

**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE
ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
January 27, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul K. Halverson, DrPH
Alan Fortenberry, P.E., President
Susan Jones, M.D., President-Elect
Miranda Childs-Bebee, DDS
Lawrence Braden, M.D.
Glen "Eddie" Bryant, M.D.
Clark Fincher, M.D.
Larry Fritchman, D.V.M.
George Harper
Anthony N. Hui, M.D.
Thomas Jones, R.S.
Jim Lambert
Lynda M. Lehing
Marvin Leibovich, M.D.
John R. Page, P.D.
Mary Beth Ringgold
Rev. Dwight Townsend
Peggy Walker, RN, MSN
Patricia Westfall-Elsberry, O.D.
Anika Whitfield, D.P.M.
Terry Yamauchi, M.D.

GUESTS PRESENT

Mary Leath, Deputy Director for Administration
Dr. Joe Bates, Deputy State Public Health Officer
Donnie Smith, Director,
Center for Health Protection
Xavier Heard, Human Resources Director
Jerry Jones, Pharmacy Branch Chief
Terry Paul, Environmental Health Branch Chief
Jerry Pack, Chief Information Officer
Stephanie Williams, Director,
Center for Health Advancement
Dr. Nate Smith, Deputy Director for Public
Health Programs
Katheryn Hargis, Governmental Affairs
Policy Director
Michelle Smith, PhD, Director Minority Health
Ed Barham, Public Information Officer
Andi Ridgeway, Director Home Town Health
Rick D. Hogan, General Counsel
Reginald Rogers, Deputy General Counsel
Nancy Cox, Legal Services

MEMBERS ABSENT (excused)

Dr. William Lagaly, D.O.
Alexander Rejistre, Sr., DC
Dr. Joe Thompson

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

The January Quarterly Meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Health was held Thursday, January 27, 2011 in the Charles Hughes Board Room at the Freeway Medical Building in Little Rock, Arkansas. President Alan Fortenberry called the meeting to order at approximately 10:05 a.m. and asked that all guests in attendance identify themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Fortenberry entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the November 4, 2010 quarterly meeting. A motion was made and seconded for approval of the minutes as presented.

President Fortenberry then passed the gavel to Dr. Susan Jones, the newly elected President of the Board of Health.

President Jones asked Dr. Bryant to present the Nominating Committee report.

Nominating Committee Report

Dr. Bryant reported that the Nominating Committee communicated by telephone and email and nominated Mr. George Harper as President-Elect of the Board. President Jones asked if there were any other nominations for President-Elect or if the Board wanted to accept the nomination of the committee. Dr. Liebovich moved that the nominations cease and that Mr. Harper be elected by acclamation; this was seconded, and a vote was taken. All Board members were in agreement with Mr. Harper becoming President Elect with the exception of Dr. Larry Fritchman.

OLD BUSINESS

None to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Per Diem of BOH Members

Mr. Harper stated that, in order for Board members to be reimbursed for travel and per diem, state law requires that the Board pass a resolution each year to that effect. Therefore, Mr. Harper made a motion that the Board of Health authorize expense reimbursement for the performance of official Board duties to the allowable amount authorized by law in accordance with the Arkansas Code for the calendar year 2011. Dr. Page seconded the motion and the motion carried.

County Health Officer Recommendation

Mr. Rick Hogan, Legal Counsel, stated that there was one nomination for Boone County Health officer, and that was Dr. Sue Chambers. He stated the requisite approval letters from the county judge and the Boone County Health Unit Administrator had been received. A vote was taken

and all Board members were in favor of Dr. Sue Chambers becoming the new County Health Officer of Boone County.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jones stated that she wanted to thank the Board and the Nominating Committee for having confidence in her as the Board tries to tackle tough issues for the State and to protect the public and advised that "we don't take this lightly."

President Jones asked the Board members to see her or Dr. Halverson if they would like to change their committee assignments.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Halverson thanked President Jones for the quick meeting and stated that he would like to acknowledge the contribution of Mr. Fortenberry. Under his leadership the Board of Health last year approved more than twenty different rules and regulations ranging from Cosmetology to Public Water Systems and a host of other rules. He stated that Alan had been a wonderful chair, given us great advice and been a terrific spokesman for the work that the Board does. Dr. Halverson thanked him for his great leadership, and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Board. (Applause)

Mr. Fortenberry stated that it had been an honor to serve as President of the Board. "You consider things that are weighty and you consider them fully, and I think that's good. We have had good discussion in regard to the matters, whether it's drinking water, medical related, veterinary related or any of the issues we concern ourselves with, we deal with the public's health, and that is a very weighty subject in itself, and I appreciate the Board's work that you've put forth this past year."

Dr. Halverson asked Dr. Nate Smith to introduce Dr. Michelle Smith, Director of Minority Health and Health Disparities.

Dr. Nate Smith introduced Dr. Michelle Smith, our new Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities. He informed us that she has taken over the position that Chris Patterson held until she retired last summer. Dr. Michelle Smith is very well prepared for this position. She holds a Master of Public Health from Tulane, as well as a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. She comes to us from Jefferson Comprehensive Care, where she had been working in the area of HIV services, particularly the Ryan White Care Program, for the last eleven years.

Dr. Halverson introduced Katheryn Hargis, our new government liaison and Director of Policy. She joins the Health Department after having served for a number of years with Congressman Vic Snyder. We worked with Katheryn when she was in Congressman Snyder's office when we were advocating for public health issues, and she was always extremely helpful and extremely knowledgeable about health affairs for our country. She is a native Arkansan and we are very

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pleased to have her. She has a master's degree from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock and has terrific skills and capabilities.

Dr. Halverson advised that we have three people that are working very substantially who make up our principal team at the Capitol; Katheryn, Robert Brech and Mary Leath, our Deputy Director. It is really important for us to have a very active and substantial presence at the Capitol during the legislative session.

Dr. Halverson moved to adjourn the meeting. President Jones seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul K. Halverson, DrPH
Director and State Health Officer