

Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District
Advisory Board
August 16, 2011

The Advisory Board met on August 16, 2011 in the Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District Conference Center and present were the following: Robert Hawley, D.D.S.; Randy Williams; Tom Perini; Peter Norton, M.D.; Shane Price; Maureen Trotter, M.D.; Larry Johnson; Barry Camarillo; Zane Travis, M.D.; Tony Neitzler; Kay Durilla, R.N.; Charlotte Lambert; Henry Loza; Katie Byerly; Wayne Rose; and Mary K. Fair, who acted as secretary. Absent were: Mike Hall; Annette Lerma and Nancy Jennings.

Item I - Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Dr. Hawley.

Item II - Review and Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting – A motion was made by Dr. Norton and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the May 17, 2011 meeting minutes as written. All approved.

Item III - Review and Discussion of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Associate Program – Larry Johnson. Three years ago the Health District was assigned a CDC apprentice for a three year period and now the CDC has changed the program to a two year associate program. There were over 1,000 applications to the CDC Associate Program and only 64 associates were placed this year. Mr. Johnson introduced Katie Byerly, the new CDC associate that has been assigned to the Health District for the next two years. In her first year she will be working in the Immunization program and the second year she will be working in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program. Ms. Byerly majored in Public Health Management from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. The Board of Health members welcome Ms. Byerly to Abilene.

Item IV - Review and Discussion of Summer Immunization Program and Changes to Vaccination Schedule – Kay Durilla. The Health District is in midst of back to school vaccinations. In 2009 the Texas Legislature changed requirements for school age children vaccinations -- Hepatitis A and a second Varicella for Kindergarten; Tdap (pertussis), Meningococcal and second Varicella for 7th graders. School districts, including Abilene Independent School District (AISD), can refuse entry to a student on the first day of school if their shots are not current. Also, college freshmen living in dorms are required to have a Meningococcal vaccination. Question was asked if the Health District could go to AISD school campuses to give shots. AISD does not want anyone coming into the schools and giving immunizations due to possible liability issues according to AISD lawyers. Also, parental consent/signatures are required before a child receives immunizations. Children can receive immunizations at private physician offices as well as at the Health District and the Medical Care Mission Clinic.

Item V – Review and Discussion of Cardiovascular/Stroke Program and Gold Award – Larry Johnson. Mr. Johnson introduced Henry Loza who has been working on the Heart and Stroke Healthy City Work Group. Two years ago the Health District received a grant from the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke. The purpose of the grant was to help improve our Heart and Stroke Healthy community score; provide a baseline assessment; identify gaps and disparities in the community; develop a community action plan and a disparity plan. In 2006 Abilene received a Bronze Award from the Cardiovascular Council and in 2008 Abilene did not receive any award. Mr. Loza provided a handout with information about the Heart and Stroke Healthy City Work Group including participating members, objectives, activities, and accomplishments during the past 18 months. A copy of the handout is with the original minutes. In April 2010 the initial meeting was held to form a work group with other community partners and work started on the community assessment. Additional work group meetings were held as well as various health fairs, public awareness events and community partner presentations and events. The Work Group identified three disparity groups in the Abilene area – Hispanic, African-American and the elderly. Abilene received a Texas Heart and Stroke Healthy City Recognition Program “Gold Award”. Dr. Michael Hawkins from the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke presented the award at the June 23, 2011 City Council meeting. On August 6, 2010 Ms. Durilla and Mr. Loza gave a presentation to the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke outlining the progress of the Abilene Heart and Stroke Health City Work Group.

Item V - Adjourn – The next regularly scheduled meeting is November 15, 2011. No further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.