

**AMARILLO HOSPITAL DISTRICT
INDIGENT CARE AND FUNDING PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
CITY OF AMARILLO, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
JUNE 29, 2010**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Paul Proffer, Chair
Ms. Liz Hughes
Ms. Claudette Dove

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Matt Richardson	City of Amarillo, Public Health, Director
Hector Mendoza	City of Amarillo, Public Health, Assistant Director
Dean Frigo	City of Amarillo, Assistant City Manager
Vicki Covey	City of Amarillo, Assistant City Manager
Evelyn M. Padilla	Recording Secretary, City of Amarillo Public Health

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mary Coyne	Tobacco Free Amarillo
Meg Williams	Tobacco Free Amarillo
Sharon Oxendale	NWTHS
Dr. Bonna Benjamin	Department of Pediatrics, TTUHSC
Dr. Fred Eaves	Department of Pediatrics, TTUHSC
Debra Cain	TTUHSC
Jackie Galvick	TTUHSC
Dave Clark	Consultant
Jacque Branch	Amarillo National Bank
Stella Knickerbocker	Amarillo National Bank
Yann Ranaivo	Amarillo Globe News

Dr. Proffer established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Item 1: Introduction of Guests. Dr. Proffer welcomed the guests.

Item 2: Approval of the June 1, 2010 Minutes. Dr. Proffer presented the minutes of the June 1, 2010 meeting. One correction was noted to Item 10; Dr. Bonafield should read Dr. Benjamin. Motion to approve the minutes of June 1, 2010 with corrections was made by Ms. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Dove and carried 3-0.

Item 3: Presentation of Preliminary Budget Figures. Mr. Frigo reviewed the preliminary budget figures noting the operating fund began the year with \$225 million in assets, and \$9,889,000 in revenue. However, due to low interest rates the revenue amount is now \$8,359,000; total resources is \$233 million. Mr. Frigo reported that the largest expenses are the Indigent Care budgeted at \$9.5 million, the Pension Plan, for former hospital employees, budgeted at \$2.1 million, Public Health budgeted at \$807,000, and the Community Project, for the Texas Tech (TT) pediatric remodeling, is at \$250,000.

The proposed Operating budget estimate is \$9.1 million, Indigent Care is \$5.5 million, Pension Plan is \$2.2 million, and the Public Health contract remained the same. If figures are met expenses will total \$8.9 million, compared to the estimated \$9.1 million the districts fund balance will increase by about \$246,000.

The tobacco fund begins the year with \$1,645,000, and revenue of \$351,000 which is off the estimated \$500,000. He noted the Pediatric Support contract and Regence Dental Care contract are funded by

tobacco money. Total contract amounts are \$1,639,000 and the amount spent will be \$1.3 million more than the revenue. Total tobacco funds will end the year at \$356,000.

The proposed Tobacco revenue estimate is \$1,648,000, estimated funding request is about \$40,000 and assuming figures remain the same, the proposed budget will have a deficit of \$1.3 million and the tobacco fund will end in a deficit of about \$949,000.

Item 4: Review and Consider Continuation of the contract for The Specialized Pediatric Service. Ms. Oxendale reviewed the request for the Specialized Pediatric Services noting the subspecialties include Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Hematology/Oncology, Endocrinology, Nephrology, Pulmonary Medicine, Pediatric Surgery, and Children with Special Needs clinic. She stated TT has recruited Dr. Janet Meller, Pediatric Surgeon; Dr. Muhammad Qureshi, and Dr. Tetyana Vasylieva, whose focus is Pediatric Nephrology. Challenges in physician recruitment and the need for pediatric diabetes care continue.

Ms. Oxendale is requesting to maintain level funding of about \$1.4 million. Motion to accept and recommend to the finance Committee the requested budgeted amount of \$1,376,000 was made by Ms. Dove, seconded by Ms. Hughes and carried 3-0.

Item 5: Review and Consider Continuation of the Contract for the RHN Dental Clinic. Ms. Oxendale stated that there were no RHN representatives present. She stated RHN is requesting \$206,180 which is an increase from last year's amount of \$155,949. The request for the increase is based on an increase in visits of 67% since 2004, the opportunity to increase dental staff, and the acuity of patients. She added RHN is recommending changing their reimbursement methodology from per encounter per visit charge to a percentage of overall charges, which total to about 23%, that are for indigent dental services.

Mr. Frigo asked if the NWTSH contract with RHN will be based on the percentage of the bill and the contract with AHD and NWTSH be the flat amount of \$206,000. Ms. Oxendale stated that it would be. Mr. Frigo asked if RHN has to see patients regardless if the district pays or not because they are a Federally Qualified Health Center. Ms. Oxendale stated that she believed that was correct.

Dr. Proffer stated that he had questions regarding the no-show rate and that he had concerns regarding the RHN contract and their need for the indigent care portion so that they could receive grants in order to supplement their funding. He added another concern is retaining dentists to staff the clinic for the increased patient load.

Dr. Proffer stated that additional information would be needed before any action could be taken. Board members agreed to table the request for the RHN Dental Clinic contract until a representative can provide additional information.

Item 6: Review and Consider Continuation of the Contract for the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program. Ms. Oxendale provided highlights of the program noting TFA is not requesting an increase in funding. She added the contract amount between NWTSH and ACS is \$272,500.

Dr. Proffer asked if there were any areas where money could be saved without affecting the program. Ms. Williams stated the funds are stretched as much as possible and that no money is wasted. She added if you decrease one of the components it would affect the entire program because TFA is a component driven program where each program has a specific goal and a special job; therefore, the program would not be as effective.

Motion to approve and recommend to the Finance Committee the requested amount of \$272,500 was made by Ms. Dove, seconded by Ms. Hughes and carried 3-0.

Item 7: Review and Consider Proposal of Public Health Budget. Mr. Richardson reviewed his budget noting that he is requesting \$873,571, which is a 3.3% decrease from last year's budget. He attributed the decrease to the omission of \$30,000 for the Community Assessment that is done every three years

and was included in last year's budget and an increase in funding from \$20,000 to \$63,500 for the Tuberculosis program. He reported an estimated expense for utilities has been added to the budget.

Motion to approve and recommend to the Finance Committee the requested amount of \$873,571 for Public Health was made by Ms. Hughes seconded by Ms. Dove and carried 3-0.

Item 8: Public Comments: Dr. Benjamin commented that the pediatric remodel should be finished toward the end of July. She stated they are excited about the expansion and the amount of clinic space that will be available to incorporate some telemedicine's which will enable them to televideo with Hooks Children's for some neurology services and Lubbock for dermatology services. Dr. Benjamin thanked the board for their support. Ms. Cain also thanked the board for their support.

Item 9: Adjournment. Being no further business to come before the board, Dr. Proffer adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman

Recording Secretary