**Fluoridation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Louisiana Department of Heath and Hospitals**

**Room 371**

**10:00 am March 23, 2012**

Attending Board Members:

Richard Brasher

Sue Catchings

Pat Credeur

Suzanne Farrar

Roger Grimball

C.J. Richard

Guests:

Lynn Alessi

Susan Jeansonne

1. Pat Credeur called the meeting to order at 10:05 Am.
2. The meeting minutes from 6/3/2011 were approved. Sue Catchings provided the motion, seconded by C. J. Richard. All were in favor.
3. Susan Jeansonne reported to the Board the status of funding for CWF and the loss of the PHHSBG grant funds and the HRSA grant funds. She reported that the Program had reapplied for HRSA funding for federal FY 12-13 as well as submitted an application for a CDC Public Health Associate to serve as an Oral Health staff member. The HRSA grant will not be awarded until Sept. 1st, if in fact we are successful.
4. Susan announced the Karissa Page was no longer with the program.
5. Lynn Alessi reported to the board that the City of Walker fluoridation project had been completed and that start up was scheduled for May pending notification of medical professionals in the local area. He also reported on the intention of the City of Natchitoches to begin CWF based on pressure from a local dentist and a public commitment by the mayor to begin CWF even in the absence of state funding.
6. A motion was made by Sue Catchings that the Board send letters of commendation to the mayor, the local dentist, and the Natchitoches newspaper on their efforts. The motion was seconded by C.J. Richard. All were in favor.
7. A general discussion was held on how the Board might move forward in the absence of funding. The report requesting funds sent to the Governor’s Office in June of last year was sent on LRWA letter head and it was generally felt that the Board should have its own letter head for increased visibility. Pat Credeur offered his offices assistance to develop a letter head so that the report could be resent to the Governor under multiple Board members signature. A motion was made to develop a FAB letter head was made by C.J. Richard and seconded by Sue Catchings. All were in favor.
8. The Board was brought up to date on recent anti-fluoridation activities across the nation and current tactics to counteract their misinformation.
9. A discussion of the current legislative session revealed that no one was aware of any legislation that might adversely affect Community Water Fluoridation.
10. The future direction of the Board was discussed and in the absence of funding the need to grow grass roots efforts at the local level seemed to be the way forward.
11. It was determined that the next meeting be held in August 2012.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.