AUSTIN TRAVIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
***REGULAR MEETING* MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 1st, 2026

The Austin Travis County Public Health Commission convened in a regular meeting on **Wednesday, April 1st, 2026, at** 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Natalie Poindexter called the Austin Travis County Public Health Commission Meeting to order at 2:35 pm.

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:

Natalie Poindexter, Chair	*Chris Crookham*	*Jacob Whitty*
Cara Dahlhausen		

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

Jawad Ali	*Martha Lujan*	*William Rice*

Board Members/Commissioners Absent:

Enrique Lin Shiao, Vice Chair

Ex-Officio and Staff in Attendance:

Dr. Desmar Walkes, Austin/Travis County Public Health Authority	*Daniela Romero, Staff, Austin Public Health*	*Juanita Jackson, Staff, Austin Public Health*

Ex-Officio and Staff in Attendance Remotely:

Ana Almaguel

Ex-Officio and Staff Absent:

Adrienne Sturrup	*Perla Cavazos*	*Megan Cermak*

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Austin Travis County Public Health Commission regular meeting on April 1st, 2026.

The minutes for the regular meeting of March 4th, 2026, were approved on Commissioner William Rice's motion, Commissioner Jacob Whitty's second on a 6-0 vote. (Absent: Commissioner Enrique Lin Shiao, Off-Dais: Commissioner Jawad Ali)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Presentation by Communities in Schools of Central Texas.

   The presentation was made by Jacob Reach, Chief of Operations and Maria I. Campos, Chief Advocacy Officer.

3. Received updates from commissioners on assigned action items.
   Discussed.

4. Discussed draft recommendation "Sexual Health Funding" created by Commissioner Jacob Whitty.

   Commissioner Whitty presented the draft recommendation. Commissioners and ex-officio's provided input and proposed changes. Commissioner Whitty will take input and rework the recommendation. Plan to have final available for next meeting and hopefully vote on it.

5. Discussed draft recommendation "Bridging Public Health Funding" created by Commissioner Chris Crookham.

   Commissioner Crookham is currently refining the draft recommendation by incorporating previous feedback. An updated version with these technical insights and revised language will be presented at the May meeting.

6. Discussed draft recommendation "Heat-Related Illness Prevention for Outdoor Workers".

   Commissioner Dahlhausen presented the draft recommendation. Commissioners and ex-officio's provided input and proposed changes. Commissioner Dahlhausen will take input and rework recommendation. Plan to have final available for next meeting and hopefully vote on it.

7. Discussed commissioner terms
   Discussed.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

8. Conducted officer election for Chair and Vice Chair.

Commissioner Crookham and Commissioner Dahlhausen were nominated by current Chair Poindexter for the position of Chair. Current Chair Poindexter was re-nominated for the position by Commissioner Rice.

Commissioner Crookham declined as he will not be renewing his position with the commission at the end of his term later this year. Commissioner Dahlhausen and Chair Poindexter both accepted nominations.

Chair Poindexter was re-elected as Chair on Commissioner Chris Crookham's motion, Commissioner William Rice's 's second on a 3 – 2 vote. Those members voting for aye were: Commissioner William Rice, Commissioner Cara Dahlhausen and Commissioner Jacob Whitty. Those voting nay were: Chair Pointdexter and Commissioner Chris Crookham.
(Abstain: Commissioner Jawad Ali, Off Dais: Commissioner Martha Lujan, Absent: Commissioner Enrique Lin Shiao)

Nomination for the position of Vice Chair was Commissioner Cara Dahlhausen, the motion was made by Commissioner Rice and second by Chair Poindexter.

Commissioner Cara Dahlhausen was elected as Vice Chair on Commissioner William's motion, Commissioner Chris Crookham's second on a 7-0. (Abstain: Commissioner Jawad Ali, Off Dais: Commissioner Martha Lujan, Absent: Commissioner Enrique Lin Shiao)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9. Discuss and potentially approve recommendations on sexual health and bridging public health funding.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Natalie Poindexter adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the May 6th, 2026 meeting on Commissioner William Rice motion, Commissioner Chris Crookham's second with a 7-0 vote.