

**MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING
ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
July 28, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lane Crider, PE, President
Mike Riddell, MD, President-Elect
Renee Mallory, Secretary
Greg Bledsoe, MD, Surgeon General
Loy Bailey, RS
Eddie Bryant, MD
Marsha Boss, PD
Mellie Bridewell
Dwayne Daniels, MD
Brad Erney, MD
Melissa Faulkenberry, DC
Darren Flamik, MD
Phillip Gilmore, PhD, MS, MHA
Anthony Hui, MD
David Kiessling, MD
Balan Nair, MD
Donald Ragland
Clay Waliski
Susan Weinstein, DVM
Terry Yamauchi, MD
James Zini, DO

MEMBERS ABSENT

Perry Amerine, OD
Stephanie Barnes
Vanessa Falwell

GUESTS PRESENT

Dr. Jennifer Dillaha, ADH, MD, Director
Dr. Namvar Zohoori, ADH, Chief Science Officer
Dr. Bala Simon, ADH, Deputy Chief Medical Officer
Dr. Austin Porter, ADH, Deputy Science Officer
Dr. Mike Cima, ADH, State Epidemiologist
Don Adams, ADH, Chief of Staff
Jo Thompson, ADH, Chief Financial Officer
Cristy Sellers, ADH, Director, Center for Health Advancement
Connie Melton, ADH, Director, Center for Health Protection
Shirley Louie, Director, Center for Public Health Practice
Dr. Katie Seely, ADH, Director, Public Health Lab
Sherian Kwanisai, ADH, Director, Center for Local
Public Health
Christy Kresse, ADH, EMS Medical Services Chief
Dr. Rachel Sizemore, ADH, Director, Office of Oral Health
Laura Shue, ADH, General Counsel
Reginald Rogers, ADH, Deputy General Counsel
Matt Gilmore, ADH, Coordinator, Boards and Commissions
Dr. William Greenfield, ADH, Senior Physician Specialist
Shane David, ADH, Pharmacy Services Section Chief
Rhonda Kitelinger, ADH, Maternity Nurse Coordinator
Amanda Hunter, ADH, Program Nurse Coordinator
Shelly Matthews, ADH, Women's Health Program
Nurse Facilitator
Derica Mack, ADH, Women's Health Section Chief
Joy Gray, ADH, Tobacco Prevention and Cessation
Branch Manager
Amanda Gulley, ADH, Public Health Nurse
Cheryl Roland, ADH, Data Info Systems Administrator
Rachel Johnson, ADH, Breastcare Nurse Specialist
Marcie Middleton-Yates, ADH, Personnel Coordinator
Charles "Chuck" Thompson, ADH, Managing Attorney
Brooks White, ADH, Attorney
Brian Nichols, ADH, Attorney
S. Craig Smith, ADH, Attorney
Chuck Hardin, ADH, Attorney
Tressa Williams, ADH, Legal Services Specialist
Jordan Sender, ADH, Law Clerk-Legal

The quarterly meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Health was held on Thursday, July 28, 2022, in the Joseph H. Bates Auditorium of the Arkansas Department of Health.

CALL TO ORDER

Lane Crider, President, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:01 a.m. and asked for a roll call. Laura Shue, ADH General Counsel, conducted the roll call.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. James Zini moved, and Dr. Susan Weinstein seconded, that the Minutes of the April 28, 2022, Quarterly Meeting be approved.

Mr. Donald Ragland stated he is marked as absent for the May 5, 2022, Special Meeting but he tried to log into Zoom but was unsuccessful. Dr. Weinstein moved, and Dr. Balan Nair seconded, that the May 5, 2022, Minutes of the Special Meeting be approved. Dr. Zini stated that his name was not listed as being present or absent, but he was in attendance. Minutes were approved with the noted corrections by unanimous vote.

President Crider moved the Administrative Updates to the next item on the agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Don Adams, ADH Deputy Director for Administration and Interim Chief of Staff, formally presented Secretary Renee Mallory and Director Dr. Jennifer Dillaha to the Board.

Mr. Adams gave an update on ADH's annual County Health Officer Meeting, occurring on October 7-9, 2022, at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain.

Cristy Sellers, ADH Center Director for Health Advancement, introduced ADH's new Director of Oral Health, Rachel Sizemore.

OLD BUSINESS

Rules Update

Ms. Shue gave an update on the rule promulgation process. Several rules have been promulgated to implement Acts that were passed in the 2021 session. Four rules remain pending in the process.

Bylaws Reminder

Ms. Shue reminded the Board of the 2022 version of the Bylaws and that if anyone is interested in serving as President or would like to nominate a member for President, they should be prepared to submit a nomination form and supporting packet by the end of the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Midwife Advisory Board Appointments

Ms. Shelly Matthews, ADH Women's Health Program Nurse Facilitator, presented Lucy Ferguson and Maria Shoaf MacDonald-Camp for appointment to the Midwife Advisory Board. Mr. Ragland moved, and Dr. Zini seconded, to approve the appointments as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Rules Pertaining to Reportable Diseases

Dr. Jennifer Dillaha presented a memorandum that outlined the changes to the Rules Pertaining to Reportable Diseases. Dr. Mike Riddell moved, and Dr. Hui seconded, that the rules be approved as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Rules Pertaining to Volunteer Licensed Health Care Immunity Act

Mr. S. Craig Smith, ADH Attorney, presented changes to the Rules Pertaining to Arkansas Voluntary Immunity Act for Healthcare Professionals. Dr. Nair asked about instances of gross negligence. Mr. Smith stated the Act provides a defense for the healthcare professional; it does not prevent lawsuits from being filed and the court makes the determination of gross negligence on a case-by-case basis. Dr. Weinstein moved, and Dr. Hui seconded, for adoption of the rules as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order on EMS Licensee Susan Best

Mr. Brooks White, ADH Attorney, presented the disciplinary case on Ms. Susan Best. There was no representation by Ms. Best at the meeting in person, via Zoom nor through counsel. Dr. Nair asked about the protocol on the scene when there are multiple victims. Ms. Christy Kresse, ADH EMS Section Chief, replied it is to assess whether the scene is safe, what is the mechanism of injury, how many patients are there and whether additional resources are needed. Dr. Nair moved, and Dr. Brad Erney seconded, that the proposed order as presented by the subcommittee be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order on EMS Licensee Marcos G. Coates

Mr. White presented the disciplinary case on Mr. Marcos Coates. There was no representation by Mr. Coates at the meeting in person, via Zoom nor through counsel. Dr. Erney moved, and Dr. Darren Flamik seconded, to accept the proposed order as presented by the subcommittee. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order on EMS Licensee John Luke Ronald Ord

Mr. White presented the disciplinary case on Mr. John Ord. Mr. White stated Mr. Ord is currently incarcerated in federal prison. Mr. Ragland moved, and Dr. Erney seconded, that the proposed revocation be adopted as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order on EMS Licensee Jordan Thompson

Mr. White presented the disciplinary case on Mr. Jordan Thompson. Mr. Reginald Rogers, ADH Deputy General Counsel, stated Mr. Thompson is presently incarcerated in the Arkansas Department of Correction. Dr. Nair moved, and Dr. Hui seconded, that the proposed revocation be adopted as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Boss asked if the EMTs and paramedics from a fire department are under the jurisdiction of ADH. Mr. White stated the Department of Health and Board of Health is responsible for enforcing the licensing regime and have responsibility of licensure of all paramedics and EMTs, regardless of their employer.

Appointment of County Health Officer Dr. William Dunn

Dr. Namvar Zohoori, ADH Chief Science Officer, presented Dr. William Dunn for approval of County Health Officer for Calhoun County. Dr. Dewayne Daniels moved, and Dr. Riddell seconded, approval of Dr. Dunn for CHO for Calhoun County. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Re-appointment of County Health Officers

Dr. Zohoori presented Dr. Jordan Weaver of Independence County, Dr. Guilford Dudley of Jackson County, Dr. Jason Merrick of or Lonoke County, Dr. Tobias Vancil of Pulaski County, and D. Bryan Clardy of Sebastian County for re-appointment of County Health Officers. Dr. Zini moved, and Dr. Riddell seconded, that those individuals be approved for re-appointment as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCE/PROGRAM UPDATES

Tobacco Cessation Program Update

Ms. Joy Gray, ADH Branch Chief for Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program, presented a PowerPoint presentation about the tobacco program. Dr. Boss asked how long participants can receive the free lozenges and patches. Ms. Gray said twice per year with a six-month gap. Dr. Boss asked if there was anything available for pregnant women. Ms. Gray stated there is a pregnant smoker program called Be Well Baby. Dr. Zini asked if participants are instructed on how to use the products. Ms. Gray said both come with easy-to-follow instructions. Mr. Crider reported that his wife is a participant of the cessation program and has been cigarette free for eight months.

Public Health Lab Update

Dr. Katie Seely, ADH Public Health Lab Director, gave updates for the lab regarding a new method of testing for COVID and monkey pox. Dr. Seeley also gave an update on the Environmental Chemistry section of the lab. She reported that the lab has been renamed the Glen F. Baker Public Health Laboratory, after the previous director.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Crider congratulated Dr. Dillaha and Ms. Mallory on their appointments and welcomed Dr. Sizemore and Dr. Seeley in their new roles.

Mr. Crider recognized Mr. White on his departure from ADH and commended him on his work with the Board. He also thanked ADH on the good job being done regarding drinking water.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dr. Dillaha gave an overview on COVID and monkey pox.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Zini moved, and Dr. Hui seconded, that the meeting adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:52.



Lane Crider, President
Arkansas State Board of Health

