

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL

CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 9th day of November 2023, the Amarillo Area Public Health Board met for a quarterly board meeting at the City of Amarillo, Department of Public Health conference room located at 850 Martin Rd., Amarillo, Texas, with the following members present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Kenneth Crossland, DDS Chair, City of Canyon	Y	229	204
Kevin Hawkins, Vice Chair City of Amarillo	Y	78	73
Delores Thompson Potter County	N	53	36
Judi Smith Randall County	N	101	80
Marjorie Schroeder Randall County	Y	4	4
Jennifer Potter City of Amarillo	N	4	3
Rebecca Scott, MD Potter County	Y	21	18
Amber Bell Tanglewood	Y	4	2

Administrative Officers Present:

Dr. Bell Health Authority, Public Health, City of Amarillo
Victoria Medley Director, Animal Management & Welfare, City of Amarillo
John Gates Deputy Director, Environmental Health, City of Amarillo
Casie Stoughton Director, Public Health, City of Amarillo
Carol Hill Assistant Director, Public Health, City of Amarillo
Shantel Elser Assistant Director, WIC, City of Amarillo
Joe Mike Briseno Recording Secretary, Public Health, City of Amarillo

Guests Present

None

Item 1: Call to Order and Welcome

Chairman Dr. Crossland opened the meeting at 7:00pm, established a quorum, and conducted the consideration of the following items in the order presented.

Item 2: Public Address

There were no comments from interested citizens on matters directly pertaining to policies, programs, or services of the Amarillo Area Public Health District.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the Public Health Board meetings held on July 20, 2023. Dr. Crossland entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. All in favor.

Item 4: Regular Meeting Items

4.A Discussion Topical Update from Dr. Bell, Health Authority

Dr. Bell, Health Authority of Public Health presented a topical update to the board.

- Respiratory illness
 - Influenza B
 - Flu Vaccine
 - RSV
 - Monoclonal antibody that protects infants.
 - Single dose and it will last throughout the flu season.
 - Availability issues
 - FDA approval for 8 months & under.
 - RSV vaccine for adults
 - Over the age of 60
- COVID – 19
 - Vaccine availability
 - Omicron variant
 - CDC recommendations for positive COVID – 19 cases
 - Monoclonal antibodies and mutations of the virus.

Item 5: Administrative Reports

5.A Animal Management and Welfare

Victoria Medley, Director of Animal Management and Welfare, presented the AM&W report.

- Rabies
 - Animal Bites and Scratches
 - AM&W and Public Health did a presentation to the High Plains Veterinary Medicine Association regarding rabies.
 - Flyers with information about animal bites and scratches were handed out to local Veterinary clinics.
- Distemper virus
 - Alerts sent out from AM&W shelter.

- 1 positive case in the community.
- Importance of vaccinated your animals.
- AM&W field officers responded to 1,725 calls in October 2023.
- Shelter intake – October 2023
 - 311 animals surrendered by the public.
 - 88 randomly picked up by citizens.
 - 354 picked up by field officers.
 - 16 wildlife animals picked up by field officers.
 - 769 total animals picked up.

5.B Environmental Health

John Gates, Deputy Director of Environmental Health, presented the Environmental Health report.

- New grant
 - US Consumer Product and Safety Commission for pool safety.
 - 2-year grant for a total of \$107,853.92.
 - Able to offer 40 certified pool operator courses.
 - 40 Certified pool technician – local course
 - All inspectors will have CPO certification and certified pool inspector certification.
 - First aid and safety
 - Emergency response planning.
 - CPSC pool inspector trainings
 - National Environmental Health Association pool training.
 - The first course was offered at the end of October.
 - 23 students
 - 61% pass rate
 - Retest will be available.
 - Upcoming CPO classes
 - Open to region
- World Aquatic Health Conference
 - 2 inspectors from Environmental Health will be attending.

5.C Public Health

Casie Stoughton, Director of Public Health, and Carol Hill, Assistant Director of Public Health, presented the Public Health report.

- Public Health Informational sheets for the public and businesses
 - Vaccine hesitancy
 - Common conditions
 - Big Button survey where the community finds their most trusted health information.
 - 1,000 citizens were surveyed.

- 56% of the respondents get their information from their medical provider.
 - 22% from family and friends.
 - 20% from websites
 - Resource guides are available at amarilloalerts.com.
 - Other trusted websites for trusted medical information.
- Communicable Disease Report
- EPI Newsletter
- Emergency Management
 - Community Emergency Response Team training
 - 3 Public Health staff members completed the training.
- Carseat program – CPST certified.
 - 5 staff members are now certified.
 - 523 carseats have been given and installed by the certified team.
- Pack & Plays
 - 226 given out to the community.
- Outreach team
 - 180 outreach events
 - Gunlocks have been given out to the community.
- Reset Team
 - Garden at the Warford Center
 - Master Gardner Class – 1 Public Health staff has completed this class.
 - Items from the garden are taken to the Hilltop Senior Citizen Center.

5.D WIC

Shantel Elser, Assistant Director of WIC, presented the WIC report.

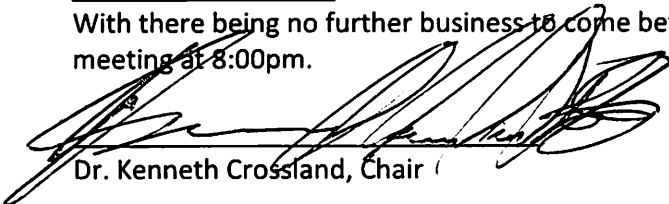
- WIC Participation
 - 6,010 Average Participates for this quarter.
- TexasWIC.org
 - People can apply online now.
 - A new application is now available to help with shopping for WIC eligible items.
- Update on WIC benefits

Item 6: Discuss Items for Future Agendas

Members requested reports and new updates from all departments. Dr. Crossland set the next meeting for January 18, 2024, at 7:00PM. The location will be held at the Public Health Department, located at 850 Martin Road.

Item 7: Adjournment

With there being no further business to come before the board, Dr. Crossland adjourned the meeting at 8:00pm.


 Dr. Kenneth Crossland, Chair


 Mike Briseno, Recording Secretary