

**Health-Related Institutions  
Formula Advisory Committee Meeting 2:00 P.M.  
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
August 19, 2019**

**Minutes**

Members:

Penny Harkey - TTUHSC Present  
Jeff Burton - TAMHSC Present  
Lauren Sheer - UTMB Present  
Ben Melson – M.D. Anderson Present  
Ginny Gomez-Leon - UTHSCSA Present  
Gregory Anderson - UNTHSC Present  
Angelica Marin-Hill - UTSWMC Present  
Dwain Morris – UT-Austin Medical School Present  
Paula Myrick Short - U of H Medical School Present  
Richard Lange – TTUHSC-El Paso Present-by phone  
Rick Anderson – UTRGV Medical School Not Present  
Kevin Dillon – UTHSCH Not Present  
Joseph Woelkers – UTHSCT Not Present

**Agenda Item I: Introductions**

Penny Harkey convened the meeting in the Tejas Room of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board following the General Session. Members of the committee introduced themselves.

**Agenda Item II: Consideration of the election of a Chair and Vice Chair**

Penny Harkey opened the meeting by requesting nominations for the new Chair for the Health-Related Formula Advisory Committee. Ben Melson nominated Jeff Burton as the Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Gregory Anderson and Mr. Burton was voted as the new Chair.

Mr. Burton then requested nominations for the position of Vice-Chair. Richard Lange nominated Penny Harkey as Vice-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Melson and Ms. Harkey was voted as the new Vice-Chair.

Mr. Burton continued the meeting by requesting nominations for the position of Secretary. Penny Harkey nominated Lauren Sheer as the Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Morris and Ms. Sheer was voted as the new Secretary.

**Agenda Item III: Briefing on health-related institutions funding formula**

In the absence of Ed Buchanan from THECB, Penny Harkey reviewed the formula funding schedules and amounts for FY 2020-21 noting changes in the formulas compared to FY 2018-19. The comparison indicates increases in state funding and increases in the rates. Ms. Harkey also noted the change of additional mission specific formulas for certain institutions.

#### **Agenda Item IV: Discussion of Commissioner's charges to the Committee**

Jeff Burton reviewed the Commissioner's charges to the committee, including an additional charge not previously included in documents on the THECB website. That new charge is: to study funding and make recommendations regarding students pursuing a dual degree program. Ms. Harkey noted the issue relates to a medical student enrolled in a dual degree program and taking courses in the other program during the same semester the student is reported as a medical student. Because the current THECB reporting process captures a medical student as 1 FTSE for the entire academic year, an institution is prohibited from reporting semester credit hours in another discipline during the year. The FAC will address this charge and a request was made for information indicating the number of students that fall into this situation.

The committee reviewed and discussed Commissioner's Charge #1 related to making recommendations for the appropriate funding levels for the I&O, infrastructure, research enhancement, GME, and mission specific formulas.

The committee discussed continuing the previous message of phased in restoration of 2000-01 formula rates without including any factor for the impact of inflation. The committee thought it important to emphasize the need for the Legislature to fund growth in formula drivers (which would maintain existing formula rates) and to continue the message of return to 2000-01 rates. Mr. Melson made a motion for THECB staff to prepare funding analyses based on returning to 2000-01 rates and 2/3s of 2000-01 rates including projected growth but without inflation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morris and approved by the Committee.

There was a request that the second meeting include a discussion of the new mission specific formulas—how they work and how they are calculated. Legislative Budget Board (LBB) staff will prepare and provide an overview to the committee.

Penny Harkey requested that the committee review the 2020-2021 Formula Advisory Committee report prior to the next meeting. This report was included in the meeting materials.

#### **Agenda Item V: Discussion of dates and assignments for subsequent meetings**

All meeting times are from 11 to 1.

September 25

October 16

November 6

December 4  
January 8

**Agenda Item VI: Adjourn**

With no other discussion the committee voted to adjourn.