

Minutes from a Quarterly Meeting
Texas Oral Health Coalition
Thursday, January 11, 2007

Chair Dianna Prachyl called a meeting of the Texas Oral Health Coalition (TxOHC) to order at 9:10 AM at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Austin, Texas. Members introduced themselves.

Motion 01-07 Minutes of the November 16, 2006 meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Dr. Anthony Bolin reported for Dr. Dan Jones on revenue and expenses from the Summit held last November. A balance of \$3,642 is available pending payment of travel expenses of Summit speakers. A majority of the dollars used for the previous Summit were from a CDC grant. Registration fees funded this Summit. It was suggested that fees be raised next year. Bonnie Waite will serve as Treasurer this year.

Summit Evaluations: Sandy Tesch reported 95 people were in attendance. Overall evaluations were very positive. It appears from the evaluations that many people were interested in being included in the TxOHC work. The committee reported that they especially enjoyed the legislative involvement. Legislators need to hear the presentations. The location and time of year were thought to be appropriate. The round table discussions were popular. Next year TxOHC will plan a half-day on Thursday and all day Friday. November 8 & 9, and October 25 & 26 are dates to be considered. The ADA convention and Texas football schedule will be checked.

TxOHC Conflict of Interest Statement: Dr. Johanna DeYoung presented the Conflict of Interest Statement. Joe Babb explained that its purpose is to ensure there is no personal gain or monetary benefit to any member of the Board. This is a common document used by nonprofits.

Motion 02-07 Dr. Anthony Bolin moved to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy as printed.

Seconded: APPROVED

Members will be asked to sign and return the document. *Please print out the attached Conflict of Interest Policy and bring a signed copy to the April meeting.* Copies of signed documents will be kept on file.

Membership Dues: Some dollars remain from the CDC grant. More dollars will be allotted in the future to travel funds, as this budget is more flexible and easier to use. 2008 is the last year of the grant and there is no guarantee that it will be funded again. The coalition may need to look for corporate funding for the Summit.

Membership Maintenance: Sandy led the group in a brainstorming exercise, to suggest people to fill vacancies for various areas of the state that are not currently represented. Dianna will draft a letter of invitation, to join TxOHC, to those suggested during the exercise. It was suggested to add liaisons from other coalitions who have a natural link to TxOHC (Tobacco, Children's Hospital Assn., etc.).

Evaluation and Revision of State Oral Health Plan: Dr. Linda Altenhoff gave a short history of how the State Oral Health Plan was created and compiled. In order to keep the plan current, DSHS and TxOHC members will go to additional sites, different from the sites initially visited, to solicit feedback and comments on the State Oral Health Plan from stakeholders. Work will be completed between March 1, 2007 and May 31, 2007 at sites which tentatively will include Tyler, Lubbock, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, San Angelo, Weslaco and/or Texarkana. Assignments were made for those who would help to find meeting locations in various areas: Dianna Prachyl- Tyler, Regional staff-Lubbock, Dr. Paul Kennedy-Corpus Christi, Dr. Gary Delz-San Angelo, Dr. David Cappelli-San Antonio, Dr. John Garcia- Weslaco, Dr. Rex Law-Texarkana.

Texas Water Fluoridation Project Update: Tom Napier distributed a report showing 78.2% of Texans have fluoridated water, leaving 4.7 million people without fluoridated water. If 30 more identified systems were fluoridated, 1 million more people could be added. Texarkana is the largest unfluoridated area; Palestine is interested but doesn't have funding. Statistics show that for every \$1 spent on fluoridation, we receive \$19 in savings in Medicaid dental dollars. Tom requested support for a non-binding resolution. Approximately 11-12 other states mandate fluoridation and preschool dental exams. Once the fluoridation system is set up, it costs only twenty-five to fifty cents per person annually to operate. Grassroots advocacy is needed in sites where fluoridation has stopped. A process for the coalition's involvement was discussed. TDA involvement through emails was recommended. Samples of an advocacy letter could be put on the coalition's web site.

03-07 Dr. Mickey Vaclav moved to send districts that have recently discontinued fluoridation and any future districts that stop fluoridation a "Fluoride Discontinuation Alert" letter from the coalition, including the benefits of fluoride, to newspaper editors, mayors and through the TDA to dentists in these areas.

Seconded: APPROVED

04-07 Janet Bartlett moved to seek a legislator to carry a non-binding fluoride resolution to the Public Health Committee.

Seconded: APPROVED

Lunch: 11:20 to 12:30

Work Group Reports:

Advocacy Work Group: Janet Bartlett presented an Advocacy Communication Plan. She requested to be able to use the plan as a draft this year and come back to the group next year with a final plan. Janet went through the document and asked for corrections or additions. Dr. Altenhoff said that the Coalition, not DSHS, had final approval. Dr. Johanna DeYoung suggested references to "baby bottle tooth decay" be changed to "early childhood caries."

05-07 Janet Bartlett moved to be able to use the Advocacy Workgroup Communication Plan as a draft for the coming year to test it. Seconded: APPROVED.

A school nurses manual was reported to be on the DSHS website.

Access to Care: Dr. Bolin reported that the group has not met.

Surveillance: Dr. Capelli said his group would meet in February. They are studying three areas of data, including a basic screening survey on 3rd graders and another on Headstart kids across the state. Texas Health Steps has continuing education modules on line. One module involves fluoride varnish and early intervention. Another module is being modeled after dental information from Minnesota.

Infrastructure: Dr. DeYoung reported no meeting. Joleen Bagwell requested to join this committee.

Population Based Prevention: Sally Hopper reported no meeting. Because Sally has become the secretary for the Coalition a new chair is sought for this committee. Interested parties should contact Dianna Prachyl.

Regional Coalitions Reports:

South Texas Coalition: Dr. John Garcia reported a listening session in McAllen, and a meeting of Dentists Who Care in August on South Padre Island.

Houston Regional Coalition: Cindy Heinz reported election of officers at their recent meeting.

Children's Oral Health Coalition of Tarrant County: Ginny Hickman reported on a *Train the Trainer* module created by the coalition, designed to train preschool teachers how to teach parents on good oral health practices. A pilot program was recently concluded, with pre and post testing. Curriculum is being revised and a second test run will happen this spring. It is designed to be a workshop in a box, so that, once fully developed, it can be sent out in complete form with any group that could benefit from the training. The Legislative Committee has met with the Tarrant County delegation to bring them up to speed on dental issues. Improving Medicaid rates, up to 75% of usual and customary, and reinstating an emergency fee-for-service fund for school nurses are the two main topics for discussion. In discussion with legislators and Mr. Swaze of HHS, it was stated that Medicaid rates could probably be raised across two or three sessions, rather than all at once. TxOHC members requested that Ginny lead a session on structuring coalitions, to share a blue print of the path to success for other coalitions. Dianna will talk with Ginny to try to set this meeting up at the next TxOHC meeting.

Amarillo Coalition: Dr. Mickey Vaclav reported their coalition would meet in Hereford, in conjunction with Lubbock, to provide a Texas Mission for Mercy (TMOM) event.

Legislative Update from the State Dental Director: Dr. Altenhoff reported her area has put forward an exceptional item for a budget request for funds to reinstate one new hygienist in each of the five regions. They also asked for \$350,000 for each of two years for emergency fee-for-service for school nurses. Vouchers would be \$500. Studies show

that for each \$1 paid, \$1.49 in benefit is received due to the generosity of treating dentists. Children 18 and below at 185% of poverty, and not enrolled in CHIP or Medicaid, are eligible for vouchers. They must prove parents are residing in Texas legally. Nonprofit dental groups can take vouchers too. Voucher will be available to all schools. Three CHIP eligibility and administrative bills have been presented. HB28 (Burman) asks that children born in Texas of illegal parents not be eligible for Medicaid. HB40 requires parents to prove they are legal residents before children are eligible for Medicaid. HB127 requires state agencies to show cost of services to illegal residents. The number of Medicaid providers has been stable; the number of kids on Medicaid has gone up at about 100,000 per year. DSHS will go through sunset review this year. Dr. Sanchez has resigned. The new Commissioner is Dr. David Lakey from the Tyler area.

Suggested Themes for the Year:

1. TDA, ADA and AAPD endorsed finding a dental home by age one.
2. Mandatory oral exam/inspection of children at the beginning of school.
3. Promote water fluoridation.

06-07 Dr. Mickey Vaclav moved to send a letter of support of Dr. Altenhoff's exceptional budget items to all state legislators.

Seconded: APPROVED

Ginny Hickman requested that members see a copy of the letter so that other coalitions around the state could send letters of support to their local legislators. The group decided on the theme of: "Find a dental home by 12 months of age with education of dentists as to how to implement this program." Dr. Mickey Vaclav suggested dental schools have students examine one year olds and talk with the moms so that they are comfortable doing this later in private practice.

The summer coalition meeting (July 12th) will begin at 8:00 am so that Ginny Hickman can do a workshop on coalition building. The regular Board meeting will start at 10:30 and last until 5:00. The next TxOHC meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Austin (the same location as this meeting).

2007 Summit Planning Committee: Cindy Heinz, Dr. Rex Law, Ginny Hickman (Corporate Funding), Dr. Anthony Bolin (Registration), Dr. Bob Peterek and Dianna Prachyl.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

Dianna Prachyl, Chair

Sally Hopper, Secretary