

The Advisory Board met on February 15, 2011 in the Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District Conference Center and present were the following: Randy Williams; Shane Price; Peter Norton, M.D.; Maureen Trotter, M.D.; Zane Travis, M.D.; Larry Johnson; Barry Camarillo; Tony Neitzler; Kay Durilla, R.N.; Charlotte Lambert; Annette Lerma; Henry Loza; Lisa McCarty; Wayne Rose; and Mary K. Fair, who acted as secretary. Visitors in attendance: Margie DeLeon. Absent were: Robert Hawley, D.D.S.; Andrew Urban, R.Ph.; Tom Perini; Mike Hall; Nancy Jennings; and Ruth Ramirez.

Item I - Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm by Larry Johnson, acting Chair.

Item II - Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the November 16, 2010 meeting minutes as written. All approved.

Item III - Review and Discussion of Junior Medical Reserve Corps – Charlotte Lambert. Holland Medical Magnet School has expressed an interest in forming a Junior Medical Reserve Corps with the Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District. Holland is part of the Abilene Independent School District and is located on the Hardin-Simmons University campus. Ms. Lambert and Larry Johnson visited the Holland facility on February 9, 2011. Ms. Lambert showed the volunteer handbook that is given to MRC and Junior MRC applicants and provided one for each Board member and a copy is with the original minutes. The basic outline for the volunteer notebook is furnished by the National MRC organization but the local MRCs can adjust the volunteer handbook to suit their needs. Parents will be required to give consent for their child to join the Junior MRC and the Holland instructor(s) will be advisors and will participate with the students. The Junior MRC will receive the same core training as the regular MRC volunteers and Ms Lambert also provided the CD version of the core training for each Board member and a copy is with the original minutes. Mr. Johnson advised the Board that the Health District would appreciate their comments, corrections and suggestions in regards to the MRC handbook and core training.

Item IV - Review and Discussion of Whooping Cough (Pertussis) Vaccinations – Zane Travis, M.D. Whooping cough or Pertussis has been seen in adults and young children. Children receive Dtap vaccination which protects against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis beginning at 2 months of age but adults have not routinely received vaccine for Pertussis instead receiving just a Tetanus booster. It is now recommended that adults up to age 64 receive one Tdap vaccination in their lifetime and then get a Tetanus booster every 10 years. Pertussis has a severe cough which lasts over two weeks in adults and can be passed to infants and it can be fatal to infants. Confirmation of Pertussis is obtained through a nasal swab with culture but it is time consuming and cost money for the tests. The Texas Statewide Immunization Registry (ImmTrac) now includes adult vaccine records for lifetime as well as children's immunization records. The Health District immunization staff will be notifying physician offices and clinics about the adult lifetime registry in ImmTrac and also Tdap recommendation for adults.

Item V – Review and Discussion of Potential State Legislation of Interest to Public Health – Larry Johnson. Mr. Johnson provided a handout for each Board Member listing some of the bills being proposed in the Texas legislature and a copy is with the original minutes. This is a brief list and summary of the bills but does not include all of the bills being considered as currently there are over 1,400 bills in the Texas House and the session has not ended. Some of the ones that could impact public health are HB 1138 Demonstration Project For Preventive Health Services (currently Women's Health Care Services); HB 1255 Demonstration Project For Women's Health Care Services; HB 85 Prohibits The Use Of State Or Governmental Entity Resources To Support The Performance Of Abortions Or Abortion-Related Services; HB 670 Smoking Prohibited In Public Places And Places Of Employment; HB 1166 Tobacco Cessation Coverage And User Fee; HB 871 County Indigent Health Care Services; HB 796 Consent To Cleaning Teeth Without An X-ray; HB 97 Health Freedom Act; HB 297 Invalidating The Federal Patient Protection And Affordable Care Act; HB 1133 Maternal Mortality And Morbidity Review Board; HB 292 Change To Birth Certificates Based On Citizenship; HB 545 Affirmative Defense For Sexual Contact With Individuals At Least 13 Years Old; HB 574 Changes To The Consent Requirement For Inclusion In The State Immunization Registry (Opt Out Instead Of Opt In); and HB 636 Establishing The Texas Health Insurance Connector. Mr. Williams encourages everyone to get educated on these bills and correspond with their State Representatives.

Item V - Adjourn – The next regularly scheduled meeting is May 17, 2011. No further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.