



For Immediate Release
March 8, 2024

TAHC Rule Proposals Open for Public Comment

Chronic Wasting Disease Movement Restriction Zones and Equine Requirements

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) held a regularly scheduled Commission meeting January 23, 2024, at its headquarters in Austin.

The following amendments were proposed during the meeting and are open for comment from March 8 – April 7, 2024.

Chapter 40, Chronic Wasting Disease

The proposed amendments add a new containment zone in Coleman County, in response to the detection of CWD in a free range white-tailed deer, and a new surveillance zone in Coleman and Brown Counties, in response to the detection of CWD in a white-tailed deer. Additional proposed amendments add four new surveillance zones in Brooks, Kimble, Medina, and Cherokee Counties, in response to the detection of CWD in deer breeding facilities.

Chapter 49, Equine

The proposed amendments formally incorporate the waiver of piroplasmosis testing requirements for Thoroughbreds, as approved by the TAHC commissioners in the 413th meeting on July 26, 2022. Additionally, proposed amendments streamline details, regarding piroplasmosis testing and identification requirements, for readability, but do not change any other requirements.

The proposed amendments related to requirements for individuals or laboratories performing equine infectious anemia (EIA) tests update the citation to the relevant section in the Code of Federal Regulations. The proposed amendments do not change the existing requirement.

Comments on the rule proposals may be submitted to Amanda Bernhard, Texas Animal Health Commission, by mail at 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas 78758, by fax at (512)-719-0719 or by email to comments@tahc.texas.gov.

Complete details of the rule proposals are also available on the TAHC website at <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/proposals.html#proposals>.

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The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) was established in 1893 as the Livestock Sanitary Commission and charged with protecting the state's domestic animals "from all contagious or infectious diseases of a malignant character." TAHC remains true to this charge while evolving with the times to protect the health and marketability of all Texas livestock and poultry. Learn more about the TAHC by visiting www.tahc.texas.gov.