



**ADH – Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission (ATSC)
Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2024**

Commissioners Attending:

Andrea Allen, Chair; Cristy Sellers, Commissioner; Mary Franklin, Commissioner; Martha Hill, Commissioner; Nick Fuller, Commissioner, Jennifer Fowler, Commissioner

Staff Attending:

Matt Gilmore & Zsanica Wiggins, ADH - ATSC

Guests:

Stephanie Loveless, UAMS East; Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, UAMS-COA; Emily Lane, Rhonda McClellan, Jacqueline Rainey and Janet Wilson, UCA; Jimmie Jarry and Bobby McGehee, ABI; Kenya Eddings and Jacqueline Johnson, ADH - AMHC; Joy Gray, ADH - TPCP; Liz Gates, COPH; Michael Bynum, Assistant Attorney General

Minutes Recorder:

Zsanica Wiggins, Administrative Analyst

| Agenda Item | Discussion |
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| Call to Order/Quorum/ Introduction of Attendees | Chair Andrea Allen called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Zsanica Wiggins called the roll for the Commission. A quorum was established. Attendees introduced themselves and gave their organizational affiliation. |
| Review/Approval of February Minutes | Chair Allen asked for a motion to approve the Feb 14, 2024 minutes for the Commission. Commissioner Martha Hill made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Commissioner Nick Fuller. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission's February meeting minutes were approved. |
| Guest Speaker Katherine Andrews | Chair Allen introduced Katherine Andrews, from the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism/Great Strides Program. Ms. Andrews stated the Great Strides Program Trails for Life Grant was established from Act 1750 in 2001 and rules were promulgated by the Arkansas Board of Health in 2002. The program has been in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Health from 2002-2017 and a portion of their funds are received from the Arkansas Master Tobacco Settlement Award. In 2023, they were awarded \$250,000.00. She stated MOA was executed in early 2023 between ADH and ADPHT. The MOA is administered by the Office of Outdoor Recreation's grant program. They disseminate funds to grantees and provide an annual report to ADH. ADH provides signage and materials to grantees. They also provide one staff person to serve on the selection committee, oversee the work of the committee and initiate the transfer of funds to ADPHT. Ms. Andrews asked if anyone had any questions. Commissioner Martha Hill asked her if she could keep the Commission updated on the Great Strides program grants and receive reports. |

Ms. Andrews stated she would keep the Commission updated with reports from their Great Strides Program grants.

Katherine Andrews stated the following people and organizations are on the 2024 committee: Arkansas Department of Health - Cristy Sellers, alternate - Joy Gray, Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - Katherine Andrews, Minority Health Commission - Kenya Eddings, Arkansas Recreation and Park Association (ARPA) - Anthony Whittington and Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department - Kim Sanders. She added the committee members are the ones who make the recommendations for the grants. She stated the introduction meeting for their program will be April 23rd through May 1st of this year and the committee members will make their final decision on who will receive the grant funds on May 15th. Katherine Andrews stated they currently have a total of twenty-one applicants totaling \$1,611,270.28. She asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Martha Hill asked Ms. Andrews if she had worked with the U.S. Department of Transportation grants which are federal grants that could benefit the program.

Katherine Andrews stated they have worked with the U.S. Department of Transportation grants.

Commissioner Hill asked Matt Gilmore if it was possible to add the Great Strides Program grants as an addendum to ATSC reports.

Matt Gilmore stated that it could be added.

Jacqueline Rainey (UCA) asked if she could address the question from Commissioner Hill. She stated since TPCP gives the funds to the Great Strides Program, the grant information is added to their TPCP report. She stated for a number of years there wasn't anything going on with this program therefore there were not any funds and that was all she had reported for the last couple of years. At this time, they are building funds and there will be actions to report, the best place for this report is to continue to be a part of the TPCP reports.

Chair Allen asked if there were any more questions and thanked Katherine Andrews for coming to speak with the Commission about the Great Strides Program.

Director's Report

Matt Gilmore began with the financial report. He stated that overall, the Commission's budget was on track and there may be some minor changes to the pay plan to account for merit and performance evaluations. Matt Gilmore stated the investment income for February was \$102,740.92, which is good. He stated the UCA evaluation contract is getting finalized and is going through the approval process. He is hopeful that the contract will be on June's Legislative Review Committee Agenda. Matt Gilmore and Chair Allen asked if anyone had any questions.

Indicators Update

Janet Wilson (TCPC evaluator) began by discussing the proposed indicator updates. She stated the indicator request is to update goal dates for the short-term indicators to reflect year 2025 and to modify a short-term indicator for MRC. She stated they have two requests. One is annually at the end of each fiscal

year. Indicators for TPCP, MISRGO, MRC, and GASP are updated to reflect new goal dates for the upcoming fiscal year beginning with the July-September 2024 report. The goal date for the short-term indicators will be by year 2025. The second request is the MRC. It has an indicator that reflects the development and funding of an RFP to support tobacco prevention and cessation in minority communities. The current indicator has been met and the funding cycle will end June 2024. They are requesting a modification of the current indicator to reflect the RFP that was released in December 2023. Janet Wilson and Chair Allen asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Martha Hill asked, what were the three projects they are thinking about doing?

Janet Wilson replied, all are minority health projects such as tobacco use and mental health, the use of cigarettes and marijuana together and cigarettes and vaping in rural Arkansas.

Chair Allen asked if there were any other questions. Chair Allen asked for a motion to update the indicators, modify the met indicators and to approve the new indicator changes. Commissioner Cristy Sellers made a motion to update the indicators, modify met indicators and to approve the indicator changes. Commissioner Martha Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The indicator changes were approved.

Emily Lane (UCA) began by discussing the proposed indicator modifications for ABI. She stated the existing indicator related to employment is supported by the ABI and extramural funding which is maintained at a baseline of 300 full - time equivalent (FTE) with at least 65% of the FTE supported by extramural funds. The proposed indicator for employment is supported by the ABI and extramural funding will be maintained at a baseline of 200 full-time equivalent (FTE) with at least 65% of the FTE supported by extramural funds. She stated the reason for the change is there is no longer a realistic indicator of ABI's FTE employment and the original metric (300) was assigned when ABI was first established. Hiring has since been moderated and is unlikely to reach those numbers again. Emily Lane and Chair Allen asked if anyone had any questions. Dr. Bobby McGehee added that the indicator change request wasn't based on deficiencies but how the institution is using their resources within the perimeters they are allowed to spend. He stated there are a lot of resources within the departments.

Commissioner Nick Fuller asked that with the indicator request reduction will they be able to meet their performance indicators?

Dr. Bobby McGee stated, yes.

Commissioner Nick Fuller asked as a whole do institutions typically reduce their FTE?

Dr. Bobby McGee replied that it is a pretty common thing going on right now.

Chair Allen asked if there were any more questions and thanked him. Chair Allen asked for a motion to update the indicators and approve the new indicators changes. Commissioner Nick Fuller made a motion to update the indicators, and to approve the new indicator changes. Commissioner Cristy Sellers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The indicator changes were approved.

July- Sept. 2023
Quarterly Report

Emily Lane began by giving a brief overview of the programs' work over the last quarter. She discussed challenges that some programs were experiencing and gave updates on the programs. She stated there were some ups and downs with some programs metrics. She stated that overall community education encounters were down and the number of health professionals and students educated were up. She stated this was ABI's fiscal year evaluation for this quarter. ABI had more than 500 publications and more than 300 presentations. In all, 97% of the indications were met and 2% of indicators were still affected by Covid. Emily Lane and Chair Allen asked if there were any questions. Chair Allen asked for a motion to approve the July - September 2023 quarterly report. Commissioner Mary Franklin made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Commissioner Nick Fuller. The motion passed unanimously. The July - September 2023 quarterly report was approved.

ATSC Program
Updates

Joy Gray (ADH-TPCP) began by stating they are still moving alone with the Tips Campaign. The Tips Campaign started in February this year instead of September. She stated their call volume is up as usual during this time and will go down some in September when the Tips Campaign ends. She stated the new Tips commercials are less glorified and more personal than the previous commercials. She stated one of their Be Well Arkansas presentation was used at the CDC conference. Joy Gray stated they are currently filming a Spanish speaking testimonial that will be available next month. She stated there are two statewide grant opportunities, Prevention and Cessation. She added she would be sending the information out to everyone and to please send it out to anyone who may be interested. She stated Coral's Reef Episode 2 is currently out and episode 3 is written and approved, they are waiting to get it in production. Joy Gray stated they have lots of conferences in the spring. She asked if anyone had any questions. Commissioner Hill stated, the Governor, Secretary of DHS and the Secretary of Health have a new initiative to look at five counties where there are higher maternal mortality rates, she then asked was TPCP apart of it?

Joy Gray stated it sounded familiar however she wasn't 100% sure and she would let Commissioner Cristy Sellers address the question.

Commissioner Hill then directed her question to Matt Gilmore.

Matt Gilmore stated the ADH's Division of Health Advancement is a part of the initiative.

Chair Allen thanked her for her report and asked if there were any other questions.

Mary Franklin (TSMEP) began by stating for this quarter they served 10,601 individuals. They had an overall increase for the quarter of 118 recipients. The pregnant women category increased by 313 women. Also, TSMEP leveraged \$26 million in federal matching funds. She asked if anyone had any questions. Chair Allen thanked her for her report and asked if there were any questions.

Amy Leigh Overton-Mccoy (UAMS-COA) stated they will receive a national award from the American Aging Association in San Francisco on March 26th for the Gloria Cavanaugh award for Excellence in Training and Education. She then highlighted some of their outcomes from the last quarter. She stated after 30 to 45 days of their family caregiver workshops, they evaluate the caregivers who attended. 39.27% of the caregivers reported increase in knowledge of finding appropriate resources for caregivers. 38.5% reported increases in understanding dementia and 25% reported more confidence in themselves. She stated the evaluation process for first responders showed 98% knowing how to interact with those with dementia, conduct a search and rescue after curriculum, and virtual reality participation. She stated their Ageless Grace Program is an evidence-based exercise program that anyone can do. The program can be conducted at home or virtually. The post evaluation showed a 34% increase in participation at home. They also saw a 16.95% increase of activity, 15% increase in gathering with family and friends, 6% reduction of falls and 63% reduction in pain. She stated with Ta-Chi there was a 34% reduction in pain, 16% reduction of falls, 7.9% reduction of sadness/blueness, and 16.98% increase of physical activity. She stated their evidence base Drums Alive Program is a physical activity program. The post evaluation showed an 17.59% increase in starting the program at home, virtually, hybrid and in-person. They also experienced a 22.5% reduction in pain. She stated their Walk With Ease evidence base program has been active for six years. This program can be accessed face to face, hybrid and virtual. There was a 27% reduction in pain, 32% reduction of fatigue, 15% reduction of physical limitation. She stated UAMS-COA have been focusing on Food insecurity since 2016 and Arkansas is 28th in the nation in senior hunger. She stated their Healthy Cooking class showed an 19.28% increase of feeling energized, 85% having access to healthy foods, an 18% decrease of feeling overwhelmed in meal preparation, 16% decrease in feeling overwhelming and managing chronic disease. She stated overall their outcomes have been great and they now have partnerships across the states. She asked if anyone had any questions. Chair Allen asked if anyone had any questions and thanked her for her report

Kenya Eddings (ADH - AMHC/MHI) began by stating they recently attended the Jefferson County Community Health Forum in Pine Bluff. She stated the Health Forum consisted of educational information, screenings, cardiologist and the Prostate Foundation was in attendance. She stated in Fayetteville on April 11, 2024, they will be partnering with the Martin Luther King Commission for a Youth Anti-Bullying Summit and food distribution. She stated their 8th Biennial Minority Health Summit is scheduled for April 23, 2024 from 9 to 4 at The Venue at Westwind. The focus will be on Maternal Health. She stated they are continuing with health screenings, outreach, and educational programs. They have partnered with the Department of Health's Chronic Disease branch to distribute blood pressure monitors in the community to those who are hypertensive and are unable to obtain one. She stated they have had an increase in request for them to participate in youth activities and events. She stated they have two intern students from UAMS College of

Public Health who are helping with Camp I Can and Southern Ain't Fried Sunday's healthy eating program. She asked if there were any questions. Chair Allen thanked her and asked if there were any other questions or comments.

Liz Gates (COPH) began by stating COPH will be attending a Maternal Child Health Summit on April 19th. She stated the funding that they receive for their Environmental Health Service Department is to work with residents in Chico county, and to look at the high respiratory illness in Chicot county. They will determine different causes of respiratory diseases, allergies, asthma and lung cancer in nonsmokers. She stated Dr. Mitchell McGill from the College's Environmental Health Department project was selected by the Arkansas Health Venture Accelerator Program. His project will focus on Advancing Liver Injury Detection with New Biomarkers. ARHVA provides researchers who projects were selected with substantial benefits, including grants up to \$50,000, project management, budget allocation and also progress tracking. It allows researchers to focus on their innovations while ARHVA ensures projects stay on track and meet crucial milestones toward commercialization. She stated their students have done some interesting things. Three doctoral students participated in an observation study of downtown Little Rock to identify resources in the general state and community. The students presented a presentation to faith-based leaders and civic leaders that discussed what they needed for academics and research to help doctoral students understand how they can create academic practices and academic community partnerships. She asked if anyone had any questions.

Commissioner Hill asked, if she knew Dr. Tamara Perry from Arkansas Childrens Hospital and if so, was she involved with their Allergy and Asthma program in rural Arkansas?

Liz Gates stated she would get in contact with Dr. Tamara Perry to see if she was apart of their program. Chair Allen thanked her and asked if there were any questions.

Stephanie Loveless (UAMS East) began by stating they have a new partnership with UAMS Office of Community Health Research. Their partnership is a grant focusing on transforming pediatrics for early childhood. She stated they added two new staff members who work in their outreach programs. She stated their UAMS Kidney and Liver Transplant Program in Helena is going well. Their outreach services continue in West Memphis and Lake Village. In West Memphis's Arkansas Department of Corrections, their Diabetes Empowerment Program, and Child Safety and Education Programs have been rewarding for the population. In Lake Village, they have partnered with the USDA for their Development Delta Health Services Program. She stated they continue to work in CPR, first aid trainings, career and recruitment programs and narcan training. Their mobile food distribution and Good Food RX is finishing up its first year of research projects. The second year will be basically data collection. She stated they are seeing an increase in patients in their clinic and are hoping to expand the clinic. Stephanie Loveless asked if there were any questions. Chair Allen thanked her and asked if there were any questions.

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| | <p>Dr. Bobby McGehee (ABI) began by stating they have had some changes in their personnel staff since the last meeting. He stated Dr. Mayo has stepped down as the Vice Chancellor of Research and Dr. Steven Webber in the College of Medicine has stepped down as dean of graduate school after twenty years. He stated they are working on their annual report and preparing for their ABI Fall Symposium in September from the 18th through the 19th of 2024, in Jonesboro Arkansas. He stated they were awarded some new grants, one for UAMS Centers for Molecular Interactions in Cancer and another in BioVentures for Socially and Economically Disadvantages Business Owners. He stated the All-Payer Claims Database collaboration is going well and in July it will be its seventh year. Dr. McGehee and Chair Allen asked if anyone had any questions.</p> |
| <p>Meeting Adjournment</p> | <p>Chair Andrea Allen asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Martha Hill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p> |
| <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.</p> | |