

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTIES OF POTTER AND RANDALL

CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 20th day of July 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	228	203
Kevin Hawkins, Vice Chair City of Amarillo	Y	77	72
Delores Thompson Potter County	N	52	36
Judi Smith Randall County	Y	100	80
Marjorie Schroeder Randall County	Y	3	3
Jennifer Potter City of Amarillo	Y	3	3
Rebecca Scott, MD Potter County	Y	20	17
Amber Bell Tanglewood	N	3	1

Administrative Officers Present:

Dr. Bell Health Authority, Public Health, City of Amarillo
Victoria Medley Director, Animal Management & Welfare, City of Amarillo
Anthony Spanel Director, Environmental Health, City of Amarillo
Casie Stoughton Director, Public Health, City of Amarillo
Margaret Payton 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 April 20, 2023.

Dr. Crossland entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. Kevin Hawkins moved to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. Seconded by Rebecca Scott. 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.

- Flu season updates
 - Australia – US tends to follow their flu season.
- Infections
 - Malaria – 2 cases in the US due to travel. No local transmission.
 - Brucellosis – 1 case. Maybe had something to do with the recent flooding in the Amarillo area. Patient is improving and is making a full recovery.
 - West Nile virus update – 1 case in Randall County.

Item 5: Administrative Reports

5.A Animal Management and Welfare

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

- Rabies
 - Rabies Awareness: What to Know handout. Paper copies and pdf versions are available on Animal Management & Welfare's website and Public Health's website.
 - 2 positive rabies cases in April and June.
 - Cases were not in a rural area in Amarillo.
 - Cases were in highly populated dense communities in the center of town.
 - Rabies came from skunks in the area.
 - How to report rabies.
 - Feral cats
 - Ears clipped shows that a cat has been vaccinated, spayed, and neutered.
 - Working cat program – Safe way for the community to have cats.
 - Flood Center/Shelter in Amarillo
 - Red Cross center/shelter
 - Partnered with TxTech Vets

- Staging area for all pets at the shelter for the community.
 - Staging area set up at Market Street United during the flooding.
- August 2023 Annual Clearing Shelter

5.B Environmental Health

Anthony Spanel, Director of Environmental Health, presented the Environmental Health report.

- Flooding Response
 - 77th – Resource delivery, information packets (will water sampling, OSSF safety), temporary shelters, environmental samples (Playa lake sampling)
 - Paramount/Osage – Building assessments, operational assessments, coordination with Public Works on flood disposal, long-term sheltering with PH.
 - Randall County – Lakes/Streams water sampling (3 rounds of each water body)
 - Randall County – Vector control (4,900.41 acres treated)
 - Secured \$15,000.00 in State funding.
 - Assisted with RedCross Center/Shelter
 - Restaurants and assistance with disposing food.
 - Completed bacteria counts from the flood waters throughout the city.
- Vector control
 - The state set up a trapping program for two weeks.
 - Sprayed 5,000 acres in Randall County in a two-week period.
 - 12 Surveillance sites – Canyon and Lake Tanglewood are now participating with the surveillance sites.
 - West Nile

5.C Public Health

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

- Cooperative Agreement Update approved by:
 - Amarillo
 - Canyon
 - Potter/Randall
 - Timbercreek
- Invited to the Panhandle Vet Association meeting in October.
- Attended the Pediatric Emergency Management and Disaster Response training in Pennsylvania.
 - The training will be offered to the Texas panhandle in March 2024.
 - Two classes with 50 available spots will be offered.
- Rabies exposure reporting process
- Flood Center/Shelter participation
 - Public Health started the set up of the Muti-agency Resource Center (MARC).
 - Call Center set up.
 - Assisted the Red Cross at the shelter with immediate needs for the public at the shelter.

- Assisted with feeding, donations, and medical components.
- Worked with the CERT team at the shelter.
- Transit department helped citizens with shuttle services from the Civic Center to the MARC and back to their homes to retrieve medications, pets, and other belongings that were needed.

5.D WIC

Margaret Payton, Director of WIC, presented the WIC report.

- WIC Participation
 - 5,853 Average Participates for this quarter (Apr. 2023 – Jun. 2023)
- Staffing issues
- Online gardening classes through Zoom
 - First gardening class - June 2023
 - Gardening with scraps
- Getting ready for upcoming state audit
- Formula shortage
- Update on WIC benefits
 - COVID – 19: August 10th will be closed to prepare the clinic to see clients in person again.
 - Benefits will go back to 3 months from 4 months.

Item 6: Discuss Items for Future Agendas

Members requested reports and new updates from all departments. Dr. Crossland set the next meeting for October 19, 2023, 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 8:33pm.



Dr. Kenneth Crossland, Chair



Joe Mike Briseno, Recording Secretary