

Minutes from Quarterly Meeting
Texas Oral Health Coalition
Friday, April 11, 2008
Austin, TX.

Chairman Dr. Rex Law called a meeting of the Texas Oral Health Coalition to order at 8:30 AM on Friday, April 11, 2008 at the Courtyard by Marriott Austin Airport Hotel. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes of the January 25, 2008 meeting were approved as printed. (4/2008)

DSHS Update: Dr. Linda Altenhoff reported that the Oral Health Division is working on the renewal CDC grant application, with a budget of approximately \$350,000 to \$400,000. Included in the grant budget will be a \$60,000 contract, for the first year, to be used by the TxOHC to sustain its activities. As an example of acceptable expenses, funds from the grant may be used for part time staff, travel, and/or room rental. They may not be used for advocacy. Letters of support from TAGD, TXOHC, regional dental coalitions and other organized state dental entities would strengthen the grant. The application is due May 26, so interested members were asked to submit support letters no later than May 16 to allow time for uploading. It is believed approximately fifteen states &/or territories will be funded for the CDC grant.

As a part of the Frew Law Suit settlement, work continues to bring about a mobile dental unit for south Texas, to be operational by September 2008. The Laredo Health Department dental clinic will be expanded to be a dental home for children seen in the mobile clinic.

Dr. Altenhoff drafted a \$28,000,000 dollar exceptional item for the state budget, but it is unsure if the item can be moved forward. State agencies are not allowed to request exceptional items larger than 10% of the budget. The exceptional item contains money for increased staffing and reinstatement of the dental voucher program.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Anthony Bolin presented the treasurer's report with a balance of \$5,570.57 as of March 31, 2008. He also reported that application process for the TxOHC's becoming a 501 (C) (3) nonprofit is partially completed. The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

Bylaw updates: Dr. Johanna De Young moved to approved bylaw updates as printed. Beth Stewart moved to amend the updates to add: 3.3 d. Vacancies: The Chairperson of the Board may appoint an individual....., and to replace the name of Dianna Prachyl with the name of current coalition chair, Rex Law, DDS at the end of the document. Amendment seconded by Janet Bartlett. The amendment was APPROVED. The motion as amended was APPROVED. (5/2008, 6/2008)

Website Update: Cindy Hines introduced Dr. Vincent Bash, who has agreed to take over webmaster duties for the coalition. Dr. Bash is creating a listserve for the TxOHC whose address will be TXOHCTalk@TXOHC.org. Dr. Anthony Bolin moved that Dr. Bash be given permission to put coalition member's email addresses on the listserve, and that any

member may unsubscribe if they so desire. Seconded. APPROVED. (7/2008) Cindy Hines will be responsible for forwarding any changes in email address information to Dr. Bash.

Committee Reports: Janet Bartlett distributed copies of the “Word of Mouth” newsletter. A draft of a brochure for the coalition was distributed for suggestions on improvement before it is put into use. Putting the coalition’s web address on the front of the brochure was suggested. The list of coalition members was reviewed, and discussion followed as to membership requirements to be listed as a member of the coalition. The brochure was said to be in a good starting stage but needs to be fine-tuned. Suggestions for brochure changes should be forwarded to Sharon Dickerson. Dr. Johanna De Young moved to use the current brochure in the interim until a revised version of the new brochure is in place. Seconded. APPROVED. (8/2008) Ginny Hickman moved to create guidelines for what can be added or deleted from printed materials, who will be responsible, and that funding partners receive special recognition on the brochure and on the website. Seconded. APPROVED (9/2008)

Janet reported that discussion is being held with Susan Zinn regarding the inclusion of legislation for children to have a dental exam prior to school entrance as a part of the Frew settlement. Funding would be for Medicaid children only, but the legislation would require all children to have a dental exam prior to school entrance.

At the conclusion of the El Paso pilot project, “Give Your Child a Smile for Life,” David Palafox, M.D. and Gary Mundy, D.D.S., presidents of the respective El Paso medical and dental societies, gave a favorable report on the project. Their report indicated that the improved communication between the medical and dental communities could only benefit the patients they serve and elevate the level of care provided.

Strategic Planning: Dr. Linda Altenhoff introduced Ellen Castrucci who led a strategic planning session.

Notes from the strategic planning process will be reported seperately from this document.

The next meeting of the TxOHC will tentatively be scheduled for Friday, June 6, 2008 at the DSHS headquarters. (Thursday, June 5 as an option if June 6 not available.) Ellen Castrucci will be invited back to continue strategic planning with the group.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 P.M.

Rex Law, DDS, Chair

Sally Hopper, Secretary