

**Texas Youth Camp Advisory Committee  
Meeting Notes & Action Items**

<b>Purpose or Goal:</b> Youth Camp Advisory Committee Meeting	<b>Location:</b> Department of State Health Services, Exchange Building, S-125, Austin, Texas
<b>Meeting Date:</b> 03/23/2017	<b>Time:</b> 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

<b>Attendees</b>		
Britt Darwin-Looney Committee Member	Danny Dawdy Committee Member	Timothy Huchton Committee Member
Michelle Mauldin Committee Member	Robert Miller Committee Member	Patricia Osborn Committee Member
Robert A Miller Committee Member	Robert Sediillo Committee Member	Michael Minoia DSHS
Melissa Hardin DSHS	Courtney Hoffman	Seth Gordon
Brian Anderson	Art Hawkinson	

<b>Minutes</b>
<p>The meeting was called to order at 9:32 by Danny Dawdy.</p> <p>There was a quorum present.</p> <p>Mike Minoia gave an update on the 2016 Youth Camp Season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were 546 youth camps licensed in 2016.</li> <li>• 546 of those camps were inspected in 2016. Giving a 97.8% inspection rate.</li> <li>• Only 12 camps were not inspected. Explanations were given for why some of the youth camps were not inspected, including late license application submission, camps that did not operate, camps not being on-site without notice, and short duration camps.</li> <li>• 21 cases were given to the Enforcement Group.</li> <li>• Beginning in 2016 DSHS started using tablets to conduct inspections. An email is sent out to the camp designated individual instead of leaving a paper copy of the inspection. If any deficiencies were noted during the inspection, the letter contains a section for the Deficiency Notice.</li> <li>• Under the new Texas Food Establishments Rule, youth camps may need to have a Certified Food Manager (if the camp is for-profit), and Food Handler Cards for food service personnel within their first 60 days of employment as food service personnel.</li> </ul> <p>Courtney Hoffman gave an update on proposed legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed bills related to the school start and end dates, statewide uniform dates are helpful for youth camps to plan since according to characteristics they must operate during school vacation periods. Mike - camps are able to serve any students who are on school break, even during holiday periods or if that particular school is off, there have been incidents when</li> </ul>

## **Texas Youth Camp Advisory Committee Meeting Notes & Action Items**

parents have allowed students to miss school for camp, something that should be avoided as camps don't want to be put in that position,

- Districts of Innovation created last session pose a problem as individual districts can get exempt from the school start date and the end date.
- Program bills – HB 550 requires sound producing devices on vessels (expanded to kayaks, canoes, water boards)
- SB 658 adds rock climbing to the list of recreational activities for limited liability
- Others - A bill for school campuses to report to TEA the voluntary after school and summer programs that occur on their campuses, a bill to create a process for determining a navigable waterway that includes the landowner, indecency with a child as it applies to teachers/students, consolidation of HHSC and considering whether to abolish certain advisory committees, exempting a youth camp from the youth camp act.

The committee minutes from October 21, 2014 approved.

Timothy Huchton gave a presentation of the ACA CampLine, which includes trends from the ACA Camp Crisis Hotline, lessons learned, and the annual report. This is available online at the ACA web site (<http://www.acacamps.org/staff-professionals/news-publications/publications/campline>).

Danny Dawdy led a discussion on Child Protection. There is an increase in camper-on-camper abuse. More training is needed for counselors at camps, especially how to deal with camper-on-camper abuse.

Wilderness camp issues were discussed briefly, as well as security issues at camps and Zika issues at camps. A recommendation was made to further discuss these issues at a future committee meeting.

The next committee meeting was set for October 19, 2017 at the Exchange building in Austin beginning at 9:30 A.M.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:33 A.M.

Minutes approved: \_\_\_\_\_

- Danny Dawdy, Chair, Presiding Officer