

Association of Texas Midwives Board Meeting
September 20th, 2009 Austin, TX
Northcross Inn and Suites

Meeting opened at 1:40 by Kelli Beaty

Minutes approved by 10 day turn around 10/07/09

Board Members Present:

Kelli Beaty, President

Paula Davis, Vice President

Vicki Wells, Region 7

Faith Beltz, Treasurer Region 1

Donna Miller, Region 5

Vicki Meinhart, Region 1

Sandra Elkins, Region 3

Alisa Voss, Region 6

Board Members not in attendance:

Bonnie Kitchen excused due to illness

Cathy Rude, excused attending a birth

Guests Present: Carol Schumacher, Illysa Foster, Robin Rabenschlag, Sylyna Kennedy, Laurie Fremgen, Pam Holland

1. Discussion of CEU Guidelines revision. Requested changes: IIAC2 add "Non-ATM sponsored class. IIIA2 "2 years, or if course content changes significantly" IIIB omit #3. Add: CED keeps annual running list of all CEUs issued. The list will be sent to ATM President and DSHS Midwifery Program coordinator.
2. 2:30 Closed meeting session (KB took notes)
3. 3:20pm Reopened open meeting
4. Future meeting dates:
 - a. ATM Executive Board meeting (conference call) Executive board will meet monthly by phone when and if necessary to conduct business between regularly scheduled board meetings.
 - b. Next scheduled ATM Board meeting 11/1/09 at 2:00pm.
5. Welcome to Alisa Voss, new ATM Board member, rep from San Antonio. She was given a manual. She has signed confidentiality agreement.
6. ATM Board Manuals have been updated, including by-laws, policies..
 - a. Education policies need to be rewritten to reflect the new policies which have been put in place, Bonnie Kitchen will be asked to take care of this.

- b. ATMMTP Preceptor Manual has been recently updated by Claudine Crews, ATMMTP Course Coordinator.
7. Ethics and Standards: Welcome to guest speaker, Illysa Foster.
- a. The ATM Board agrees with the Midwifery Model of care, and therefore we want midwives to behave ethically.
 - b. **Proposal: ATM will form and ethics committee to support midwives in ethical decision making.** Faith Beltz moved, and Paula Davis seconded. Voted unanimously accepted.
 - i. Appointed Vicki Wells and Sandra Elkins to work with Illysa Foster to formulate the policies, guidelines, and makeup of the Ethics Committee.
 - ii. Necessary elements of Ethics considerations:
 - 1. NARM-style Peer Review
 - 2. Focus on the “why” at least as much as “what” was done
 - iii. Statement of Ethics of Midwifery Illysa’s attached proposal document.
 - c. Regional Reps will discuss the formation of an Ethics Committee with their regions.
 - d. The Committee will be announced at the spring ATM Conference: the Ethics Committee members, goals, and functions.
 - e. ATM Ethics statement with the current changes was unanimously approved.
8. Treasurer (Faith Beltz) Report:
- a. Faith provided a financial report for Board members. We are basically on budget at this point, other than board meetings, which are more expensive than proposed.
 - b. ATM has brought in more than it has spent.
 - c. ATMMTP is the major source of income this year.
 - d. Committees need to submit 2010 budgets at the November 2009 meeting.
 - e. Kelli Beaty will purchase a prepaid VISA card of \$1000.00 to provide seed money for the conference committee to set up the Spring 2010 Conference.
 - f. Any other proposals for spending money in 2010 should be submitted to the Board at the November 2009 meeting.
 - g. The ATM Board approved for Kelli Beaty to move \$20,000.00 into two (2) \$10,000.00 CDs of less than three (3) years duration.
 - h. The only signers on the ATM accounts should be Kelli Beaty, Shanna Cloyd, and Paula Davis. Remove Tina Rowe from all ATM accounts.
9. Texas Legislative Report, provided by Faith Beltz. Faith gave a report on bills that were followed through session and some that passed which affect midwives. See attached legislative report. She also asked the board to be talking to their regions and thinking about our goals for the next legislative session, especially because if we choose to try and introduce a bill, we would need to begin the work in the interim.
10. Faith would like to represent ATM at the ACOG Summit, October 3, 2009. ATM will reimburse her for any expenses incurred.

11. Kelli Beaty wants ATM Board to set some big goals to get some things done.
 - a. Each Board member should bring a goal and a plan, including activity(ies) and cost, i.e., to the November 2009 meeting:
 - i. Advertising – PR
 - ii. Health Care reform activism-statewide and nationally
 - iii. Ethics issues
 - iv. Prescriptive authority
 - b. PUSH, MAMA Campaign report (Kelli Beaty): Each midwife needs to ask her clients to donate to a group to support the fight for inclusion of midwifery in the federal health plan.
 - c. Fundraising Conference, Austin: Cathy Rude moved, Faith Beltz seconded, and the Board unanimously approved to pay for sending Jennifer Bennett and Vicki Meinhart to the fundraising conference.
12. ATM Conference speakers who have agreed to speak: Sylyna Kennedy, Susan Steffes, Jodi Selander, Michelle Brown, Rosie Coehlo, Maggie Bennett, Illysa Foster. Maggie Bennett will be our keynote speaker.
 - a. The conference schedule is ready, preconference on Thursday. 2 Hours are allowed for ATMMTP Graduation. No ATM Board meeting. Friday at 9am: Kelli gives 30 min welcome. 1 hour general session for ATM membership: Present goals, etc.
 - b. Save the Date Cards have been sent, return postage guaranteed.
 - i. We can send cards to doula lists, etc, as we have more cards available.
 - c. Illysa Foster and Vicki Meinhart are working together to coordinate classes and CEUs.

13. Protocols: Cathy Rude

- a. Editing Protocols needs to be done by one person. Natalie Womack has said that she could begin to write protocols for Antepartum for \$20/hour, which would be editable by any midwife who may want to use it for herself. She requests that if ATM likes what she has done, she wants us to backpay her \$5.00/hr additional, and if ATM wants her to continue and finish the protocols in entirety, she wants \$25/hr for her work. ATM can provide a file of partial protocols as a start. Proposal: the Executive committee will write a contract for editing and technical writing of the Protocol manual for \$20/hr. If the protocols are approved, ATM will backpay her \$5/hr (to equal \$25), and will contract with her for \$25/hr to complete the protocols. ATM will provide a list of required protocols. Someone must write the opening section, including disclaimers for the protocols (perhaps Natalie Womack and Cathy Rude)

6:05pm Break

6:30pm Resume meeting

14. Education committee Report: No report submitted by Bonnie Kitchen (Bonnie Kitchen absent)
Teacher contract and reimbursement.

Pay for grading/administering A&P module for Robin.

15. ATMMTP Course: Claudine Crews, Course Coordinator
 - a. This year's graduates have a 100% pass rate for the NARM exam.
 - b. Enrollment has risen dramatically, doubled this year, up to 25 new students. (Current enrollment is 50.) Processing applications alone has been overwhelming, and processing the increased number of students through each module is a lot of work. There are space issues, instructor number issues. We either need more instructors or more workshops.
 - c. Review of Course revisions Beginning 2/1/09, new enrollee requirements: (10 Continuity of care (4ap, birth, nb exam, 1ppm), (3 Continuous CC beg<15 weeks), increased didactic hours from 250hrs to 500 hrs, total 50 births, students must attend 1 Complaint Review mtg.
 - d. Reviewed the decision of the Executive Committee to allow selected advanced students (all module work finished; now completing clinical work) to grade work.
 - e. We need to pay instructors closer to what they are worth so we can have enough instructors. We need to train more instructors.
 - f. Currently ATMMTP pays \$50/day for the facility. The workshop coordinator is paid \$100. We need a policy to reimburse actual expenses. The workshop coordinator needs to find a facility and submit the bid (fee) to the Course Coordinator.
 - g. Teacher Contract: Proposed teachers contract is accepted by board.
 - i. Paula Davis moved to pay \$500 to compensate for a missed birth (primary care client), Alisa Voss seconded, all approved.
 - ii. Claudine asked to table the discussion regarding teacher pay for now and return with a proposal. The Board agreed.
 - h. A&P module
 - i. Kelli Beaty moved that we pay Robin Rabenschlag a monthly salary of \$1000.00 per month for executing the A&P module, beginning September, and payable on the 15th of each month, to be revisited in six (6) months. Seconded by Paula Davis. Unanimously passed.

16. Region 8 vacancy: Kelli Beaty.

- a. Kelli will send Darlene a thank you card.
- b. ATM will hold a special election for region 8 representative

17. Taxes: Paula Davis moved that we hire Sidney Beal CPA as ATM accountant and tax preparer. Faith Beltz seconded. Passed unanimously.

18. Complaint against Paula Davis' midwifery practice was made with the Midwifery Grievance Committee and the BNE 2 years ago. The Midwifery Grievance committee dismissed the complaint. The ATM Board unanimously agreed to authorize Kelli Beaty to write a statement on behalf of ATM stating that ATM supports and encourages the Midwifery Board to ask the BNE to refrain from being involved in midwifery-related complaints against RNs practicing as LMs.

8:15pm Break for dinner

9:15pm meeting resumed

19. The Board unanimously approved the "Standards for Midwifery Practice" and the "ATM Code for Ethical Midwifery Practice". Revisions dated 9/16/09.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10pm by Kelli Beatty.

Proposed Ethics Committee for ATM

Illysa Foster, CPM

The purpose of an ATM Ethics Committee is to uphold ethical standards of Texas midwives, support the profession of midwifery and protect the women of Texas who seek midwifery care through education, training and consultation and advising the ATM board. As a body of 3-6 members, an ATM Ethics Committee can address ethical concerns brought to its attention by the ATM Board, ATM members or the general public. An ATM Ethics Committee will meet on an as-needed basis to address ethical concerns brought to its attention.

The ATM Ethics Committee will utilize existing codes and documents pertinent to midwifery practice in providing advice and guidelines to other bodies and individuals. An ATM Ethics Committee recognizes the powers of the Board of ATM, yet will operate independent of board members' influence in providing ethical advice. Autonomy in this area is essential for an ethical committee to be objective and effective.

Periodically, an ATM Ethics Committee will offer educational and training opportunities for midwives. Midwives should pursue regular ethics training, as do other health-care professionals. Maintaining high ethical standards is essential for any profession. Midwives Model of Care reflects a high standard of ethics.

Region 2 Report: Sandra Elkins

Lines of communication are open with myself and other area midwives. We are doing peer review in Oct.

We have been introduced to one L&D nurse in Borger, TX who has come to our Amarillo home to teach NRP, she also donated new neonatal resuscitation equipment to all 4 midwives area midwife.

Through meeting with area midwives it has been brought to my attention that many have withdrawn from ATM and those who have not done so are considering doing so. I will continue to work with them in hopes of seeing that those eligible for membership will return to or stay in ATM.

Region 3 Report: Kelli Beaty, LM CPM ATM President

We have little to report in our area as there are so few of us that we are not meeting regularly. Shanna and Kelli bought a new (permanent) birth center and are every happy in it. Dawn Cockrell had a successful article published in Texas Monthly. It was very good and should be beneficial for all of midwifery in Texas.

Region 4 Report: Cathy Rude, LM, CPM ATM Board Secretary

The Houston area midwives (Greater Houston Alliance of Midwives) continues to meet monthly often with CEU workshops and to support one another.

After the April ATM conference here in Houston, we all just tried to recover for a bit. We did meet in May for a wrap up conference meeting, then again in June for the final wrap up. We also had a business meeting then and discussed legislative issues, especially with Kelli and Jonathan in Washington, DC that week. Connie Blokkum, CNM student gave us a great presentation on Bio-identical Hormones and Camellia May gave us a report on the recent Grievance Committee meeting in Austin.

In July, we had a five hour peer review at Carol Schumacher's house. We had a majority of our group there for the peer review and everyone felt it was very beneficial to all. In August, we had a meeting at Nanci Stanley's house on Essential Oils presented by Amy Minke that was very informative. Several consumers attended as well. We followed up with a short midwifery meeting and peer review for a grievance against one of our members that we were unable to get to at regular peer review.

The Houston area had three performances of the play, BIRTH the weekend of September 11, 2009. The annual Birth Fair is October 4, 2009 from 11 AM-4PM at the United Way Center. GHAM has a booth and many of the midwives will be there and also involved in several panel discussions and workshops. This has been a great way to promote natural birth with midwives in the community. I believe this is the 5th year.

We have a full schedule of monthly meetings planned for the rest of this year and into next year. Included is a workshop on pregnancy massage by Christine Messarra, CPM, LMT, a natural soap and herbal bath

making class and a follow-up session on Essential Oils by Debra Rayburn. We always meet in December for a Christmas dinner and gift exchange.

Region 5 Report: Donna Miller, LM

We in Region 5 have been busy this term. I became CEU coordinator for North Texas Midwives Association around September of 2008 and this year we have been able to have many workshops to obtain CEUs.

In February, we had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Fred Cummings speak to us about VBACs. He was very encouraging and shared many stories and much wisdom. We had a very large turnout to hear him.

In March, Pamela Jones, Registered Physical Therapist, came to teach us about perineal health in women. She taught us to go beyond kegel exercises and gave us tools to share with our clients to maintain perineal health throughout their lives.

We had two peer review sessions, one on a Saturday and one on Wednesday to accommodate as many as possible.

We have had a workshop on Lab Values, taught by Lisa Thomas, one on estimating blood loss and IV therapy taught by Christy Martin. Lisa Thomas also taught an ATM workshop on fetal circulation that was very informative. We have many more in the works for next year.

Dinah Waranch held a fundraiser at her birth center to benefit the MAMA organization.

Gentle Beginnings Birth Center in Hurst held an open house to celebrate their 2 year anniversary.

We voted today to contribute \$1000 to the MAMA campaign. That will be sent this week.

We have two students who have graduated and passed the NARM exam - Kim Watkins and Angela Friesen. WHOOHOO! We have 3 others who have graduated and are taking the NARM in October, Abby Salstrand, Hannah Tallo, and Cindy Haggarton.

Bonnie Kitchen and several of the rest of us have worked diligently on the Protocols for ATM.

I believe our NTM group has found a cohesiveness that has been missing. We meet once a month to not only have workshops, but to encourage and help one another.

Region 6 Report Submitted by Alisa Voss

The San Antonio Area Midwives Association is our local peer organization with 11 practicing midwife members. Our last business meeting was on July 27th. In the past few months there have been a couple of private peer reviews between members, an NRP recertification class, and discussions for CEU workshops. Several women from our region took the NARM exam in August and there are several student midwives and new ATM students taking orientation in October.

A group of consumers, doulas and midwives have come together to bring BOLD to San Antonio on October 3 and 4, 2009. Our events this year will be two performances of BIRTH, a play by Karen Brody. The intention is to raise awareness around mother-friendly maternity care in our area. As the director and an actress in the play I am very excited about this movement and the potential positive ripple effect for midwifery in our area. SAAMA and many area midwives are showing their support by sponsoring this event through advertising in the playbill.

REGION 7 REPORT offered by Vicki Wells

The East Texas Midwives Association has really geared up and taken a more active role for the benefit of the midwives in the area. My goal, as the new president, is to provide more CEU opportunities and further fundraising efforts. Money raised through fundraising will go to benefit our East Texas students enrolled in the ATM program.

In June we met to get things organized and started.

In July we held an AOP Certification class.

In August we had a brief meeting and had a great suturing class taught by Sylyna Kennedy.

We have other CEU plans in the next few months including Raindrop Therapy and Healing Touch.

I would like to also add that one of our midwives, Denise Thompson, has been diagnosed with advanced breast cancer and is in need of prayer.

Association of Texas Midwives Legislative Report

Board Meeting 9-20-2009

By Faith Beltz

The following bills passed through the Texas Legislative session this year and became effective this month. You can view the entire text of bills by going to <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>

- *HB 1795 – relating to newborn screening and creation of newborn screen advisory committee. Also changes serologic testing requirements from re-test at deliver to re-test for syphilis, HIV, and HepB in the third trimester.*
- *HB 1672 – relating to disclosure and destruction of newborn screens.*

- *HB 1240 and HB 1510 - relating to information required to be provided to parents of an infant.*

Currently midwives are required to give all clients a “resource pamphlet” that includes info on postpartum provider resource list, prevention of shaken baby syndrome, immunization schedule, and newborn screening. One bill adds that info on SIDS must be added. The other bill adds that if the mother is a recipient of medical assistance that she shall also be given a “resource guide” which will provide information relating to the development, health and safety of a child from birth until age 5 (like dental care, child safety, etc.) TDSHS is responsible for making a publication for this, I did not find it currently available but should be eventually at <https://webds.dshs.state.tx.us/mamd/litcat/default.asp>

- *SB 2310 – Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, including the power to issue emergency orders and temporary and emergency licenses.* From what I understand, this bill would give the executive director power to issue an emergency suspension. I plan to ask Yvonne more about this tomorrow.

- *HB3653 and HB3654 - Relating to the use of restraints to control the movement of pregnant women and female children confined in certain correctional facilities in this state. And Relating to certain duties of and reports submitted to the Commission on Jail Standards regarding county jail inmates who are pregnant . I was contacted by the organization who introduced these bills to testify in favor and am happy to see them passed and in effect.*

- *SB532 – relating to a physician’s delegation of prescriptive authority to physician assistants or advanced practice nurses.* This is not the bill we all lobbied for on behalf of CNMs at lobby day. It is a little better than what they have had but not much. From what I understand, still requires physician to register a statement of who their standing orders are given to with their board, they must not provide to more than 4 and in most circumstances must be onsite at least 10% of the time to be available to see those patients.

Federal Bills and Issues

- S1423 & HR2358 – Birth Center Medicaid Reimbursement Act
- MAMA, BIG Push and NACPM
- Kelli and Jon’s trip to DC

Other

- Testified at TDSHS regarding Medicaid payments to birth centers in texas
- ACOG Women’s Health Interdisciplinary Summit in Austin Oct. 3, 2009
- Goals