

HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 20, 2019 1:00 pm

Members Present:

Dr. Robert Hawley, DDS
Mr. Travis Craver
Mr. James McCoy
Dr. Lynn Robinson, MD
Dr. Hector Garcia, MD

Staff Present:

Ms. Veronica Escalona
Mr. Nate Lester
Ms. Cari Waller
Ms. Annette Lerma
Ms. Christine Lucio
Ms. Kristi McQueen
Mr. Stanley Smith, City Attorney
Dr. Peter Norton
Ms. Terri Auger

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Hawley called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and Ms. Veronica 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 May 21st, 2019. 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 Health Advisory Board member Council member Travis Craver (Dr. Robert Hawley, Board Chair)

- Dr. Hawley introduced Councilman Travis Craver. Dr. Craver studied at Hardin-Simmons University where he obtained his undergrad and master's degree. He received his Ph.D from Baylor University in 2017. He is the Director of Chapel and Spiritual Formation for HSU staff and students. Dr. Craver expressed his appreciation to be part of the Health Advisory Board.

3.2 Update & Discussion: Presentation of the Texas Physical Activity and Nutrition (TXPAN) Grant Work Plan and new Health Administration Specialist Kristi McQueen (Christine Lucio, Assistant Health Services Director)

- Ms. Lucio introduced Kristi McQueen, MSEP as the new TXPAN Program Coordinator. Ms. McQueen was born in Abilene, grew up in Georgetown, returned to Abilene to attend Abilene Christian University to obtain her undergrad in kinesiology. She obtained her Master's degree in Exercise and Physiology from Midwestern State in May 2019. Ms. McQueen presented on the TXPAN program. TXPAN is a state grant created to reduce the impact of obesity and related chronic diseases. 34.2% of Abilene's adults report being obese, compared to an average of 29.2% according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC. The focus areas are Food Service Guideline, Breastfeeding,

Early Care and Education, and built communities. The TXPAN work plan outlines activities that support each focus area. Dr. Hawley asked Dr. Hector Garcia and Dr. Lynn Robinson for their thoughts on obesity. Both stated that it is an issue that they see in their practices often. Ms. Lerma stated that the attraction of green space in our community is missing in Abilene. Also, new developers are applying for a waiver from a City of Abilene ordinance that requires sidewalks in new developments so it is not really enforced. Mr. McCoy stated that the issue is nutrition and that education of young children is the key. Everyone agreed that TXPAN would be a great resource for Abilene.

3.3 Update & Discussion: Vector Control Program update and Phase Response Protocol, National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) grant award (Annette Lerma, Health Services Director and Terri Auger, Environmental Health Manager)

- Ms. Lerma commended Ms. Auger for being awarded a grant from NACCHO for a Vector Control Program. Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District was 1 in 4 entities in the nation that received the grant. Ms. Auger stated the grant is for \$10k and will be able to fund an intern to assist with required vector control and surveillance. Ms. Auger will work closely with Tarrant County.

3.4 Update & Discussion: Public Health Emergency Preparedness upcoming training for mass casualty situations (Annette Lerma, Health Services Director and Nate Lester, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator)

- Mr. Lester stated that an in-house presentation on mass fatalities was done at the monthly Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District staff meeting August 15, 2019. A workshop is scheduled November 6, 2019 for internal and external stakeholders of the community. This workshop will follow the Mass Fatality Management Planning Toolkit from the Texas Department of State Health Services. Dyess Air Force Base will be included in the workshop.

3.5 Update & Possible Action: Discussion of gaps in caring of indigent populations and possible long term solutions (Dr. Peter Norton, Medical Health Authority and Cari Waller, Nurse Program Manager)

- Ms. Waller presented two examples of patients that are seen at MERCY Health Care Center that have a cancer diagnosis but do not qualify for any government assistance or community program to receive surgery or radiation treatment. The clinic's staff helps the patient find a possible program locally and in other Texas cities that have cancer treatment but face many obstacles such as having to pay thousands of dollars out of pocket, not being a resident of that county, and the length of time for the eligibility process. Dr. Norton stated that Abilene does not have a true Indigent Care Program and would like for the Health Advisory Board to recommend for this issue to be presented to City Council and Taylor County Commissioner's Court. Dr. Hawley asked the board for their recommendation. All board members present agreed with the recommendation.

3.6 Discussion & Possible Action: Information on new dental van providing services in parking lots (Dr. Robert Hawley, Board Chair)

- Dr. Hawley voiced his concern about dental services being provided via a dental van in parking lots. He asked if there is a permit for this type medical service being provided. Ms. Lerma stated that there may be a zoning issue to enforce but there isn't a specific permit to enforce.

3.7 Update: Introduce the "Get To Know" Abilene Taylor County Public Health District (ATCPHD) handout for the general public that explains what ATCPHD does with the description of all the programs available (Christine Lucio, Assistant Health Services Director)

- Ms. Lucio presented a copy of the "Get To Know" Abilene-Taylor County Public Health District (ATCPHD) handout. ATCPHD has approximately 19 programs/services. This handout has been shared with Mary Cooksey, Community Resource Center Director at United Way of Abilene.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Hawley adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m. The next Board of Health meeting will be November 19th, 2019 at 1:00 PM



Signature of Board Chairperson/Date