

**Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission (ATSC)  
Conference Call Meeting Minutes  
July 14, 2021**



**Commissioners Attending:** Andrea Allen, Chair; Tom Chilton, Vice Chair; Nick Fuller, Commissioner; Cristy Sellers, ADH Designee for Renee Mallory; Jerri Clark, Commissioner, Mary Franklin, Commissioner

**Staff Attending:** Matt Gilmore, ADH, Judy Carol Zorn, ATSC

**Guests:** ShaRhonda Love (MHI); Becky Hall, UAMS East; Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, UAMS-COA; Emily Lane, Rhonda McClellan, Jacquie Rainey, UCA; Joy Gray, TPCP; Leslie Humphries and Dr. Bobby McGee, ABI; Joe West, Assistant Arkansas Attorney General, Mark Williams, COPH

**Minutes Recorder:** Judy Carol Zorn, Administrative Specialist III

Agenda Item	Discussion
Call to Order/Quorum/ Introduction of Attendees	Vice Chair Chilton called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Judy Carol Zorn called the roll for the Commission members. Attendees introduced themselves and gave their organizational affiliation.
Review/Approval of April Minutes	At the time of the meeting beginning, there were not enough Commissioners on the call for a quorum.
Director's Report Financial Report Treasury Report UCA Contract	Matt Gilmore stated prior to hiring Ms. Judy Zorn, the ADH was utilizing staff to help assist the Commission. Ms. Judy Zorn is paid out of Commission funds and that is reflected in the budget. The Commission is still located in the Main Street Mall building in downtown Little Rock. He stated that rent will expense from the Commission until it moves. UCA monthly expenses are also reflected. The vacant director's position will be "frozen" since it has not been filled. Mr. Gilmore discussed the Treasury report. The interest income has not increased since interest rates are low and the Commission fund balance is good. He also stated that the UCA contract was renewed for one year. It is a seven-year contract but renewed annually or biannually. This is the first renewal of seven years. It takes effect this month for one year then must go to the legislature and seek an amendment to renew it for two more years.

	<p>Dr. Bobby McGee, ABI, commented that they have sometimes struggled with the evaluation but since dealing with UCA it's greatly improved.</p> <p>Matt Gilmore thanked UCA and Emily Lane for their help. He asked if any commissioners had joined the call.</p> <p>Vice Chair Chilton stated that since there were not enough Commissioners, the 2020 Annual Report could not be approved but any comments were welcomed.</p> <p>Matt Gilmore stated that a conference call may need to be scheduled in the coming week since not many Commissioners were available to discuss the report that has to be submitted in August.</p> <p>Since there was no discussion, discussion moved on to program updates.</p>
<p>ATSC Program Updates</p>	<p>Dr. Bobby McGee stated their ABI annual report was submitted to the legislature before the session ended and received good comments. Due to COVID-19, the symposium last fall had been cancelled but now they are looking forward to this year and having face to face fall activities. Because this is ABI's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and they are planning some great events. ABI has entered a partnership with Arkansas Center for Health Improvement under Joe Thompson and with the Arkansas Insurance Department. He also stated that they are up to 50 projects that generated 13 new grants along with extramural funds.</p> <p>Commissioner Jeri Clark stated she was on the call.</p> <p>Commissioner Nick Fuller stated he was on the call.</p> <p>Matt Gilmore thanked the commissioners for joining the conference. He asked Liz Gates &amp; Dr. Williams if they could provide an update for the College of Public Health.</p> <p>Dr. Williams commented that they had hired the McMath Chair for the Study of Obesity in the college. They are undergoing site accreditation to be received in December. On July 30<sup>th</sup>, the next online report will be available. The college is looking to establish the office of continuing public health education and program evaluation. They are also focusing on program evaluation which he hopes to bring in extra funds for Arkansas.</p> <p>Matt Gilmore asked if there were any questions for Dr. Williams? Matt Gilmore then asked ShaRhonda Love if she could provide an update for the Minority Health Commission?</p> <p>ShaRhonda Love said that July 23<sup>rd</sup> will be her last day because she has accepted an offer from Arkansas Children's Hospital. Replacing her will be Este Frazier, who will be interim director while the Commission looks to fill the director's position. Beatriz Mondragon will continue to attend the ATSC meetings and provide program updates for the Minority Health Initiative (MHI). MHI is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 10/14/21 where there will be a combination of an in person and virtual event. The in-person event will have commission staff &amp; former directors. It will be broadcast like the biannual summit last year. They are also working on a couple of projects to spotlight the Minority Health Commission but also a timeline project where they are looking at the past five projects and programs. Also, the Bridge magazine will be a special edition this year that will have a look at the past. Ms. Love stated they recently moved into a new location at</p>

the Freeway Medical building. Also, they have recently opened their sponsorships but due to the pandemic, they had a decreased response rate and individuals applying. They had 14 applications last cycle and were able to fund all of those. There are other new changes with staffing where they hired a mobile unit coordinator who is already traveling with the Mobile Health Unit. They have a new Southern Ain't Fried Sunday's coordinator who will be starting in two weeks.

Matt Gilmore asked if there were any questions for Ms. Love? He then thanked her for her hard work.

Matt Gilmore stated that there were now enough Commissioners to call the roll and proceed.

Vice Chair Chilton stated to proceed.

Judy Zorn called the roll.

Several Commissioners joined the call and a quorum was established.

Vice Chair Chilton asked for a motion to approve the April 14, 2021 minutes for the Commission.

Commissioner Nick Fuller made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Chair Allen. The motion passed unanimously. The April 14, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

Commissioner Franklin made a motion to approve 2020 Annual Report.

Commissioner Fuller seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The 2020 Annual Report was approved.

Matt Gilmore thanked the Commissioner for their assistance and approving the report.

Matt Gilmore asked if Joy Gray could provide an update for TPCP.

Joy Gray, TPCP, said that Be Well Arkansas call center had enrolled 8,030 callers into the program with an increase in youth callers. For youth who had issues with T21 or vaping they can call in and enroll in this program. Since the youth cessation is new, they have now made up a new Youth Quit Book. Be Well Baby launched the end of April for pregnant smokers. There were 39 women enrolled, which was more than expected. She stated that not all may be eligible or be able to enroll but possibly 20 -25 will be successful. They are hoping to enroll 10 – 15 women per month for a year. The website for free materials has also been updated. They are also excited about expanding a program with veterinarian clinics and people wanting to quit smoking who have pets. This is helpful because secondhand smoke can give pets nasal cancer as well as COPD. On the Be Well Arkansas.org website there are free materials available as well as lanyards, magnets, cards, etc. Over the next year, there will be videos released of real people who quit using the Be Well Arkansas programs. Ms. Gray then asked if there were any questions?

Matt Gilmore asked if there were any questions for Joy Gray? He stated that the video link was shared with the Commissioners. And he stated that it will also be shared with the programs as well.

Joy Gray said everyone is welcome to share the video on social media.

Matt Gilmore asked Director Franklin to provide a report for TS-MEP  
Commissioner Franklin stated that through the TSMEP services, 12,283 people were served, but this is less over last quarter due to people being hesitant due to the pandemic. They were also able to leverage 15.9% federal funding to match tobacco fund. She then asked if there were any questions?  
Matt Gilmore thanked Ms. Franklin.

Amy Leigh Overton-McCoy, UAMS-COA, provided an update and stated that they took on food insecurity for older adults and Arkansas ranked better than it did previously in this ranking. The Center on Aging has a program called "HEAT" and it stands for Healthy Eating & Tasting. It teaches older adults how to utilize shelf type foods, make healthy recipes on budget, and utilize porch delivery concepts. She also said that from April 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> they had reached nearly every county in the state and worked with 2,220 older adults that produced 13,320 meals for older adults while providing them health education, recipes, and resources. They partnered with the Backpack program for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. Also, they invested in a virtual experience that allows them to focus on Dementia and expanding into Parkinson's. There will also be training for healthy individuals so that they will know more about the normal aging changes. This will be more age appropriate in the interventions for older adults. This will be available statewide, not only to community individuals but to health care professionals and health care professional students. Ms. McCoy asked if there were any questions?

Matt Gilmore asked if there were any questions for Amy Leigh and thanked her for her report.

Becky Hall, UAMS East stated that they are really focusing on the food pharmacy that is in the clinic. She stated that a physician writes a food prescription for people with various chronic conditions who are food insecure or need to better understand foods they need to eat for their condition. UAMS East has received a \$2,000 grant from the Arkansas Community Foundation. There has also been a UALR Chancellor grant written to purchase food as well. They are receiving funding from ARCOP (Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention) and also a grant from the cooperative extension service to be able to purchase refrigeration, shelving, and signage. Another thing they are doing is working with the county to do a mobile food pantry that travels throughout county. Ms. Hall stated that Stephanie Loveless, UAMS's Health Educator, has been doing a lot of health coaching with patients on nutrition and obesity. They are partnering with Arkansas Rural Health, who is writing a USDA grant for work in Lake Village and Helena for a one-year planning project. It will provide food and staffing for UAMS East plus wearables and iWatches and iPads for the patients to monitor their conditions. They are working with the ADH BRIC program which is "building resilient inclusive communities" to ensure it supports nutrition and standards in the food pharmacy. In Lake Village, the military will be doing an innovative readiness training where they come in and do a two-week medical maneuver. The UAMS East smoking cessation program is doing well too. She also said that due to the pandemic, they could not have the MASH camp but now it is done online or virtually. They have had 71

	<p>students that be a part of that. Dr. Jackson, a diabetes educator has now since retired. Since her departure, this will be done virtually by a consultant or a UAMS employee on campus. Ms. Hall stated that they hired Dr. Amber Norris who sees patients on Wednesday's along with two other doctors who conduct patient clinic on Thursdays.</p> <p>Matt Gilmore asked if there were any questions for Dr. Hall?</p> <p>Matt Gilmore thanked all the programs for their reports.</p> <p>Vice Chair Chilton reminded commissioners and programs directors that there is another commission meeting on 11/10/21.</p>
Meeting Adjournment	<p>Vice Chair Chilton asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mary Franklin made a motion and Christy Sellers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.