

Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Advisory Committee

Minutes

May 14, 2002

Oklahoma State Department of Health
1000 N.E. 10th, Room 314
Oklahoma City, OK

Members Present:

Dr. Leslie Beitsch, Sherry Bynum, Julie Geddes (designee for Dr. Terry Cline), Dr. Frank Collins, Gary Davidson, Sue Ellis, Gayle Jones (designee for Sandy Garrett), Dr. Mike Morgan, Jacqueline Myles, Dr. Sheila Simpson, Dr. Gary Watson, and Dr. Francene Weatherby.

Members Absent: Richard Barnes, Dr. Matthew Britt, Lynne Kennedy, Lacey Masterson, Sallie McLaughlin, and Mike Thornbrugh.

Visitors: Kristin Ellis (daughter of Sue Ellis).

OSDH Staff Present: Tracey Strader, Doug Matheny, Pam Charboneau, Dr. Joyce Morris, and Dr. Robert Vincent.

Dr. Morgan called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. and welcomed the 11 Committee members present.

Francene Weatherby made a motion to accept the April 9th meeting minutes as written, and Dr. Sheila Simpson seconded the motion. The eleven members present voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

Dr. Morgan asked Tracey Strader to provide an update to the changes made to the State Plan. Tracey summarized the changes made to the State Plan in accordance with the wishes of the Advisory Committee at the April 9th meeting. She thanked Sue Ellis and Sherry Bynum for their work with the Native American Tobacco Coalition of Oklahoma (NATCO) to develop the new page of the State Plan entitled, "Native Americans & Tobacco." Dr. Morgan provided an opportunity for a discussion, but there were no comments.

Tracey presented a 7-8 minute video, "Why do we work so hard?" that was produced in California. Jackie Myles arrived during the viewing of this video.

Dr. Morgan moved to item #7 on the agenda, "Update & Discussion – program funding & appropriations." Tracey Strader discussed the upcoming budget issues, including budget cuts and current and possible grants. She briefly discussed current contracts and the need to keep the Department of Education contract in place. There was some discussion of the OSDH federally negotiated indirect cost rate increase and the possibility of requesting either that the CDC assist with that additional cost, or that the OSDH waive the indirect costs.

With regard to item #8 on the agenda, "Update on Advisory Committee Reappointments," Tracey explained that she had called the Secretary of Appointments in the Governor's office and

learned that all Advisory Committee members could continue to serve in their current capacity until they no longer had a desire to serve, with the exception of the four agency heads who must serve without reappointment. The Oklahoma Psychiatric Association has submitted a list of candidates to fill Heather Huszti's position on the Committee and the OSDH presented a list of SWAT members as candidates to fill Becky Childers' vacated position. (Sherry Bynum left during this discussion.)

Advisory Committee members inquired about the possibility of replacing members who have attended only a few meetings during the year. Tracey explained that such action could only occur if the Advisory Committee made a formal request of the Governor. There was some discussion of the possibility of instituting a policy regarding attendance, and Gary Davidson stated that he thought the Administrative Procedures Act might have some requirements related to attendance. Tracey was asked to review the attendance of each Committee member; contact those members who have had low attendance, inquire about the reasons for their low attendance, and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

There was also discussion on the appointment of a Native American member nominated by NATCO. Gary Davidson suggested having this written into the statute. Sue Ellis made a motion that NATCO be contacted to further encourage their participation at each meeting and that the Committee is investigating the possibility of a change in the statute to reflect their representation as a twenty-first member to the Advisory Committee. Jackie Myles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Beitsch assumed the chair and moved on to item #4 on the agenda, "History of Governor's Task Force on Tobacco and Youth." Doug Matheny provided a history of the Task Force and provided a handout of several web pages regarding the Task Force. He explained that the Task Force was originally created by Governor Keating in 1995 through Executive Order 95-29, which has been extended twice and that the termination date of the current Executive Order authorizing the Task Force is December 31, 2002. The primary activity of the Task Force has been to periodically issue findings and recommendations.

Doug stated that the Task Force had discussed the possibility of eventually relinquishing their role to the Advisory Committee, especially given that there are several individuals and organizations that are members of both the Advisory Committee and the Governor's Task Force. Sue Ellis suggested that if the Task Force ends on December 31, the Advisory Committee could invite the former Task Force members to participate as members of the public. Bob Miner, a member of the Task Force in attendance, stressed that the Task Force wanted to be cautious that their group's termination did not send a message that all tobacco control issues have somehow been resolved. There was a suggestion that a joint meeting of both committees be conducted at the conclusion of the Task Force in order to formalize the transition.

During the discussion, a suggestion was offered that legislators might be encouraged to participate in Advisory Committee meetings if some of the meetings were held at the Capitol during the legislative session.

Dr. Beitsch was temporarily called away and Dr. Morgan facilitated the meeting in his absence.

Gary Davidson made a motion that a sub-committee of the Advisory Committee be established to investigate potential changes to the legislation, particularly with regard to membership issues such as composition, attendance, and diversity. Dr. Frank Collins seconded the motion. The

motion was approved unanimously. Sue Ellis, Gary Davidson, and Gary Watson volunteered to serve on the sub-committee.

Dr. Morgan moved on to item #6, "Update and discussion of the Board of Health rules." Bob Miner discussed the five Board of Health rules signed by the governor, which will go into effect on July 1, 2002. He briefly mentioned the "secondhand smoke" web pages on the OSDH website and the new "BreatheEasy" decals to be provided to establishments that are smoke-free.

Dr. Beitsch returned and assumed the chair once again. He progressed on to item #5, an "Update and discussion of legislative policy initiatives." Dr. Beitsch mentioned a meeting he had scheduled for the following morning to discuss getting some of their partners together to produce some further legislation for this legislative session, which concerns a clean indoor act. He also discussed the possibility of rules to be promulgated by the Board of Health as had been requested by Governor Keating. He stressed there would likely be a concentrated effort on behalf of the tobacco industry to block these rules. Doug Matheny mentioned three articles listed on the Tobacco Use Prevention Service website regarding misinformation by the tobacco industry.

Dr. Beitsch introduced "New business" and accepted a motion from Dr. Sheila Simpson that the Committee ask the Oklahoma Alliance on Health or Tobacco to honor Representative Ray Vaughn and Senator Ben Robinson at their annual meeting. Dr. Gary Watson seconded. Approved unanimously.

Tracey Strader mentioned that Dr. McCaffree's heart valve surgery went well. He is recovering and should officially return to work on May 28th.

Dr. Joyce Morris discussed current surveillance efforts, including the Youth Tobacco Survey, Adult Tobacco Survey, and SWAT media evaluation. Joyce said that the Tobacco Use Prevention Services intends to analyze data from these surveys, in addition to data gathered from other parts of the OSDH and other agencies to identify tobacco related disparities within Oklahoma. She mentioned that Dr. Frank Collins was conducting the Tulsa Demonstration Project's Cotinine Study. Dr. Collins explained that this is a study to demonstrate the levels of cotinine in non-smokers who work in a smoking environment, compared to non-smokers who work in non-smoking environments. The unique aspect of this study is that it will clearly discern between those people who are exposed to secondhand smoke at work, and those people who are exposed to secondhand smoke from other sources.

Dr. Frank Collins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Mike Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.