



Press Release

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Health Boards Welcome New Members and Officers

La Marque – At regularly scheduled meetings the Galveston County United Board of Health (UBOH) and the 4C's Governing Board elected officers and welcomed new members.

The United Board of Health is a thirteen member policy-making board responsible for policy oversight of public health functions to include EMS and a variety of environmental and community health services.

UBOH board members voted to retain all current officers for the new term to end in April 2008. John Zendt, representing the food service hospitality industry, will continue to serve as Chairperson; Dr. Ben Raimer, UTMB's Vice Chair of Community Outreach, will continue serving as Vice Chair; and Mary Anne Holcomb, a municipal representative and Kemah city councilperson, was reappointed to the position of Secretary-Treasurer.

Several members with terms expiring were reappointed to two year membership terms and agreed to continue serving. In addition to the officers above, other reappointed members were Citizen at Large representatives Ted Hanley, Dr. Patricia Rogers, and Dr. Milton Howard.

After five years of service on the United Board of Health member Jan Winnike, RN stepped down. Winnike was presented a plaque for her service by Health District CEO Dr. Mark Guidry and Board Chair, John Zendt. Filling the vacant position is Paulette Roberson, BSN, a certified Nurse Administrator and Nurse Manager in UTMB's Behavioral Medicine Nursing department. New members are

nominated by the Galveston County Commissioner's Court and approved by majority vote of the 13 member cities.

UBOH members review and set policy for the Health District. Recent actions taken by the members include oversight of an EMS expansion on the mainland, new food safety policies and regulations, and a proposed new animal services policy/regulation for the unincorporated areas of Galveston County and participating cities of Bayou Vista, Clear Lake Shores, Dickinson, Hitchcock, Kemah, La Marque, Santa Fe, Texas City and Tiki Island.

The proposed Animal Services policy is currently in the second step of policy development. The UBOH held a public hearing on the proposed policy on August 29th at Health District Headquarters, 1207 Oak Street, La Marque at 6 p.m. Additional information on the hearing along with the policy can be found at www.gchd.org/press/2007/08AnimalServicesHearing.htm. In the next step of policy development, member cities will review and provide comment prior to the next board meeting on September 26th.

Overseeing policy of the 4C's Clinics, the 4C's Governing Board also held officer elections. Dr. Milton Howard, DDS, a community representative and member of the United Board of Health, was reelected Chair of the 4C's Governing Board. Dr. Howard is a dentist with a private practice in La Marque who started his career in public health with the District in 1972. Members reelected Ms. Mary McCall, a consumer representative, to serve as Vice Chair as well as Ms. Virginia Valentino as the Secretary-Treasurer. Ms. Valentino is a consumer representative on the board and an educator at Our Lady of Lourdes School in Hitchcock.

At the meeting county attorney Harvey Bazaman resigned after serving on the 4C's board since 2004. Bazaman was presented a plaque for his service by Health District CEO Dr. Mark Guidry and Board Chair, Dr. Milton Howard. Filling his seat on the board will be Don Glywasky. Mr. Glywasky has served as an attorney for Galveston County the past 22 years and has assisted the Health District with many public health matters during that time. 4C's Board members are nominated by the UBOH.

Consumer Representative Dorothy Goodman and Community Representative Elizabeth Kinard were both reappointed to the Governing Board.

The 4C's Governing Board sets policy for the two 4C's Clinics in Galveston County. One clinic is located at 2000 Texas Avenue in the Texas City Community Family Center; and the other is located in Galveston's Island Community Center at 4700 Broadway. The Board has worked on improving access to care, patient

satisfaction, healthcare financing, and planning for improving clinic flow through restructuring clinic processes and facility design.

Dr. Mark Guidry, Galveston County Health Authority and Chief Executive Officer for the Health District says, "Board members give their time, wisdom, and support to district priorities and activities. The involvement of members on both boards allows us to continually improve public services as well as plan for new and emerging health threats."

Board members approve the District's Strategic Health Plan (2004-2010) and an Annual Progress Report of district activities accomplishments and challenges. The 2006 Annual Progress Report can be found at: www.gchd.org/admin/strattoc.htm.