



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

Commissioners Attending:

Andrea Allen, Chair; Cristy Sellers, Commissioner; Mary Franklin, Commissioner; Nick Fuller, Commissioner, Commissioner, Jerri Clark

Staff Attending:

Matt Gilmore & Zsanica Wiggins, ADH - ATSC

Guests:

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

Minutes Recorder:

Zsanica Wiggins, Administrative Analyst

Agenda Item	Discussion
Call to Order/Quorum/ Introduction of Attendees	Chair Andrea Allen called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Zsanica Wiggins called the roll for the Commission. A quorum was established. Attendees introduced themselves and gave their organizational affiliations.
Review/Approval of April Minutes	Chair Allen asked for a motion to approve the April 10, 2024 minutes for the Commission. Commissioner Nick Fuller made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Commissioner Cristy Sellers. The motion passed unanimously. The Commission's April meeting minutes were approved.
Director's Report	Matt Gilmore began with the financial report. He stated that the Commission's budget was on track overall. Matt Gilmore stated the investment income for June was \$1.5 million, which is quite a bit more than last month and he has contacted the treasurer's office for information. He stated that the UCA evaluation contract had been approved for another two years. Matt Gilmore stated the Alzheimer's Advisory Council recently had a meeting discussing the possible use of some of the Tobacco Settlement dollars in helping fund Alzheimer's public awareness campaigns through the Department of Health and Department of Human Services. He stated at this time no decisions have been made. Matt Gilmore stated the Governor was holding a press conference to recognize the Great Strides/Trails for Life Grant at 10:30 am today at the Heritage Building and the programs were invited.
Biennial Funding Recommendation	Matt Gilmore stated they are finishing up the fiscal year and are starting the biennial budget process. He doesn't see any changes in the fall budget hearings. He noted the Commission does have a fund balance

and it will be looked at again as it is every session. Matt Gilmore and Chair Allen asked if there were any questions.

Matt Gilmore then explained the biennial funding recommendation occurs every two years in August. He stated the Commission makes a recommendation to adjust funding or keep it the same.

Chair Allen asked what kind of changes do the Commissioners have the authority to make? Matt Gilmore stated that the Commission's role is to monitor, provide guidance, and make

recommendations such as if a program isn't performing well in a certain area their funding may need to be adjusted.

Chair Allen asked with the Commission's surplus does the Commission need to make any adjustments?

Matt Gilmore stated the surplus is more related to the Commission's budget and this is a recommendation for the program's funding.

Commissioner Nick Fuller stated he was unsure of how the program pool funding was divided between the programs. He stated from his understanding each program received a 5% increase from the program pool and he didn't know if the recommendation was for each program individually or if it was by percentage allocation.

Matt Gilmore stated the Program Pool is where the payments are held prior to distribution. He stated some of DHS's funding is in the Program Pool and other programs have fund balances. Matt Gilmore stated the payments are broken down by percentages and each program receives a set percentage. He added the MSA payments have decreased and will continue to decrease. Matt Gilmore and Chair Allen asked if anyone had any questions.

Chair Allen asked for a motion to keep it the same or to change it. Commissioner Cristy Sellers made a motion to keep the biennial funding the same. Commissioner Nick Fuller seconded the motion.

Indicators Update

Jacqueline Rainey (UCA) began by discussing the proposed indicator updates. She stated that UAMS East is requesting the deletion of the indicator related to library services. The librarian retired and UAMS will not be refilling the position. She stated their library services provided medical library services to consumers, students and health professionals. They are not requesting a proposed indicator due to the librarian retiring and the position will not be filled. UAMS campus library will provide support for healthcare providers in the future. Chair Allen asked for a motion to delete the proposed indicator. Commissioner Nick Fuller made a motion to delete the proposed indicator. Commissioner Cristy Sellers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The proposed indicator deletion was approved.

Emily Lane (UCA) began by giving a brief overview of the Biennial Report. She stated the report was built on data from the last annual report and newly updated data. Emily Lane stated they are promoting an ecosystem of care within the programs. She stated the programs are working together with external partners in the communities. Emily Lane stated she wanted to bring attention to two important things in the

2022-2023 Biennial Evaluation Report

2022-2023 Biennial Evaluation Report. She first brought attention to page 102 of the report by highlighting that the two top regions in overall health outcomes were Central and NW. Emily Lane stated public health leaders are tracking a growing gap between the healthiest region and all the other regions, showing evidence that geography drives health and there are continued issues with disparities across the state and this data tells the story. Secondly, Emily Lane highlighted the narratives that were used by the program leaders from last year's report. She stated the discussions were about maternal health, aging, and population. Emily Lane stated the main difference with this report is that it focuses on programs working with each other which is highlighted in the report. Emily Lane and Chair Allen asked if there were any questions. Chair Allen asked for a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Biennial Evaluation Report. Commissioner Cristy Sellers made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Commissioner Nick Fuller. The motion passed unanimously. The 2022-2023 Biennial Evaluation Report was approved.

ATSC Program Updates

Mary Franklin (TSMEP) began by stating for this quarter they served 10,651 individuals. They had an overall increase for the quarter of 50 recipients. Also, TSMEP leveraged \$24.2 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 have been working to be efficient while having fewer staff members. She stated on Monday at the Alzheimer's Advisory Council she spoke with the council about their public awareness campaign and informed them that all programs are focusing on the same things. She stated hopefully by January they will have their report ready to share with the Commission. 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 in late April they hosted their 8th Biennial Minority Health Summit which focused on maternal health. She stated they recently released their Bridge Magazine which covered "All Things Maternal Health" and this issue is also a popular one. They had 1500 copies printed and now have less than 200 left. Kenya Eddings stated they are continuing with health fairs, outreach, health education, and training around the state. She stated as of May they have achieved their goal of reaching all 75 counties at least once during the fiscal year. Kenya Eddings stated they have been participating in maternal health listening sessions which are going on around the state. She stated in May they had two intern students complete their services with them and this summer will have an intern student from UCA. Kenya Eddings stated they are partnering with St. Mark Baptist Church and the faith-based community to teach lung cancer awareness. They are also partnering with the UAMS-Black Lungs program, and looking at lung cancer disparities in communities of color. Kenya Eddings asked if there were any questions. Chair Allen thanked her and asked if there were any questions.

Stephanie Loveless (UAMS East) began by stating they have hired a new nurse practitioner who will be working with pediatric needs in Northwest Arkansas. She stated they have received three new pediatric patients and on the first and third Wednesday of every month they will be providing check-ups. Stephanie Loveless stated they are continuing with Dr. Lyle Burdine's transplant clinic and it has been successful. She stated they will soon have a nurse practitioner from Dr. Lyle Burdine who will focus on patients in the community that are on the transplant list. Stephanie Loveless stated that UAMS-East was nominated for an Achievement Award from UAMS for work during the water crisis. She stated they hosted a May Day Health Educational event in Helena that had more than 300 participants. The event featured information and activity booths from a wide range of community partners. Stephanie Loveless stated they will have their Alzheimer's Walk again. It will be on September 28th. Stephanie Loveless asked if there were any questions.

Matt Gilmore asked if they hosted the maternal health stakeholder event.

Stephanie Loveless stated that they did.

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

Dr. Bobby McGehee (ABI) began by stating they are finishing up their annual report and hope to have it finished in the next four to five weeks. He stated on September 18-19th they will celebrate ABI's 20th Anniversary and Research Symposium at the Fowler Center in Jonesboro Arkansas. Dr. McGehee and Chair Allen asked if anyone had any questions.

Joy Gray (ADH-TPCP) began by stating they still have a high quit rate. She stated in a smoker's lifetime they will spend over \$132,000 thousand related to smoking, and \$40,000 of the amount alone is on cigarettes. One pack a day of cigarettes for 20 years totals \$40,000. Joy Gray stated they are still in the middle of the Tips Campaign and are still doing presentations. She stated their Tobacco Treatment Specialist's training will be in October. This is a five-day live/virtual training. The training is free and provides continuing education credits for doctors, nurses, therapists, and a variety of different clinicals. Joy Gray stated they are close to launching their cessation vaping app for youth. She stated their third episode of Coral's Reef is currently in production. She asked if anyone had any questions. Chair Allen thanked her for her report and asked if there were any other questions.

Other Announcements

Chair Allen stated that it was brought to her attention that there was a suggestion to change the Commission's meetings. She stated her suggestion is to discuss the requested change in the upcoming meeting where it can be voted on. Matt stated that was a good idea and the meetings could be scheduled for a year. Chair Allen asked if there were any other announcements.

Matt Gilmore stated Commissioner Hill suggested it might be good if a sub-committee was formed to get the Commission's perspective with the evaluators in assessing the programs' activities and indicators. The

Commission will be able to look at the indicators more in-depth and have more knowledge of how they work. He suggested that the committee be formed by the Commission. Matt Gilmore stated this would be a way to ask questions and have discussions outside of the Commission meetings which will not violate FOIA. He stated Commissioner Hill may want to talk about this in the November meeting.

Chair Allen stated they should wait until the next meeting in November when Commissioner Hill is present to discuss the request in more detail.

Chair Allen asked if there were any more announcements.

Dr. Bobby McGee stated he was curious if Matt could comment on the MSA payments. Dr. McGee stated they received their DFA letter and last year they had a 10% cut and another one this year. He asked Matt Gilmore if he had any comments and that he thought it was going to be stable for a while.

Matt Gilmore stated the MSA payments are going down and they are based on the amount of cigarettes sold and other factors of inflation. The amount of cigarettes will decrease and the payments will also decrease. It was a significant cut and affected all of the programs. He stated he didn't see the payment going away anytime soon. Matt stated that they have had Charles Saunders there before to explain it in more detail.

Dr. Bobby McGee thanked him for his explanation.

Chair Allen asked if there were any more announcements or discussion items.

Meeting Adjournment

Chair Andrea Allen asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cristy Sellers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.