

**Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission (ATSC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 13, 2019**



**Commissioners Attending:** Dr. John Henderson, Chair; Tom Chilton (Designee for Alex Johnston); Sarah Cox (Designee for Nick Fuller); Renee Mallory (Designee for Dr. Nate Smith); Jerri Clark, Commissioner (By Phone); Mary Franklin, Commissioner

**Staff Attending:** April Robinson, Administrative Specialist

**Guests:** Bobby McGehee, ABI; ShaRhonda Love, MHI; Charles Saunders, Assistant Attorney General; Lacie Kirchner, Assistant Attorney General; Appathurai Balamurugan, ADH; Jacquie Rainey, UCA (By Phone); Ashley Harden, UAMS East; Janet Wilson, UCA; Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, UAMS-COA; Liz Gates, COPH; Emily Lane, UCA; Rhonda McClellan Morris, UCA; Mark Williams, COPH; Cristy Sellers, ADH; Joy Gray, TPCP

**Minutes Recorder:** April Robinson

Agenda Item	Discussion
Call to Order/Quorum/ Introduction of Attendees	Chair Henderson called the meeting to order at 10 am. Attendees introduced themselves and gave their organizational affiliation.
Review/Approval of July Minutes	Chair Henderson asked for a motion to approve the July minutes. Commissioner Mary Franklin motioned to approve, and Commissioner Sarah Cox seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. July minutes were approved.
Director's Report	Chair Henderson discussed the financial report. The expenditures are well below the budgeted amount for the operation of the commission. Chair Henderson stated on the financial report the quarterly budgeted amount should be changed to show the annually budgeted amount. Chair Henderson stated we continue to do quite well with the Tobacco Pool Fund. The Treasurer's Office does an excellent job at managing the investment income. Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions about the budget and treasury reports. Chair Henderson asked Janet Wilson to comment on the TPCP's (Tobacco Prevention Cessation Program) proposed indicator changes. Janet Wilson stated the long-term indicators expire in 2020 and the short-term indicators expire each fiscal year. This was a good time to look at all the indicators. Ms. Wilson stated they have a new strategic plan approved and need to

	<p>update the indicators to reflect the change. One of the new indicators deals with monitoring and ending ENDS (electronic nicotine delivery system). It was important to them to start monitoring these since e-cigarettes are a big concern now. They have combined their three social media indicators into one to talk about the social media campaign they are doing as a whole. They are continuing with the community wide programming. There are a couple of other changes which reflect the past successes they have had. As programs have success in school systems and working with medical providers, they need to adjust the numbers to represent the new people they will be working with. Ms. Wilson asked if there were any questions.</p> <p>Chair Henderson formally welcomed Renee Mallory and Tom Chilton to the Commission.</p>
<p>January - March Quarterly Report</p>	<p>Chair Henderson presented the quarterly report. Chair Henderson stated it is a very thorough and good report. A lot of the indicators are in progress because we are waiting for the end of the fiscal year for the final information. Chair Henderson asked if anyone had any questions or comments about the quarterly report.</p> <p>Chair Henderson asked for a motion to approve the quarterly report. Commissioner Renee Mallory made a motion and Commissioner Tom Chilton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The quarterly report was approved.</p>
<p>ATSC Program Updates</p>	<p>Amy Leigh-Overton McCoy (COA) stated falls is a top priority. They are in conversation right now with The National Pharmacy to go in and work with each of their pharmacists to provide continued education on older adults who are at higher risk due to medications. It will also teach patients how to go back to their primary care provider as well as COA for some of those fall risks. They are continuing to work with the Rural Clinic Access Medical. They are now hitting their quality indicator at 100%. They are continuing to work on caregiving with the new program introduced last year called, Care Giver Success. It's an individual one on one caregiving coaching for four to six weeks. It teaches caregivers how to deal with the burden of caregiving as well as resource allocation and getting them plugged back in to the communities appropriately as well as providers. The funding for the Schmieding Home Caregiver program runs out next September. Pain Management continues to be a priority. They are participating with some grants in trying to reduce opioid use in older adults and get more pain management options. Arkansas is now in the top five of the states most improved in trying to reduce the use of anti-psychotics. Ms. McCoy stated they are going to continue to work closely with their evaluator as they are exploring options of how to track financial impacts for the state. They are continuing to work on improving the validity of their new database. They will find out December 13<sup>th</sup> if they will get approved for the funding to work with UAMS East on opening a location in West Helena.</p> <p>Chair Henderson stated he was excited to hear about the cooperation between UAMS-East and COA. Also, their continued work with the anti-psychotic use. He stated that has been a huge improvement in care.</p> <p>Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Ms. McCoy for her report.</p> <p>ShaRhonda Love (MHI) stated she brought a copy of their fiscal year report for each of the Commissioners. The report was on overview of their objectives and accomplishments. They partnered with 113 organizations and reached 65 of the 75 counties. They provided over 25,000 screenings and 34,000 health education encounters. They are in the process of developing a Healthcare Workforce Diversity Scholarship with their Health Equity Survey. It was recommended to increase the diversity of healthcare providers within the state. They are going to provide access to funding for minorities</p>

in health-related professions, specifically those they look at in their healthcare diversity report each year. They will be offered each semester as students can receive up to \$1,000 annually. They will be able to apply on their website and the applications will be reviewed by a committee. They are working on their 2020 Bridge Magazine issue with a focus on Health Equity vs Equality. They have a current application open for sponsorship. Mrs. Love stated during the second quarter they were able to do over 1,600 screenings and provided almost 6,000 health education encounters. The Mobile Health Unit has been operating since April and they have provided almost 7,000 screenings and reached 41 counties. Their next commission meeting will be January 16<sup>th</sup> and the commissioners are still deciding on the location. They are working on their 6th Biennial Summit which will be in April of next year for Minority Health Month.

Chair Henderson asked how is your Mobile Health Unit staffed?

Mrs. Love stated it is staffed with a full time AMHC employee, which is the Mobile Health Unit Coordinator, a part-time ADH community health nurse that works three days a week, and a contracted driver whom is registered as a Class A CDL and LPN.

Chair Henderson asked if he participates in the clinics as well.

Mrs. Love responded yes, he does. He was a truck driver for many years and retired. Then went back to nursing school.

Chair Henderson stated all the Commissioners have a copy of the Arkansas Racial and Ethnic Health Disparity Study and if anyone wants a copy, Mrs. Love will provide them with one.

Mrs. Love stated Yes and it is also available on their website.

Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Mrs. Love for her report.

Ashley Harden (UAMS-East) stated they are continuing their wellness screenings throughout the seven counties. They have had over 500 screenings in the last few months. The Kids for Health programs are back up and running again in the schools. They received the Walton grant again for the Safe Sex Practices. They have the holiday cooking classes starting this week. They teamed up with the Minority Health Commission this summer for camp I-CAN with over 35 kids participating from ages 10-13. They had Drug Take Back Day on October 26<sup>th</sup>. They are having an Opioid Awareness Group for healthcare workers coming up soon. Their family practice has been there for two years and they are still working towards the rural residence training. This quarter they had a total of 47,559 encounters. That included their Wellness, Exercise, Fitness Center, and Outreach Programs.

Chair Henderson asked is their patient volume increasing at the Family Clinic?

Ms. Harden responded yes; it is. She stated they had 26 new patients and had 946 patients in 48 days.

Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Ms. Harden for her report.

Liz Gates (COPH) stated Mark Williams started as Dean on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Recently the Dean and partner chairs went to the UA Fayetteville to discuss with different chairs what collaborations they could in particular to their the Four Plus One program. They expect to have an Associate Dean for Research starting in early 2020. Their role will focus on growing the external funding portfolio of the college and working with junior faculty to increase their ability to submit successful grant applications to other writing sources. Dr. Mick Tilford submitted a T32 grant which supports either predoctoral or

post-doctoral students. They don't know when it will be approved. Dr. Victor Cardenas was one in 800 citizens to receive the Fulbright Scholarship to Columbia. Ms. Gates stated they are actively searching for a Chair for the McMath Obesity Chair as well as the Director for the Center for the Study of Obesity. The Director for the Center for the Study of Tobacco have been working with the Department of Health, Legislature, and the Attorney Generals Office on the interim study on vaping. Dr. Nick Zaller has received \$600,000 from the Arnold Foundation to study the effectiveness of the crisis stabilization unit at the Pulaski County jail. As of fall of 2019, they have 421 students in 27 different programs. The Department of Higher Education recently approved their Masters of Science in Healthcare Data Analytics. They currently have 81 medical students and 18 pharmacy students earning a concurrent degree with COPH. They are beginning conversations with COA on how they can work together for students to provide a curriculum or show of effectiveness to give COA help in their realm of work essentially.

Chair Henderson asked how many master degree programs do they have now?

Ms. Gates responded they have 6 different disciplines for MPH and 5 concurrent degrees with the MPH as well as Five Partners. They now have a Masters of Science in Healthcare Data Analytics. They have a Masters of Health Administration, a doctoral program in Epidemiology, Health Prevention and Promotion and Health Systems in Services, doctoral program in Public Health and Public Health Leadership and six different certificate programs in varying areas. Chair Henderson stated that is very exciting news and he's anxiously awaiting the news of the Obesity Chair.

Chair Henderson stated Dr. Williams we are glad to have you with us today.

Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Ms. Gates for her report.

Bobby McGehee (ABI) stated they had their annual symposium at ASU in Jonesboro with 150 people in attendance. Commissioner Andrea Allen, former Commissioner Susan Hanrahan, April, and Emily were in attendance. Their established Investigator of the Year is Jin-Woo Kim whom brought us into the Nano Technology area. Their new Investigator of the Year is Narasimhan Rajaram whom has figured out bio-markers for chemotherapy and radiation treatments as they occur. They are working on their FY19 annual report. This year they received \$11.8 million dollars and \$50.6 million in extramural funding for a return investment of \$4.29 on every dollar. They now have 15 approved claims in All Payers Claim Database. Dr. McGehee stated they have collaborators through UAMS and ACH projects with the University of Utah and Brown. They have 75 users and have received three extramural grants from these collaborations. On October 3<sup>rd</sup> they had the Artificial Intelligence Conference at ASU. The next one is February 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> and it's free. Dr. Michael Birrar has been named the new director of the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute. He should be here in the next couple of months or sooner.

Chair Henderson stated that's all very exciting and it's always good to hear about all those things.

Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Dr. McGehee for his report.

Joy Gray (TPCP) stated this week they have 40 people training for the tobacco treatment at Pulaski Tech with MD Anderson. Since last year they have trained 136 people between ADH and the community. They have a full training in March and have set up another one for June. They have trained 92 nurses in local health units around the state. Next

week they are providing the Dimensions Tobacco\Well Body Training at the Garland County Jail. The request for proposal for the Baby Be Well program, evidence-based cessation program for pregnant women, is on the ADH website and will be closing this week. They will work with WIC clinics to implement cessation programs targeted for pregnant mothers. They hope to have it launched by March. They have developed presentations for JUUL for every age group as well as adults. They have done 11,624 Arkansas youth just this school year. PPYC now has 60 chapters with 55 currently funded. Be Well Arkansas is the only call center in the nation that operates without an outside vendor or university program. Ms. Gray stated they have had 7,146 unique callers and 2,608 have enrolled in counseling. Their current quit rate is 34.6% with a four month follow up data. They will do a seven month follow up data, then a 13 month follow up data. Across 40 counties they have had 164 in-person counseling sessions. They are now able to use CDC funding to cover some of the operating cost because they are in-house call center. They have saved 44% savings overall. Chair Henderson asked can you tell us how the call volume with the Be Well call system compares to last year when we under the outside vendor.

Ms. Gray responded the call volume is pretty similar.

Chair Henderson stated he's pretty anxious to hear the progress we make with the smoking and pregnancy. It seems to be an area where we have not been able get the numbers down.

Ms. Gray responded they are hoping with a captive audience of the WIC patients they'll get some good participation. Once they are in the program, they have to do codeine testing and CO (carbon monoxide) monitoring and if they are below a certain level, they get vouchers for wipes and diapers. They hope it motivates them.

Chair Henderson stated he thinks moving it to the Health Department was a wise decision.

Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Ms. Gray for her report.

Dr. Bala gave an update on the vaping lung injury outbreaks. Vaping is a national outbreak that started back in the middle of August. Today there are close to 2,000 cases across the nation and close to 40 deaths. As of last Friday, they have about 20 cases; four of them confirmed, and 12 probable, and four under investigation. It is a spectrum. Last week he addressed the Medical Society Board about the need for physicians to ask their patients about their history of using e-cigarettes and vaping devices in the last 90 days. Most of the patients in Arkansas are between the ages of 18 and 28. They have not been any deaths in Arkansas. Most of the patients have shown respiratory symptoms like coughing and shortness of breath. About a third of them have been on a step-down unit or ICU in Arkansas and have recovered with IV steroids. Half of them were hospitalized and the others were diagnosed when they went to the Emergency Room. They have sent up a health alert network to physicians across the state. They have asked physicians to ask for rapid flu and infectious panel. If it comes back negative to start the question screening about vaping. They are sending specimens to the FDA lab to be tested. The problem is more associated with the process rather than the product causing the sickness. The CDC and FDA are trying to identify the distributor and not the victim. They are trying to target the hot spots with street products. E-cigarettes are not regulated by FDA. The CDC and FDA are sending their EIS teams to identify the distributor and prosecute them or expose them.

Chair Henderson stated it is encouraging to hear what you all are doing to address the problem.

	<p>Dr. Bala stated it shows on the CAT Scan shows shock lung syndrome. They are hoping the FDA will start regulating the product and pulling them off the shelf. Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Dr. Bala for his update.</p> <p>Mary Franklin (TPCP) stated for the most recent quarter the number of recipients served is up to 8,354. In their four groups they cover which are Pregnancy Women between 133% to 200% below poverty level in income. Adults ages 19 to 64 with an expanded hospital coverage benefit; if they are eligible for Medicaid, helps with first aid co-pays and pays for additional days beyond the days were provided. They cover ages 65 and older who at 80% below the poverty level. The fourth group, which was recently added, is the Community and Employments Support Waiver. They are currently funding 500 slots in that waiver program. The report is based on usage and not enrollment. The program Passes will show what is being paid per member per month. That is what will be seen on the upcoming reports. Chair Henderson asked if there were any questions and thanked Ms. Franklin for her report.</p>
Other Business	<p>Chair Henderson asked if any had any new business. Chair Henderson announced the proposed upcoming meeting dates for 2020 are February 12<sup>th</sup>, April 8<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, and November 11<sup>th</sup>. Chair Henderson proceeded with the election of Commission Officers. Commissioner John Henderson was elected Chair. Commissioner Tom Chilton was elected Vice Chair. Commissioner Andrea Allen was elected Executive Committee Member. Emily Lane reminded everyone they are currently engaged in a Qualitative Research Project and they are looking for some participation. She will be reaching out in the next few days to the programs.</p>
Meeting Adjournment	Chair Henderson adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 am