

AGENDA



Thursday, March 25, 2010

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 26

Subject: Approve reappointment of PHILIP P. HUANG, M.D., M.P.H., as health authority and approve designation of PAUL R. HINCHEY, M.D., M.B.A., and BIRCH DUKE KIMBROUGH, M.D., as alternate health authorities for Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department, effective April 7, 2010.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding was included in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating budget of the Health and Human Services Department.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: David Lurie, HHSD Director, 972-5010; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: February 28, 2008 - Approval of Health Authority and three designated Health Authority Alternates.

Philip P. Huang, M.D., M.P.H. began serving as Medical Director for the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) effective April 7, 2008, to provide medical leadership in monitoring and responding to potential disease outbreaks and ensure that all medical-related activities in the department are performed in accordance with applicable license, regulatory and accreditation standards. As Medical Director, he also performs the duties of the local health authority as described in state statutes (i.e., quarantine, required reporting of infectious diseases, birth and death records), City ordinance, and County regulations.

By state statute, the appointed health authority serves a two-year term and may be reappointed to successive two-year terms without limitation. Council is requested to approve the reappointment of Dr. Philip Huang as health authority for the two-year term commencing April 7, 2010 and ending April 6, 2012. With the approval of David Lurie, HHSD Director, Dr. Philip Huang has designated Dr. Paul R. Hinchey and Dr. Duke Kimbrough, each individually, as an alternate health authority. The designated alternates serve the same two-year term as the health authority.

Under state law (Texas Health and Safety Code Section 121.0331), the health authority may delegate any power or duty imposed on the health authority to a properly qualified physician to act while the health authority is absent or incapacitated. The physician designated by the health authority must meet certain requirements including the following:

- Meet license and residence requirements;
- Be appointed as a designee in the same manner as the health authority; and
- File the Oath of Office, executed by a duly appointed Notary Public, with the Texas Department of State Health Services

The delegation is effective during the term of the health authority making the delegation; the health authority is responsible for the acts of the physician to whom the powers have been delegated; and the entity that appoints the health authority must have procedures in place to prevent duplication of authority

and provide notice to the HHSD Director when authority is transferred. HHSD has had a “Delegation of Back-Up Health Authority” in effect since July 1, 2000.

ELIGIBLE APPOINTEES

Philip P. Huang, M.D., M.P.H. received his M.D. from University of Texas-Southwestern Medical School and M.P.H. from Harvard School of Public Health. He is licensed to practice in the State of Texas and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice. His clinical experience includes internship and residency in Family Practice at Brackenridge Hospital including serving as Chief Resident in Family Practice. His professional experience includes Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and was previously employed by the Texas Department of State Health Services (formerly Texas Department of Health) as Chief of the Bureau of Chronic Disease and Tobacco Prevention, and most recently, as Medical Director—Chronic Disease Prevention. Dr. Huang meets all of the requirements of the Health and Safety Code to be appointed health authority by David Lurie, HHSD Director, Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

With the approval of the HHSD Director, Dr. Huang has requested that Dr. Paul Hinchey and Dr. Birch Kimbrough each be designated as an alternate health authority. Each alternate may serve for the two-year term of the health authority.

Dr. Hinchey received his Doctor of Medicine from State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Science and a Masters of Business Administration at State University of New York at Buffalo School of Management. His medical education included a residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of North Carolina, Department of Emergency Medicine and an EMS Fellowship at University of North Carolina, Department of Emergency Medicine. He holds board certifications from the American Board of Emergency Medicine and United States Medical Licensing Examination Step I-III, and numerous special certifications, including Air Medical Physicians Association Medical Director Part II and III, Advanced Cardiac Life support, Advanced Trauma Life support, FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Medical Specialist, and NAEMSP National Medical Director. Dr. Hinchey has served in many professional capacities as a Medical Director or Assistant Medical Director in Emergency Medical Services. He is currently serving as the System Medical Director for the Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services and meets all of the requirements of the Health and Safety Code to be designated an alternate health authority.

Dr. Kimbrough received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio, TX. His medical education included an internship at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, NC and residencies in general surgery at North Carolina Memorial Hospital and Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, WA. He holds board certifications from the American Board of Surgery in General Surgery (1983; recertified 1991, 2003), American Board of Emergency Medicine (1992; recertified 2001) and numerous special certifications in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Advanced Trauma Life Support, and Swift Water Rescue. Dr. Kimbrough served as staff physician and Chief Medical Officer at several medical facilities during his military career and since 1993 has been a staff physician in the Emergency Department at South Austin Medical Center. Since 1989 he has been Medical Director of the Paramedic Technology Program at Austin Community College. Dr. Kimbrough also currently serves as an Associate Medical Director in the Austin/Travis County Office of Medical Director and meets all of the requirements of the Health and Safety Code to be designated as an alternate health authority.

A current curriculum vitae is attached for the health authority and each alternate health authority. All appointment documents required by the Texas Department of State Health Services have been completed.