

Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District  
Advisory Board  
November 16, 2004

The Advisory Board met on November 16, 2004 in the Community Services conference room and present were the following: Norman Archibald, Ed.D.; Andrew Urban, R.Ph.; Darrell Flippo; Robert R. Hawley, D.D.S.; Zane Travis, M.D.; Tony Neitzler; Larry Johnson; Barry Camarillo; Glenn Bailey, R.S.; Nancy Jennings; Kay Durilla, R.N.; Patrick Lollis; Ruth Ramirez; Wayne Rose; Alvin O'Dell; and Mary K. Fair, who acted as secretary. Absent were: Joe Cannon, M.D.; and Fred Onger, M.D..

Dr. Archibald called the meeting to order.

**Item I –Introduction of New Members**– Introduced new member, Jack Turner, County Commissioner for 16 years. Dr. Archibald stated this would be his last meeting, as Stormy Higgins will be taking his place on the Health Advisory Board.

**Item II – Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair** – Dr. Hawley was nominated for Board Chair and Mr. Urban seconded the motion. All approved. Mr. Turner was nominated for Vice-Chair. All approved. Dr. Archibald expressed his appreciation to the Board Members and employees of the Health Department. Dr. Archibald turned the meeting over to the new Chair, Dr. Hawley. Dr. Hawley thanked Dr. Archibald for his service on the Board and wished him luck as Mayor.

**Item III – Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting** - No corrections – stand as read.

**Item IV – Update on Influenza Vaccination Program and Vaccine Supply** – by Larry Johnson. There were problems with the flu vaccine supply this year. Chiron Company's vaccine was not released which was approximately 50% of the US supply. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) worked with Aventis to redistribute their flu vaccine supply. The Health Department ordered 6,000 doses but initially received 3,000 doses. The flu clinic held on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> provided 2,350 flu shots to high-risk individuals and 400 pneumonia shots. The public was orderly and the police officer on duty was not needed for crowd control. The clinic held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> provided 800 flu shots and 200 pneumonia shots and was completed by noon. Fire Department personnel helped with shots at both flu clinics. Aventis completed orders for local health departments that had ordered through state contracts, which locally provides an additional 3,000 doses of flu vaccine. An additional flu clinic is planned for November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Center. All flu vaccine is only for high-risk people at this time. CDC and Aventis will distribute 8 million doses to hospitals, nursing homes, etc as identified through a state and local survey (approximately 5,000 doses to Taylor County). At the current time there have been no reported cases of flu in the area. Dr. Travis stated employees did an excellent job at the flu clinics. He also recommends that people receive flu shot annually.

**Item V – Update on New Health Facility Construction** – by Larry Johnson. The slab has been poured and work is progressing but has been slowed down due to the recent rains. The westside of the Community Services sidewalk is 16% completed. The structural steel is expected to arrive November 17<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the slab work underground water was found at two different levels which required doubling the number of piers to 91 and also expanding the size of the piers from 3 feet to 4 feet in diameter and they are approximately 30 feet deep. This required additional money and added additional workdays but Waldrop Construction is still expecting completion by August 1, 2005. Mr. Johnson invited Board members to look at the slab. Dr. Hawley suggested inviting Charlie Stenholm to the ribbon cutting for the new building since he was involved in securing money for the new Health Facility.

**Item VI – Update on County Rabies** – by Dr. Travis. Ellis County had 36 positive rabies, Taylor County had 32 and Collin County had 17 positive rabies cases for the year to date. Taylor County had 1 bat, 1 dog, 1 cow, and 29 skunks that tested positive for rabies. There have only been 2 cases of West Nile Virus in Taylor County this year. The first year of WNV is worse with more cases and the following year has fewer cases. Coleman County has had 18 skunks positive for rabies. Hanta Virus was seen in the past with 1 case in Merkel.

**Item VII – Update on January Emergency Preparedness Exercise** – by Larry Johnson. There will be a Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Exercise held in January 2005 with Texas Engineering Extension (TEEX) for 2½ days involving City, County, State, EMS and local hospitals. An exercise planning meeting was held on November 1, 2004 with Fire, Police, Sheriff Office, etc for input on what they would like to test and TEEX will develop scenarios to be used

in January. December 1, 2004 a Senior Officials Meeting will be held with County Judge, Dr. Travis, and Larry Johnson in attendance. December 7, 8, and 9<sup>th</sup> Incident Command System (ICS) Training will be held at the Civic Center. The WMD exercise will be held the week of January 10<sup>th</sup> and will possibly involve chemicals and biological agents. The City will expend their local resources; test identifying biological and chemical agents; and test method of requesting Strategic National Stockpile supplies (SNS). Hendrick will test its Emergency Operations Center and mass casualties plan. In an emergency the City would have to use other city services before asking for assistance from State and Federal agencies.

**VIII – Quarterly Operational Report** – by Larry Johnson. A second incinerator has been purchased for Animal Services and will be installed later this month. The existing incinerator is 10 years old and Animal Services provides private animal cremations with the ashes returned to the owner. In private cremations only one animal can be done at a time and the charge is based on the size of the animal.

Set day, date, time for meetings at the next meeting, which is scheduled for February 15, 2005 at 1:00 pm.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.