

**ABILENE-TAYLOR COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 19, 2019 1:00 pm**

Members Present:

Dr. Robert Hawley, DDS
Mr. James McCoy
Mr. Randy Williams, Commissioner
Dr. Lynn Robinson
Mr. Tom Perini

Staff Present:

Ms. Annette Lerma
Ms. Christine Lucio
Ms. Veronica Escalona
Ms. Hailey Shirley
Mr. Chace Craig
Dr. Peter Norton

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Hawley called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and Ms. Shirley recorded the minutes. A quorum of members was present, and the meeting proceeded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Hawley asked the board to review the minutes from the last meeting on December 4th, 2018. Dr. Hawley asked if any members objected to minute approval; No objections. Minutes approved.

The Board approved the minutes.

AGENDA ITEMS & PUBLIC HEARINGS

3.1 Update: Introduction of new Assistant Health Services Director Christine Lucio, MPH, MSW, LCSW (Annette Lerma, Health Services Director)

- Ms. Lerma introduced Christine Lucio. Ms. Lucio spoke on how she started as a social worker, and worked in Alaska but came to Texas via Military. Ms. Lucio got her MPH at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

3.2 Update and Discussion: Dental Program Updates on new Interlocal Agreement for Taylor County Adult Detention Facility inmates; Community Development Block Grant services; new dental chairs and equipment (Annette Lerma, Health Services Director)

- Ms. Lerma mentioned that we are now seeing county jail inmates through our Dental Clinic. The dentist will see 8 patients one day a week.
- Ms. Lerma mentioned that since December the Dental Clinic has seen 137 patients through the Community Development Block Grant funding. The clinic has now had to cut off accepting applications due to funding limitations. Ms. Lerma mentioned reaching out to United Way to see if some funding normally allocated to Medical Care Mission could now be used by our Dental Clinic. Dr. Hawley stated he would mention the issue to the Texas Dental Association to see if other funding streams could be sourced.

3.3 Update and Possible Action: Tobacco 21 national campaign aimed at raising the minimum legal age for tobacco and nicotine sales to 21 presentation (Annette Lerma, Health Services Director)

- Ms. Lerma showed a presentation on the smoking and juuling epidemic and the effect of nicotine addiction to the brain in adolescence.
- Needham, MA first enacted Tobacco 21 in 2006. Since implementation, smoking rates dropped 48%. Over 425 cities and counties in 24 states have all implemented Tobacco 21. San Antonio is the only city in Texas that has implemented this policy.
- Randy Williams brought up concerns of regulating this ordinance and Annette responded that the Health Department would likely be the regulator.
- Dr. Norton said this policy will assist in limiting availability and that the proof is in the numbers of smoking rates. Mr. McCoy stated that even one percent of a life being saved would be worth implementation.
- Dr. Hawley made a motion to support the ordinance. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. All were in favor of supporting the ordinance.

3.4 Presentation: Public Health 101 presentation on the role of public health in our community (Dr. Peter Norton, Medical Director/Health Authority)

- Dr. Norton showed a presentation on Public Health and how it affects our community.

3.5 Update and Possible Action: Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District (ATCPHD) represented in the Public Health Coalition formed and led by Texas Tech University Health Science Center (TTUHSC) (Julie St. John, DrPH, MPH, MA, CHWI, Associate Chair Julia Jones Matthews Department of Public Health TTUHSC Abilene Campus)

- Dr. St. John spoke on the Public Health Coalition and working with the ATCPHD to help in identifying areas that need more research, trainings or interventions with the hopes of solving public health issues.

3.6 Consideration and Possible Action: 2019 Health Advisory Board meeting dates and times May 21, 2019, August 20, 2019, and November 19, 2019. All meetings are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. (Annette Lerma, Health Services Director)

- Ms. Lerma asked if there were any objections to those dates. No objections.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Hawley adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. The next Board of Health meeting will be February 19th at 1:00 PM


Signature of Board Chairperson/Date