



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

**Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022**

NOTE: Unless the information is confidential, the reports, presentations, and grant award information referenced in the minutes are available at <http://ocmeetings.cprit.texas.gov> in the “Oversight Committee Board Packet” section for the corresponding meeting date.

Call to Order – Agenda Item 1

Presiding Officer Dr. Mahendra Patel announced a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call/Excused Absences – Agenda Item 2

Committee Members Present

Mahendra Patel, M.D., P.A.
David Cummings, M.D.
Donald (Dee) Margo
Ambrosio Hernandez, M.D.
Will Montgomery
Cindy Barberio Payne
Bill Rice, M.D.
Craig Rosenfeld, M.D.

**Adoption of Minutes from the August 17, 2022, and September 14, 2022, Meetings –
Agenda Item 3, Tab 1**

MOTION:

On a motion by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the August 17 and September 14 Oversight Committee meetings as presented.

Public Comment – Agenda Item 4

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel noted for the record that no member of the public requested to provide comments.

Grantee Presentation – Agenda Item 5, Tab 2

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel called on Chief Prevention Officer Ramona Magid to introduce Dr. Aubree Shay. Dr. Shay presented an update on the prevention program project she co-directs with Dr. Allison Grimes, HPV Vaccination in a Pediatric Minority-Based Community Oncology Network.

An Oversight Committee member asked about the effectiveness of the vaccine in childhood cancer survivors. Dr. Shay responded that more research is necessary but that current guidelines include being six months out of treatment with no immunosuppressant medications.

Another member asked if Drs. Shay and Grimes had vaccinated the siblings of childhood cancer survivors as well. Dr. Shay responded that they had not looked at this.

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel thanked Drs. Shay and Grimes for their presentation. He called on Chief Product Development Officer Dr. Ken Smith to introduce Dr. Kartik Krishnan and Mr. Matthew Head from OncoNano Medicine, Inc. The OncoNano Medicine team presented progress updates on the advancement of their portfolio of oncological interventions.

An Oversight Committee member asked about the use of a dinucleotide with the activation of STING protein and subsequent clinical trials.

Another member commented on reducing the toxicity of traditional therapies with a more focused delivery system and no systemic effects.

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel thanked the OncoNano team for their presentation.

Chief Executive Officer Report – Agenda Item 6, Tab 3

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Executive Officer Wayne Roberts to present his report.

Mr. Roberts informed members that CPRIT will hold future Oversight Committee meetings in the new Barbara Jordan state office building.

He reported that CPRIT has sufficient agency funds available to support all grant awards proposed for approval today.

Mr. Roberts concluded his report by introducing newly hired staff, noting that the agency's telework policy has allowed CPRIT to hire people otherwise unavailable and that this is the strongest staff during his tenure at CPRIT.

There were no questions for Mr. Roberts.

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel congratulated Mr. Roberts on reaching 45 years of employment and service to the state of Texas.

Chief Compliance Officer Report and Compliance Certification for the Proposed Grant Awards – Agenda Item 7, Tab 4

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Compliance Officer Vince Burgess to present the Compliance Report and Compliance Certification of Grant Award Process.

Mr. Burgess presented the Compliance Report for the past quarter’s activities and provided a summary of the Compliance staff activities for FY 2022.

Following Mr. Burgess’s presentation of the compliance activities, an Oversight Committee member asked about including repeat findings in the compliance review process. Mr. Burgess replied that the compliance team was in the process of incorporating repeat findings into the reporting.

Mr. Burgess also presented the Compliance Certification for the proposed academic research grant awards, confirming that the proposed awards and review process complied with all applicable state and agency requirements.

Chief Scientific Officer Report and Grant Award Recommendations – Agenda Item 8, Tab 5

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Scientific Officer Dr. Michelle Le Beau to present a program update and the academic research program award recommendations.

Dr. Le Beau directed Oversight Committee members to Table 1 on page 3 of the Proposed Grant Awards Book which displayed the Scientific Review Council (SRC) and Program Integration Committee (PIC) recommendations for the FY 2023 recruitment cycle 23.1, which included two Recruitment of Established Investigators awards totaling \$11,999,198.

Dr. Le Beau provided an overview of the recommended awards.

Rank	App. ID	Mechanism	Candidate	Organization	Budget	Overall Scores
1	RR230005	REI	Rugang Zhang, Ph.D.	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$6,000,000	2.0
2	RR230010	REI	Keith Chan, Ph.D	The Methodist Hospital Research Institute	\$5,999,198	2.3

There were no questions for Dr. Le Beau.

Approval of Academic Research Awards

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel noted for the record that no Oversight Committee member reported a conflict with any award recommendation presented today.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the PIC’s recommendations for the Recruitment of Established Investigators.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee members voted to approve the delegation of contract negotiation authority to CPRIT's CEO and staff and authorized the CEO to sign the contracts on behalf of CPRIT.

Approval of Proposed Academic Research RFAs for FY 2023 Cycle 2 (23.2)

Dr. Le Beau also introduced and provided an overview of the four proposed FY2023 Cycle 2 (FY23.2) Requests for Applications (RFAs) for Academic Research:

- Texas CONNECT for Cancer Prevention Study Awards (RFA R-23.2 TCCPA):
- TREC Pilot Study Award (RFA R-23.2 TREC-PSA):
- TREC Institutional Postdoctoral Training Award (RFA R-23.2 TREC PDTA):
- TREC Major Instrumentation Award (RFA R-23.2 TREC MIA):

Several Oversight Committee members expressed their enthusiasm for the TREC RFAs and the Texas CONNECT for Cancer Prevention Study Awards RFA.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Mr. Montgomery, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the proposed Academic Research RFAs for FY 2023 Cycle 2.

Chief Prevention Officer Report – Agenda Item 9, Tab 6

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Prevention Officer Ramona Magid to update the Oversight Committee on the prevention program. Ms. Magid reported that CPRIT received 28 prevention project applications for FY 2023 Cycle 1, which are undergoing peer review. She will present proposed award recommendations at the February Oversight Committee meeting.

Following the program update, Ms. Magid presented the proposed RFAs for FY 2023 Cycle 2 and provided a summary of the four mechanisms:

- Dissemination of CPRIT-Funded Cancer Control Interventions (RFA-P-23.2-DI)
- Primary Prevention of Cancer (RFA-P-23.2-PPC)
- Cancer Screening and Early Detection (RFA-P023.2-CSD)
- Colorectal Cancer Screening Coordinating Center (RFA-P-23.2-CCC)

There were no questions for Ms. Magid.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee members voted unanimously to approve the proposed FY 2023 Cycle 2 RFAs.

Chief Product Development Officer Report – Agenda Item 10, Tab 7

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Product Development Officer Dr. Ken Smith to present the Product Development Research update.

Dr. Smith provided an update on the FY 2023 cycle, noting that CPRIT notified invited applicants in October that the product development program was limiting the number of full applications that the review panels will consider in Review Cycle 1 to the first ten applications received on or before the November 1, 2022, deadline.

An Oversight Committee member asked if CPRIT is doubling the number of full applications as we increase preliminary applications. Dr. Smith explained that the program limited the number of full applications reviewed in the November cycle due to reviewer and calendar constraints.

The Oversight Committee members and Dr. Smith discussed portfolio diversity for the product development program. In response to an Oversight Committee member's question, Dr. Smith noted that CPRIT created the Texas New Technologies Company award to encourage more companies to apply, specifically those companies focusing on technology outside of therapeutics.

FY 2024 Program Priorities – Agenda Item 11, Tab 8

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Executive Officer Wayne Roberts to present the staff recommendations for CPRIT's Program Priorities for FY 2024.

Mr. Roberts presented the FY 2024 Program Priorities. There were no questions for Mr. Roberts.

MOTION:

On a motion by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the fiscal year 2024 program priorities.

Internal Auditor Report – Agenda Item 12, Tab 9

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Dan Graves of Weaver and Tidwell, LLP, CPRIT's contracted internal auditor, to provide the Internal Auditor's Report. Mr. Graves summarized the four internal audit reports and the FY 2022 Annual Internal Audit Report. In addition, he informed the committee members that Weaver underwent its external quality assurance review and will present the report at the next Oversight Committee meeting.

There were no questions for Mr. Graves.

MOTION:

On a motion by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the four internal audit reports and the FY 2022 Annual Internal Audit Report.

Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committee Appointments – Agenda Item 13, Tab 10

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Mr. Roberts to present his appointments to the peer review panels.

Mr. Roberts presented his eight appointments to the CPRIT’s Scientific Research and Prevention Programs Committee. He informed the committee members that the Board Governance Subcommittee reviewed the appointees at its November 3, 2022, meeting and recommends their approval to the Oversight Committee.

MOTION:

On a motion by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the CEO’s eight appointments to the Scientific Research and Prevention Program Committee.

Amendments to 25 T.A.C. Chapters 703 – Item 14, Tab 11

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Assistant General Counsel Cameron Eckel. Ms. Eckel presented a proposed final order approving rule changes to Chapter 703. She informed the committee members that the Board Governance Subcommittee met on November 3, 2022, to discuss adoption of the proposed rule changes and voted to recommend that the Oversight Committee approve adoption of the rule changes.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Mr. Margo and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve the final order adopting rule changes to the Texas Administrative Code Chapter 703.

Chief Operating Officer Report – Agenda Item 15, Tab 12

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Chief Operating Officer Heidi McConnell. Ms. McConnell presented her report on the operating budget, performance measures, and debt issuance history.

Ms. McConnell also provided an update on the 2023 CPRIT Conference, informing the committee members that staff is finalizing speakers and that the registration website will launch in early 2023.

In response to a question by an Oversight Committee member inquiring if there was any idea how many people may attend the conference, Ms. McConnell explained that the agency will not know until the registration system goes live, but grantees are aware of the conference and already reaching out about registration pricing.

Contract Approvals – Agenda Item 16, Tab 13

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Ms. McConnell. Ms. McConnell to review the proposed contract recommendations. Ms. McConnell presented the new contract with McDermott Will & Emery for outside counsel services, the new contract with Alan Boyd Consultants for due diligence review services, and an amendment to the current outside counsel contract with Norton Rose Fulbright.

There were no questions for Ms. McConnell.

MOTION:

On a motion made by Dr. Rosenfeld and seconded by Dr. Rice, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve contracts and contract amendments with McDermott Will & Emery, Alan Boyd Consultants and Norton Rose Fulbright.

Communication Report – Agenda Item 17, Tab 14

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel recognized Communications Director Mark Loeffler to present his report. Mr. Loeffler updated the committee members on communications activities.

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Agenda Item 21

Presiding Officer Dr. Patel announced that the Oversight Committee would not take up standing agenda items 18, 19 and 20.

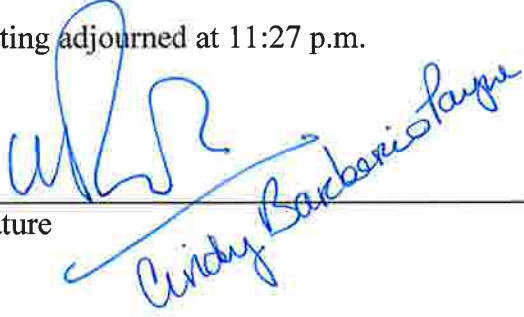
He reminded members that CPRIT Oversight Committee will meet on February 15, 2023.

Adjournment – Agenda Item 22

MOTION:

There being no further business, the Oversight Committee unanimously voted to approve Presiding Officer Dr. Patel’s motion to adjourn, which Mr. Montgomery seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 p.m.



Signature

2/15/23

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Chan', with a horizontal line underneath and some scribbles to the right.

Rank	App. ID	Mechanism	Candidate	Organization	Budget	Overall Scores
1	RR230005	REI	Rugang Zhang, Ph.D.	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center	\$6,000,000	2.0
2	RR230010	REI	Keith Chan, Ph.D	The Methodist Hospital Research Institute	\$5,999,198	2.3

REI = Recruitmen of Established Investigators