

The Advisory Board met on November 20, 2007 in the Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District Conference Center and present were the following: Robert Hawley, D.D.S.; Peter Norton, M.D.; Stormy Higgins; Sandip Mathur, M.D.; Andrew Urban, R.Ph.; Zane Travis, M.D.; Larry Johnson; Tony Neitzler; Kay Durilla, R.N.; Wayne Rose; Charlotte Lambert and Mary K. Fair, who acted as secretary. Absent were: Jack Turner; Mike Hall; Barry Camarillo; Nancy Jennings; Ivy McCullough; Patrick Lollis and Ruth Ramirez.

**Item I – Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dr. Hawley. Dr. Hawley welcomed Dr. Mathur to the Board.

**Item II – Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting** - Mr. Higgins made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Dr. Norton seconded the motion. All approved.

**Item III – Review and Discussion of Public Health Preparedness Education Program** – by Larry Johnson. The Health District is giving education presentations to groups, adding educational material on the Public Health website, and preparing Public Service Announcements (PSA) for TV and billboards. These are non-pharmaceutical interventions based on behavior changes to start with young children and continue on for adults. Mr. Johnson introduced Charlotte Lambert to the Board and she gave a brief history of her work on this education program. Mrs. Lambert had samples of the educational material she provides to the schools and daycares; which is based on the age of the audience. The PSA for “Meet Fred” was viewed as well as brief clips from purchased videos. The Health District is working with Linda Peel at Abilene Independent School District (AISD) to provide these programs and materials to all the schools. Dr. Norton mentioned that he is on Abilene Independent School District’s Health Advisory Committee and he recommends that Mrs. Lambert make a presentation to that committee.

**Item IV - Review and Discussion of State Health Department Audit of Preparedness Program** – Larry Johnson had a summary handout of the Quality Assurance Review (audit) for each Board member and a copy is with the original minutes. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) sent a three member team in October of 2007 to the Health District to review the Public Health Preparedness (PHP) grant. Health District employees who are on the grant are Wayne Rose, Epidemiologist; Charlotte Lambert, Health Planning Coordinator; Mary K. Fair, Distance Learning Coordinator; and Debra Arnold-Higgins, Administrative Clerk II. The overall results were good with minimal observations/findings. The Health District’s All-Hazard Plan is available for Board members to review if they wish. Maintaining trained volunteer staffing for the dispensing clinics and supply/medication warehouses is an on-going problem as it is difficult to maintain the required number of volunteers for several days. The Health District does do practice exercises as well as the annual Flu Vaccine Clinics to help train and involve the volunteers. Dr. Travis and Mrs. Lambert spoke to the Taylor-Jones-Haskell Medical Society recently and the Medical Society has asked the Health District to get additional information on the Medical Reserve Corps. The Health District plans to follow up with the Medical Society to develop a core group of physicians and other medical staff and provide them with basic Public Health Preparedness training. In the event of an actual emergency additional volunteers can be brought in with “Just-In-Time” training.

**Item V – Review and Discussion of Influenza Vaccination Program** – Dr. Travis updated the Board on this year’s flu clinics. The next flu vaccination clinic will be held on November 30, 2007 at the Health District building and in December the flu vaccine will be available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 am to 4 pm – no appointment necessary. The first clinic in October gave 2,000 shots, the second clinic gave 1,300 shots and the third clinic gave 400 shots. The Health District has Flu Mist provided by the Vaccine for Children program for children ages 5 years to 18 years and the costs is \$8.00.

**Item V– Review and Discussion of Health Administrator’s Quarterly Report** – by Larry Johnson – Last year the WIC program received grants for “Imagination Library”, a reading program for WIC clients, and \$14,600 for “WIC Family Style Café”, which provided additional cooking classes during the year. Yesterday was National Public Health “Thank You Day” and Mr. Johnson handed out certificates to the staff honoring them for their years of service.

Dr. Hawley mentioned that the local Dental Society will have their annual “Give Kids a Smile” day on February 1, 2008. The participating dentists provide services free of charge to the clients. The upcoming Advisory Board meetings are February 19, 2008; May 20, 2008; August 19, 2008 and November 18, 2008.

**Item VI -- Adjourn**