



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health  
*Fluoridation Advisory Board Meeting*  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Friday, September 8, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

ATTENDEES:	
<p><u>Board Member Attendees:</u> Dr. Richard W. Ballard, DDS Dr. Richard Grimball Dr. C.J. Richard, DDS Dr. Richard Brasher (Phone) Dr. Tahisa P. Colbert, DDS (Phone) Dr. Jeremy Brown, DDS (Phone) Dr. John T. Little (Phone) Dr. Charles Foy Jr., DDS (Phone) Suzanne Farrar, R.D.H. (Phone) Dr. Henry Grimillion, DDS (Phone) Ad HOC Member – Sue Catchings, EBR School-Based Health</p>	<p><u>Non-Board Member Attendees:</u> T. Jay Ray, LDH Kaitlyn King, LDH Annette Droddy, Louisiana Dental Association</p>
ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS:	
Patrick Credeur ( LRWA representative present on call), Dr. Kenneth M. Luminais, DDS	
Agenda Items:	Discussion:
<p><i>10:00 am—10:30am</i> <b>Welcome &amp; Approval of 6/2/17 Meeting Minutes</b> <b>Dr. Tahisa Colbert</b></p>	<p>Dr. Tahisa Colbert, brought the meeting to attention. Motion to commense the meeting was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Dr. Colbert conducted Board Member roll call. Nine of twelve appointed Members were in attendance. Quorum for the September 8<sup>th</sup> FAB Meeting was met.</p>
<p><i>10:30 am—11:00 am</i> <b>FAB Member Survey Summary, Sealant Clinic Recruitment</b> <b>Kaitlyn King, LDH</b></p>	<p><b>FAB Member Survey Summary</b> The Office of Public Health provided a summary report based upon the responses collected from Members following the June 2, 2017 meeting. Of the twelve Board Members who received the “Needs and Interest Survey” nine individuals completed the survey. Highlights discovered from the meeting results were reviewed. The full summary report can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Survey results were collected for a number of reasons including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How quarterly meetings can be structured to best fit the needs of those serving.</li> <li>○ Define Board Member priority areas of interest for future FAB initiatives</li> <li>○ Board Member interest and commitment to serving on the FAB</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ The summary report demonstrated the following key take away messages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Level of Interest Serving as Board Member: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 7 respondents are interested and able to commit to serving</li> <li>▪ 1 respondent is interested but does not have the time needed to commit</li> <li>▪ 1 respondent is neither interested or uninterested in serving</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Preferred Meeting Structure (day of week and time of day)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Split responses demonstrated that half of Board Members prefer meetings in the AM and half of Board Members prefer afternoon meetings.
- Friday was defined as the day of the week that Board Members have the most availability for attending a board meeting.
- Moving forward meetings will be held on Fridays and the time of the day will vary to accommodate both morning and afternoon meeting times.
- In Person VS. Web-Based Quarterly Meetings
  - All 9 respondents demonstrated that having 2 quarterly meetings via web-conference and 2 in person is preferred to 4 in person meetings.

***OPH & Eat, Move, Grow Sealant Clinic Partnership***

The Louisiana Oral Health Program has partnered with Eat, Move, Grow! Louisiana to host school-based dental sealant clinics during the 2017-2018 school year. The collaborative has set a goal to provide clinics of 15 schools within the [Eat, Move, Grow! Louisiana territory](#).

- The collaborative is looking to gain volunteer dentists interested in volunteering a day to screen children prior to state contracted hygienists placing sealants and fluoride varnish applications.
- Anyone interested in volunteering time to screen children in a Region near them or anyone interested in additional information regarding the clinics can forward contact information to [Kaitlyn.King@la.gov](mailto:Kaitlyn.King@la.gov).
- Specific dates for the clinics will be scheduled based upon volunteer dentist schedules.
- Schools will be selected for clinics based on the DOE Economic Disadvantage percentage in addition having a location that does not provide fluoridated water to their community.
  - Non-fluoridated communities have been selected based on the [Public Water Systems with 5K or More Service Connections: Louisiana](#) handout

The Maternal and Child Health Coalition Representative seat will be vacant moving forward as this Coalition is no longer active.

Louisiana Medical Society Representative seat will be vacant moving forward as Society has declined the opportunity to maintain a board member seat.

Newly appointed Board Members include:

- Dr. Tahisa P. Colbert, D.D.S. is a new appointee to represent Region IV
- Dr. Richard R. Brasher Jr., D.D.S. will represent Region VI (pending completion of Senate confirmation)
- Dr. Jeremy D. Brown, D.D.S. is a new appointee to represent Region VII
- Dr. John T. Little, D.D.S. will be reappointed from Region VIII (pending completion of Senate confirmation)
- Dr. Charles B. Foy, D.D.S. will be reappointed to the seat in Region IX by the end of June 2017.

***Voting for FAB Chairman Position & Review of Chairman Roles***

Roles of Chairman include seeking potential funding sources to drive the Fluoridation Advisory Board's mission including assisting state water systems in initiating water fluoridation.

- Although there was no quorum and since there are no bylaws in place, the present members in attendance voted as follows :
  - Chairman - Patrick Credeur
  - Co-Chair - Dr. Tahisa Colbert

***View of Legislation***

- The State mandated FAB, established in 1997, resulted from Senate Bill No. 963. The advisory board was created with the purpose of bringing together Governor appointed Oral Health Champions to serve as Board Members and advocate for water fluoridation throughout the state. The legislation was reviewed.
- Board members are recommended by the Louisiana Dental Association. Recommended members are then confirmed by the Senate. See legislation for details.

Act 761 that legislated public water systems with at least 5000 service connections to fluoride water and the LDH-OHP to promulgate rules as well as provide sufficient sources of funding when available in conjunction with the mandate. Legislation was reviewed to discuss the details.

***What is the board's focus?***

- Overall the FAB plans to create goals to embrace goals that:
  - Seek and secure funding for CWF
  - Work to educate the public on matters regarding dental health, dental health access, and the prevention of tooth decay

***Techniques to sustain an active board***

- Patrick Creduer brought to the table a potential opportunity to work with local governments, who are looking to initiate water fluoridation, and gain funding from the citizens served by the water system. Adequate funding to support fluoridation initiation could be supported by increasing the water fee by only \$1.00/citizen
- Design legislative outreach plan to target potential legislative oral health advocates, determine areas of focus that will assist in gaining legislative support:
  - LDA (Annette Drodgy) is willing to connect with and have conversation with the lobbyists who support LDA efforts to see if any potential champions can be identified. Potential contact: Senator Hoffman
    - Identify champions and begin conversations on potential collaboration/potential fund seeking opportunities
    - Looking to identify regional representatives
  - Health Center's in Schools (Sue Catchings) is willing to connect with lobbyists who support SBHCs and advocate for children's issues. Trying to connect the importance of fluoridation and children's wellbeing may open up avenues to different decision makers who are willing to assist & support. She is also willing to assist with writing the By-Laws.
    - Focus on children's health outcomes?
    - Explore/brainstorm different groups who advocate for oral health and who could sit in on the meetings as participants and partner with the advisory board (School Health Alliance, LA School Nurses Board, American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry)
  - Work to design and implement a fluoridation campaign that is backed by legislature and visible to the public

<p>11:00 am–11:30 am <b>FAB Bylaws</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work to integrate FAB efforts with other oral health stakeholders throughout the state <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Louisiana Oral Health Coalition is an active group who has a water fluoridation focus group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strive to have FAB board member presence at the Oral Health Coalition Meeting to align fluoridation forces</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Approach other coalitions, groups, organizations with an invitation to sit in on FAB meetings as participants to collaborate efforts as we work to move Oral Health forward.</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• Is it beneficial for the FAB continue to meet quarterly? Attendance at FAB meetings is continuously low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Should board bylaws incorporate requirements for attendance? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In what capacity is a board member expected to serve?</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Because of low attendance rates would joining the FAB and Oral Health Coalition be an option? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Board has been established for a total of 20 years in which a quorum has never been met during a FAB meeting</li> <li>➤ Would Board Member attendance increase if the FAB phased into the Oral Health Coalition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To maintain the presence of FAB as a standalone group a short FAB meeting could be held following the Oral Health Coalition meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Attempting to change the dynamic of the Board Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conference call vs. in person meetings to boost participation in the FAB. Attempting to use options such as GoToMeeting or Skype.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>11:30 am–11:45 am <b>Follow Up Items</b></p>	<p><b>Next Steps and Action items</b></p> <p>Sealant Clinic Dentist Recruitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr. C.J. Richard to send Kaitlyn King contact information to assist in Dentist/Hygienist recruitment</li> </ul> <p>Creation of FAB Bylaws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kaitlyn King to send doodle poll for FAB Bylaw Committee Members (Sue Catchings, Dr. Tahisa Colbert)</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing board member participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ OPH will create a survey for board member’s in an attempt to make board meetings more accommodating for members</li> <li>○ OPH will draft FAB bylaws to be visited at the next FAB meeting</li> </ul> </li>   <li>• OPH will work to collect LSU Dental Program testimonies that promote importance of water fluoridation (i.e. tooth decay prevalence in EBR vs. Orleans as noted by students post Hurricane Katrina dental screenings)</li>   <li>• Encourage Board Members to attend the October Oral Health Coalition meeting to learn more about partnership opportunities and potential group integration</li>   <li>• OPH will plan agenda for September 2017 meeting to discuss how, who and what the Board can do to partner with decision makers and legislators at the Capital Building</li> </ul>
<p>11:45 am – 12:00 pm <b>Next Steps and Action Items</b></p>	

12:00 pm

***Meeting Adjorn***