

**Texas Commission on Fire Protection  
House Bill 1593 Advisory Committee Meeting  
March 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Committee Member Attendance:

Bill Crews	Karen Padgett	Manuel Casarez*	Amy Ramon*
Tammy Boudreaux	Eric Secrest	Dr. Susan Gulliver	George Samples
John Hosea*	Alisa McDonald	Lowell Ercanbrack*	

\*Excused absences

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Staff Attendance:

Grace Wilson	Yazzy Chavez	David Greenfield
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1. Call to order and excuse absences - Roll call was conducted. The Committee entertained a motion to excuse the absences of John Hosea, Manuel Casarez, Lowell Ercanbrack, and Amy Ramon. A motion was made by Eric Secrest and seconded by Dr. Susan Gulliver. Motion carried. A quorum was established.

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2. Approve Minutes from January 7, 2026 Meeting – The Committee reviewed the minutes from the January 7, 2026, meeting. A motion was made by Eric Secrest and seconded by Dr. Susan Gulliver to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

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3. Discussion and possible action on Present State of Peer Support and Suicide Prevention in Texas Sub-Committee – The Committee reported that progress is being made with departments, and a survey is expected to be sent out. No action was taken.

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4. Discussion and possible action on Clinical and Licensing Sub-Committee - Dr Susan Gulliver reported that a first draft had been prepared but was not circulated to the subcommittee as intended, and the subcommittee has not met to approve or edit the draft. Alisa McDonald recommended postponing the item to the next meeting to allow time for review and revision.

5. Discussion and possible action on Legislative and Program Needs Committee – Eric Secrest presented the Subcommittee report and recommendations. Recommendations included resiliency and suicide prevention training for firefighters, adding psychological safety and emotional intelligence content to fire officer curricula, evaluating workers’ compensation processes, exploring funding for mental health programs, and supporting potential legislation related to therapy animals, counseling programs, and confidentiality protections. Discussion addressed the scope and feasibility of implementation, noting that some training changes could be implemented by TCFP without legislation. No action was taken.
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6. Discussion and possible action on any additional items to be included in the Subcommittee report – Discussion included updates on the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) HB 35 peer support program, including definitions, available support resources, and funding limitations. Resources highlighted included TDEX’s Support That Saves peer support course and the Sam Houston State University LEMIT Post-Critical Incident Seminar (PCIS). Discussion also addressed family and significant-other involvement and concerns regarding program capacity and funding. No action was taken.
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7. Future Meeting Dates – The Committee agreed to schedule the next meeting for May 18 at 10:00 a.m.
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8. Future Meeting Agenda Items- Members discussed potential agenda items for the next meeting, including subcommittee updates, continued development of the report to the Legislature, and possible participation by TDEM representatives.
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9. Adjourn- A motion was made by Dr. Susan Gulliver and seconded by Karen Padgett to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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Date