



**Meeting Minutes**  
**August 13, 2013, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm**  
**Capital City Bank, Chiefland**

**Agencies and Members in Attendance**

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|--|------------------|
| 1. Levy Tobacco Prevention Specialist/ Partnership Facilitator | Kristina Zachry  |
| 2. Levy County Health Department/ Nursing Director             | Elizabeth Powers |
| 3. Levy SWAT Representative/ Co-Chair                          | Emily Manis      |
| 4. College of Central Florida                                  | Rebecca Busby    |
| 5. SWAT YAB Member/ University of Florida Student              | Ansley Pentz     |
| 6. Nature Coast Middle School Student/Levy SWAT Member         | Brian Clark      |
| 7. Community Member / Business Owner                           | Art Konstantino  |
| 8. Community Member  | Cindy Mulvey     |
| 9. Community Member  | Tom Reitz        |

**Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was brought to order at 3:45pm. Ansley Pentz made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 9, 2013 Tobacco Free Partnership meeting with no changes and the motion was seconded by Tom Reitz. The minutes were approved with no changes.

Tobacco Prevention Specialist, Kristina Zachry, introduced the new Levy County Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) member, Emily Manis. Emily is a freshman at Williston High School and she has been a SWAT member for a year and a half. Emily plans to run for the statewide SWAT Youth Advocacy Board (YAB) at the Region 2 SWAT meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Emily will also serve as the new Youth Co-Chair of the Tobacco Free Partnership. We are saying goodbye to long-time member and statewide leader, Ansley Pentz, as she is starting college at the University of Florida. Ansley will continue to serve as an honorary partnership member and she will attend meetings when she is able. We thank her for her dedication and service to SWAT and the partnership over the past 5 years.

Ms. Zachry informed the partnership that long-time members, the Belnap family, have “retired” from the partnership membership and they send their best wishes to the group.

Ms. Zachry also welcomed a new partnership member, Rebecca Busby, who is representing Central Florida College (CFC). The College is going tobacco-free soon, and Ms. Busby is interested in learning how CFC can promote cessation, advertise the new policy, and transition their new campus to a tobacco-free environment.

## **Tobacco Program Updates**

**Chiefland Chamber:** The Tobacco Free Partnership is now a member of the Chiefland Chamber. The Tobacco Prevention Specialist attended the first meeting to represent the partnership and she also presented information on Point of Sale tobacco issues to the 27 agencies that were in attendance.

**Health Fair:** The Levy County Health Department is hosting a community health fair on September 28, 2013 from 9am-1pm.

**Williston Back to School Fair:** The Tobacco Prevention Specialist attended the Williston Back To School fair sponsored by the “We Soar” program to promote SWAT. She was particularly impressed with two speakers that presented at the fair about the importance of education, health, and prevention of bullying.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Epic End of Summer Bash:** The Tobacco Prevention Specialist attended the First United Methodist Church’s end of summer event to promote cessation and the Tobacco Free Partnership. There were over two hundred Levy County residents in attendance.

**Tobacco Advisory Council:** The Florida Tobacco Use and Prevention Advisory Council held their quarterly meeting in Tallahassee on August 12, 2013. Ansley Pentz attended the meeting with the Tobacco Prevention Specialist. Ansley sits on the Advisory Council’s Subcommittee on Health Communications, and she will continue to represent SWAT as a college student on this subcommittee for the upcoming year.

**TFP Facebook Page:** TFP members are encouraged to “like” the partnership’s Facebook page. There are often updates and current events shared that may be of interest to members.

**TFP Rack Cards:** The TFP now has “rack cards” to share with people in an effort to recruit them to become members of the partnership. The reverse side of the rack card also advertises the three free and easy ways Floridians can access Quitline tobacco cessation services.

**CDC TIPS Recruitment Campaign:** The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is currently recruiting former tobacco users for Round 2 of their national tobacco prevention campaign, Tips from Former Smokers. They are looking for people who have had colorectal cancers, periodontitis, and women who have had pregnancy complications. If selected, the person would receive \$2,500 and travel arrangements. Kristina has flyers to share with the details.

**Important Dates:** Important upcoming dates, as referenced on the meeting agenda:

August 23 = Chiefland Chamber Meeting

September 14 = SWAT Regional Meeting

September 17 = Cedar Key City Council Meeting - Resolution

September 28 = Williston Ornan Lodge Kids Safety Day

September 28 = Levy County Health Department Health Fair

## **Two-Minute Motivator**

SWAT member Emily Manis shared information from an August 2013 New York Times article on the amount of money employers can save annually by helping their employees quit using tobacco. The

amount of money an employer can save is estimated to be \$5,800 a year in excess health care costs and missed days from work. Tobacco users miss 2.5 more days of work a year than nonsmokers. Tobacco users also take an average of 5 breaks a day at work, compared to 2-3 breaks for nonsmokers.

### **Partnership By-Laws and Charter Review and Approval**

The partnership members in attendance reviewed the by-laws and updated the charter document for this fiscal year. Art Konstantino made a motion to adopt the current by-laws and charter documents as written, with no further changes. Emily Manis seconded the motion, and all members confirmed their vote with an “aye”.

### **Membership Recruitment Discussion**

The partnership needs to recruit some members to represent a few other sectors in Levy County, such as law enforcement, local businesses leaders, and elected officials. We also need to remember that we are required to maintain at least a 25 percent youth membership. Youth membership will include young adults up to age 24. Art Konstantino suggested that a worksheet with the types of members or assets that are needed would be helpful for targeting recruitment efforts. Ms. Zachry encouraged the current members to recruit new members by bringing a friend to meetings. We may also need to review our meeting place and times to see if we might be able to accommodate other sectors of Levy County by adjusting our schedule.

### **Policy Updates**

**Flavored Tobacco Resolutions:** Flavored tobacco resolutions to date include the Levy Board of County Commissioners (March 2012), the Town of Bronson (April 2013), the City of Williston (April 2013), and the Town of Inglis (May 2013). The SWAT members are presenting to the City of Cedar Key on September 17th and the City of Otter Creek on October 21<sup>st</sup> to ask them to pass resolutions as well.

**K-12 School Policy:** The SWAT students presented to the School Board of Levy County in May 2013 and asked them to include an enforcement component for adults and visitors into the tobacco free schools policy they revised in March 2012. The School Board assured the students that they would review the policy during their annual policy review this past summer. The Tobacco Prevention Specialist will be meeting with the Chair of the Wellness Committee soon to find out an update on the policy change process and to provide more information for her to share with the School Board about policy enforcement options.

**Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing:** The Public Housing Authority for Levy County is passing a tobacco-free policy. There is already a policy in effect for Pine Apartments, and other public housing apartment communities will be implementing their new tobacco-free policies soon as well. The Tobacco Prevention Specialist has provided sample policy language to the Executive Director of the Public Housing Authority and she is trying to schedule a meeting with him to review the details of the new tobacco-free policies.

**Employer Cessation:** The Tobacco Prevention Specialist is continuing to survey local businesses about their cessation benefits and is linking them up with information for the free cessation services that Florida has to offer. Additionally, she is working on finding out more information about the Affordable Care Act and how it will impact smokers – for example, there

may be a provision that charges smokers more for insurance (a penalty), with younger smokers paying less of a penalty than older smokers, however their penalty will increase with age.

**Wrap Up and Next Meeting Details**

Ms. Zachry shared a list of meeting dates for the upcoming year with the group. Agenda items for the next meeting will include a partnership group discussion on community involvement and partnership “branding”. Ansley Pentz made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Tom Reitz. The meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.

**\*\*\*Next Tobacco Free Partnership of Levy County Meeting\*\*\***

Date: **Tuesday, October 8, 2013**

Time: **3:30 p.m.**

Place: **Capital City Bank Community Meeting Room, Chiefland, FL**