



Abilene/Taylor County Child Advocacy Center
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
01/13/12

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Eidson – Taylor County District Attorney
Dee Moore – Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Les Bruce – Taylor County Sheriff
Laura Lee Hines – Concerned Citizen
Anthony Williams – Abilene Christian University
Karon Bingaman – Pediatric Nurse
Dr. Justin Smith – Pediatrician
Debra McCracken – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
Diane Dotson – Regional Crime Victims Crisis Center
Nikki Favors – Concerned Citizen
Becky Poindexter – Concerned Citizen

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Stan Standridge – Chief, Abilene Police Department
Bobby Easterling – Jim Ned, Middle School Principal
Randy Holden – Tye Police Department
Sue Pecoraro – Dyess O.S.I.
Bob Jones – Merkel Police Department
Leigh Ann Fry – Noah Project
Downing Bolls – Taylor County Commissioners Court
Craig Shaw – CBS Insurance
Karen Munoz – Abilene ISD
Gretchen Denny – Child Protective Services
Casey Wasson – Abilene Regional Medical Center

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melinda Beard – Director, ATCCAC
Mike Perry – Deputy Chief, Abilene Police Department

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sharon Miller – ATCCAC Advisory Board Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 A.M. by ATCCAC Advisory Board Chair Dee Moore.

Board Chair Dee Moore introduced new ATCCAC Board Members Dr. Justin Smith and Becky Poindexter. New member Casey Wasson was not present.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Chair Moore asked board members to review minutes from the previous meeting of 10/14/11. After the minutes were reviewed, Karon Bingaman moved that the minutes be approved as read. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Presentation

Debra McCracken, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), presented information to board members about the SANE component in regards to child abuse cases. Debra has served as a SANE since 1982.

Director's Report

ATCCAC Director Melinda Beard advised that the annual Champion For Children Conference will be held at the Abilene Civic Center on 03-30-12. Melinda asked for a volunteer to work the CAC's booth at the conference, to include handing out printed information and selling t-shirts. Laura Lee Hines volunteered to take on this responsibility. Diane Dotson stated that the website address for the conference this year is championforchildren.net.

Melinda also advised that the National Symposium on Child Abuse will be held in Huntsville, Alabama this year from March 19th – March 22nd. She stated that Dianna Benavides, ATCCAC Forensic Interviewer, and Tatum Woodson, Regional Crime Victims Crisis Center Counselor, will be attending. Melinda reported that the 8th Annual Multi-Disciplinary Team "Child Safe" Conference in San Antonio will be held on April 26th & 27th. Debra McCracken (SANE), Barbara McDaniel (Child Protective Services), a RCVCC counselor and possibly Sharon Miller (ATCCAC) are scheduled to attend.

ATCCAC STATS (JULY-DECEMBER 2011):

- 166 children received services
 - 109 female
 - 57 male
 - *59 - sexual abuse
 - *24 - physical abuse
 - *9 - child witnesses
 - *74 - risk of abuse or neglect
- 79 offenders
 - 18 juvenile
 - 61 adult

APD Deputy Chief Mike Perry advised that Police Administration has approached the Abilene City Council requesting five additional sworn officers for the Department. He stated that if the request is granted, Administration hopes to add an additional detective to the ATCCAC staff. The Center lost one detective position in August 2011 due to officer shortages.

The next meeting of the Abilene/Taylor County Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board will be **Friday, April 13, 2012** at 7:15 A.M., Taylor County Law Enforcement Center, 450 Pecan St., Abilene, TX 79602, 2nd Floor Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 A.M. by Chair Dee Moore.