion of College station for April meeting

Student chapter starting at Texas A&M

Latha V. will work on scheduling for April meeting – tentative date weekend of April 7

Suggestions for the September meeting

Tentative- Dallas area for September meeting, visit of Comanche Peak – Only US Citizens allowed for tour of plant

Wi-fi would be nice for future meetings if it would be included in the contract to have free or reduced fee wi-fi.

**Admissions/Membership Committee Report - Amanda Sullivan, Membership Chair**

	Category	2017	Comments	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
1	Honorary Lifetime Memberships	2	Hageman, Poston	1	1	2	2	2	2
2	Individual Memberships	117		111	116	130	241	200	208
3	Student Memberships	11		62	10	11	22	22	25
4	Science Fair Winners	3		2	0	2	0	4	
	Sub-Total	115		176	127	143	167	222	239
5	Affiliate Memberships	15		23	22	22	18	24	23
	Total	135		199	149	165	185	246	262

(Numbers of 2016 Members, above, includes New Members listed below)

New Members

Rachelle Marcus	Student	TSTC
Candace Tuttle	Student	TSTC
Kristen Sheaffer	Regular	NIH
John Contreras	Regular	UTH San Antonio
Maya Nair	Regular	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Roland Benke	Regular	Atom Consulting
Austin Horne	Regular	
Theresa Collins	Regular	
Matthew Kennington	Regular	

+

**Affiliates Report – Jennifer Cerecero**

1. Affiliate Members to Date – 16 total
2. Affiliate Meeting

- a. Donations ~ \$3500 total from vendors (NSSI – one complete break)
  - b. 14 Tables for vendors – 13 vendors attended
  - c. Raffle
3. January 2018 – Will email out reminders for dues & new affiliates

**Secretary – Billie Harvey**

Nothing to report

**Treasurer – Jennifer Cerecero**

**Petty Cash Fund: \$ 85.00**

**Bank Accounts:**

Bank Account	Previous Balance	Interest Received	Current Balance
Science Teacher (0279)	\$ 3989.83 (April 11, 2017)	\$ 1.15	\$ 3990.98 (November 9, 2017)
Student Scholarship (5456)	\$ 5118.00 (April 14, 2017)	\$ 1.48	\$ 5119.48 (November 14, 2017)

Bank Account	Previous Balance	Net Change	Current Balance
Operating Account (1166)	\$39566.06 (April 19, 2017)	(\$2086.55)	\$37479.51 (November 29, 2017)

Deposits into Operating Account:

PayPal	Treasurer Deposits	Total
\$7653.27	\$1245.00	\$8898.27

Payments from Operating Account:

EXPENSE	AMOUNT
Website Fees	\$152.91
Office Supplies (Treasurer Folders, Name Badges)	\$115.59
Billet Fees	\$1000.00
Art Hall Awards	\$243.72
Science Fair Awards/Winner	\$194.60

Constant Contact	\$157.50
TSTC Waco Food	\$1106.50
Hyatt Lost Pines (Bastrop Deposit)	\$5500.00
Post Office Box	\$64.00
Student Scholarships	\$1000.00
Student Awards	\$950.00
Scholarship	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10984.82</b>

### Summary of Meetings:

	Number Attending/Registered to	Amount Received	Meeting Cost	Difference
Waco Meeting 4/2015	49 attendees	\$1145.00	\$737.49	\$407.51
San Antonio Meeting 9/2015	60 attendees	\$4533.89	\$5093.31	(\$ 559.42)
College Station Meeting 4/2016	52 attendees	\$1115.00	\$2544.28	(\$1429.28)
Clear Lake Meeting 9/2016	80 attendees	\$8603.58	\$10019.12	(\$1415.54)
Waco Meeting 4/2017	41 attendees	\$1153.93	\$1106.50	\$47.43
Bastrop Meeting 12/2017	70 attendees	\$11670.00	\$19000 TBD	(7330.00) TBD

### Pending Deposits: \$410.66 (Paypal)

### Annuities:

Annuity	Previous Values	Current Values
Lincoln (699, 700, & 701)	\$ 30922.39 04/19/2017	\$ 31331.88 11/29/2017
Edward Jones	\$12034.88 04/19/2017	\$10012.60 11/29/2017
Total Values	\$150957.27 04/19/2017	\$161151.27 11/29/2017

\*Rolled the cash from the Edward Jones account into the mutual funds.

### Student Assistance Committee Report – Linda Morris, Committee Chair

1. **Education Grant Winners:** This year's winner at the Associate Degree level is Rachelle Marcus from TSTC. Rachelle is a first year Radiation Protection Technology major. She has stated that she is paying for her education herself, so the grant will be an important financial help to her. She is attending this

conference. The graduate degree winner is Anna Laura Licon from UTHSC-SA. She is in the medical physics doctoral program, having graduated from TAMU a year earlier. Anna Laura could not attend the meeting today due to final exams. There were no applicants for the undergraduate award.

2. **Neff-Poston Award Winner:** Soliel Hernandez is a TAMU senior radiological health engineering major from Olathe, Kansas. She has conducted research with Dr. Akabani at TAMU, and participated in an internship at UTHSC-SA. Her interests are in the field of medical health physics, and she would like to present her research at the Spring 2018 STC student conference. She thanks the STC for endowing a scholarship that benefits her. Both she and her younger sister are first-generation college students.
3. **Status of Health Physics Higher Education in Texas:** A presentation of this topic will be given tomorrow morning. There are significant issues facing health physics higher education which might impact the pipeline of HP professionals in our state in the future.
  - a. **Texas A&M University:** The graduate health physics program is being phased out as current students graduate. No new students are being accepted. The Radiological Health Engineering (RHE) major is also not accepting new students. According to Dr. John Poston, there is a discussion in the Nuclear Engineering program about the possibility of a minor in the field. Except for Dr. Poston, there are no dedicated health physicists on the faculty. The TAMU student branch of the HPS has been inactive, but Zachary Olson (student) has tried this semester to revitalize it. I emailed Zachary offering the STC to help by sending speakers and possibly buying pizza, and I just heard back from him as I was writing this report. He would like for us to visit their chapter later in January. It should be noted that there were several TAMU students who attended the national HPS meeting in Raleigh last summer. I believe that they were Dr. Marianno's students. When I asked one of them if they were members of the STC, she said that she was not.
  - b. **Texas State Technical College Waco:** There have been significant changes in the administration at TSTC which have affected the Radiation Protection associate degree program. Some of these changes have resulted in decreased numbers of students majoring in RPT. Jacob Navar was hired to replace me as the RPT faculty person, and he has made valiant efforts to keep the program going. He is very good about bringing students to meetings and taking them on field trips. There will be more information presented tomorrow morning. Jacob is attending this conference.
  - c. **Other Academic Programs:** Other academic programs offer health physics – related degrees, minors, or options. The University of Houston – Downtown has an interdisciplinary program that offers nuclear engineering and health physics options. Mary Jo Parker heads this program, and she has been very good about bringing students to our Spring student presentation meetings to give talks. UHD has a NRC Minority-Serving Population grant which currently supports 43 students. A few of those students are also STC members. UTHSC-SA has a medical health physics graduate program which has two slots. Texas Southern University in Houston has a health physics program in the Physics Department headed by Dr. Mark Harvey. They were accepting student cohorts every other year, but I have no current information on that program. There are several other universities that have nuclear-related options.
4. **STC-HPS Student Members:** Amanda provided a printout of current STC student members. There are 14 members, three of whom are high school students. Four are from UHD, one from UTHSC-SA, three from TSTC, and one from TAMU.

5. **Annual Meeting and Student Presentations:** It would be a good idea to get the information regarding this meeting out as soon as possible so that students can plan to present in the spring. Our Neff-Poston awardee Soliel Hernandez wants to present, and other university faculty such as Drs. Marianno, and Parker can be contacted.
6. **Science Fairs 2018:** I have included a table of state and regional science fair dates and locations. I will include this information in my presentation on Tuesday morning. Anyone interested can contact me at [lkmorris288@gmail.com](mailto:lkmorris288@gmail.com).

### **Legislative Committee Report – Bobby Janecka**

#### Legislation passed by Texas Legislature

SB 1330 by Seliger, Relating to funding for the operations of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission.

Addresses funding for the Texas LLRW Compact Commission by correctly depositing fees collected to fund the Compact Commission into the appropriate revenue account.

Took effect on September 1, 2017.

SB 1667 by Seliger (companion HB 3946 by Landgraf), Relating to the nature, funding, and functions of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission.

Affirms the autonomy and authority of the Compact Commission as an independent entity, and limiting the oversight of the Texas Comptroller in disbursing funds appropriated from the state.

Took effect on June 1, 2017.

HB 2662 by Landgraf (companion SB 1137 by Seliger), Relating to the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact waste disposal facility.

Temporarily (until September 1, 2019) reduces the surcharge imposed on all “import” out of compact waste from 20% to 10% and temporarily reduces the state fee on all compact disposal from 10% to 5% (more specifically, it eliminates the 5% Texas received while preserving the 5% Andrews County receives).

Requires the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to conduct a study on available volume and curie capacity in the compact disposal cell once every four years, providing the authority to require state generators to provide information annually on disposal needs and amount of waste generated and stored on-site.

Creates an interim legislative oversight committee, consisting of six legislators, the Compact Commission chairman, and an appointee from the state of Vermont, to report to the legislature on December 1, 2018 after studying the following:

1. the annual fixed costs incurred by the operator of the compact facility;
2. the party state compact waste disposal fees established in rule by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in accordance with Section 401.245;

3. the contract review process as carried out by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality;
4. the relationship between the state, party state generators, and operator as it relates to the operation of the compact facility;
5. the contingency plan required under the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact;
6. the need for and effects of fees and surcharges assessed for disposal of waste in the compact facility, including the fees and surcharges assessed under the following sections:
  - a. Section 401.052(b)(5);
  - b. Section 401.207(g);
  - c. Section 401.245; and
  - d. Section 401.246(a)(6);
7. the cost of a state-run compact facility and the effect a state-run facility would have on rates and generators in compact states; and
8. any other matters the committee determines are relevant to the compact facility and oversight of the compact facility.

Took effect on June 15, 2017.

#### State Agency Rulemakings

No current draft or proposed rulemakings by DSHS.

TCEQ proposed a rulemaking on November 1, 2017 to implement House Bill 2662 (see description above) and delete reference to the 5% state fee imposed on compact waste disposal.

TCEQ anticipates proposing a rulemaking to implement a volume adjustment to the compact disposal rate, reducing or eliminating several of the fee surcharges from the disposal rate table, and will also propose minor changes to the rules to maintain compatibility with NRC.

TCEQ also continues to work on the rulemaking petition submitted by the Texas Mining and Reclamation Association, Uranium Committee, which was approved in 2016 and stakeholder discussions about the draft rulemaking are currently underway.

#### Federal Agency Rulemakings

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) extended the comment period for new proposed rulemaking for 40 CFR Part 192, regarding Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings. Comment period closed on October 16, 2017.

The NRC has four rulemaking matters currently open for public comment regarding:

Naturally-Occurring and Accelerator-Produced Radioactive Materials (comments close December 6, 2017);

Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal (comments close December 18, 2017); and

Fire Protection Compensatory Measures (PRM-50-115) (comments close Dec. 20, 2017).

Three rulemakings that could establish new requirements are anticipated to be complete this fiscal year:

Performance-based emergency core cooling system acceptance criteria rules (Part 50) have an estimated final rule publication date of January 5, 2018.

LLRW disposal rules update (Parts 20 and 61) have an estimated final rule publication date of August 5, 2019 (I believe NRC listed this as anticipated this fiscal year in error).

### Miscellaneous Items

The HB 2662 interim legislative oversight committee has not yet formally met, though legislative staff have been in contact with relevant state agencies with preliminary requests for information. The lieutenant governor appointed Senator Don Huffines to the committee. The appointments by the speaker of the house and state of Vermont have not yet been announced.

### Science Teachers Workshop Report - Ken Krieger, Science Teacher Workshop Coordinator

In last year or two there has a lot of interest in having a workshop but there hasn't been enough time for people to fit it into their schedules.

Tentatively will do a workshop at the Waste Management Meeting in Phoenix.

If anyone has junior high on up level contacts, might be good to encourage them if there's interest to ask their science teachers to request a workshop.

### Public Relations Committee Report - Janet M Gutiérrez

Working on write up items to submit to National. Send any ideas you may have to Janet.

### Nominations Chair Report – Sandra Ramirez

Nothing to report. Three offices to be filled next year. Secretary, President Elect, and Board Member.

### Future STC-HPS Meetings and Deadlines for *The Billet* – John Hageman, Editor of *The Billet*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Deadline</u> for <i>The Billet</i>
Sept. 12-13, 2017	Bastrop, TX	State of Texas Affiliates' Fair and Technical Meeting	NA

February 4-7, 2018	Denver Marriot City Center	51 <sup>st</sup> Midyear HPS Meeting	NA
<b>April __, 2018</b>	<b>College Station, TX</b>	STC Student Presentations & Annual Business Meeting	<b>Feb. 1, 2018</b>
<b>July 15-19, 2018</b>	<b>Cleveland, OH</b>	63 <sup>rd</sup> Annual HPS Meeting	NA
<b>Sept. __, 2018</b>	<b>TBD)</b>	<b>Affiliates' Fair and Technical Meeting</b>	<b>July __, 2017</b>

Suggestion made to put abstracts from meeting in next Billet  
Presentations will be put on the website  
Website update in works.

### 5. New Business

Chapter has two projectors. Laptop or tablet cost that can be passed from administration to administration?

Google docs access link to meeting docs and have STC-HPS google docs

This meeting is 5.25 CEU credit hours for meeting.

### 6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Jay Poston

Second: Sandra Ramirez

Meeting adjourned. 7:50 pm