

Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District
Health Advisory Board Minutes
November 15th, 2016

The Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District (ATCPHD) Health Advisory Board met on November 15th, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the ATCPHD conference room. Present were the following members: Dr. Robert Hawley, DDS; Dr. Peter Norton, MD; Shane Price; Randy Williams; Dr. Maxey McKnight, MD; James McCoy; Annette Lerma; Lesli Andrews; and Chace Craig.

Item I – Call to Order – Dr. Hawley called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Item II – Review and Approval of Minutes from August 16th Meeting

Dr. Hawley asked the board to review the minutes. Dr. Hawley asked for a motion to accept the minutes; Dr. McKnight motioned to approve, Mr. Williams seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Item III – Introduction of New Dental Provider, Dr. Silas Lai, DDS, and Environmental Health Manager, Terry Harney

Annette Lerma, Health Program Manager

Introduction of Dr. Silas Lai, DDS, and Terry Harney, Environmental Health Manager. Previously, Dr. Lai had a private dental practice in Plano, Texas. Mrs. Harney stated that she is from Memphis, Tennessee, and has 18 years of experience with Environmental Health.

Item IV – MERCY Health Care Center Update

Dr. Peter Norton, Health Authority/Medical Director

Dr. Norton provided information about the MERCY Healthcare Center. MERCY opened in 2014, all medical services provided at the Sears Clinic were transferred to the new center. MERCY has 5 patient exam rooms, in addition to offices for nurse practitioners and additional staff. MERCY is an indigent care clinic that provides services which includes primary health care, STD screening, family planning, and breast and cervical cancer screening. Dr. Hawley asked if the clinic was for the uninsured. Dr. Norton responded that the programs at MERCY are primarily for the uninsured; however, certain programs accept clients with Medicaid as well.

Item V – Presentation of New ATCPHD Vaccine Fee Schedule

Lesli Andrews, Director of Community Services

An updated ATCPHD vaccine fee schedule was presented to City Council for review and approval on October 27th, 2016. The new fees were approved.

Item VI – Refugee Program Update

Kay Durilla, Nursing Program Manager

State of Texas has decided it will no longer support the Refugee Program; however, refugees will still come to Abilene. The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has assumed oversight of the program. The entity that will disburse funding from the ORR will not be known until January 31st, 2017. Mr. Price shared information from an International Rescue Committee (IRC) meeting he attended. Texas is the third state to go through this transition. Dr. Hawley asked if refugees were mandated to come to the ATCPHD, and Ms. Durilla stated that they were.

Item VII- Healthy Texas Women (HTW) & Family Planning Program Updates

Annick Kanyamuneza, Clinic Coordinator

The Healthy Texas Women Program (HTW) at the MERCY Health Care Center provides pregnancy tests, pelvic exams, and STD screening. These services are for US citizens or legal immigrants, ages 15-44 years of age, whom are at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The Family Planning Program provides services to Texas residents and undocumented clients, ages 64 years or younger.

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Item VIII- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening (BCCS) Program Update

Amy Fulcher, Case Manager

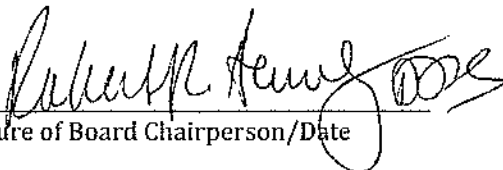
Amy introduced herself to the board. Mrs. Fulcher has been in Abilene for 25 years and started with the ATCPHD Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening (BCCS) Program on November 5th, 2015. The BCCS Program has been in Abilene for almost 25 years: 21 years with the Alliance for Women & Children, 2½ years with the Abilene Diagnostic Clinic, and a year with the ATCPHD. Historically, the program paid for clinical services only and a small amount for case management. Funding for administrative services came from other sources. In September (2015), the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) began paying a \$50 service coordination fee for each client in order to assist with administrative costs. Reimbursement for clinical services is loosely based on Medicaid rates. To date the BCCS program has provided services to 216 unduplicated women (count pending on HHSC final verification), \$73,927.72 has been paid to date for services provided, and 54% of the award has been utilized.

Item IX- Environmental Health Update

Terry Harney, Environmental Health Manager

Mrs. Harney provided an update on the ATCPHD Environmental Health Program. Environmental Health regulates food, water, pools, and spas. Mosquito control may also be included in Environmental Health once again. Environmental Health currently loses \$10.00 for each septic system they regulate. The current charge to homeowners is \$200.00, but the fee paid to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is \$210.00.

Item X - Adjourn - Dr. Hawley adjourned the meeting at 2:04 p.m. The next Board of Health meeting will be February 21st, 2017.



Signature of Board Chairperson/Date



Signature of Recording Secretary/Date