

**HOBBY LOBBY** EVERYDAY! 65,000 Items to Explore Crafts, Home Decor & More!

click now for coupon! **40% OFF**

41°  
Overcast, fog, light rain  
MORE WEATHER ►


**LubbockOnline**  
LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

Site Web Web Search powered by **YAHOO!** Search


Join Now! | Login  
Forgot Password?

Subscribe to the Avalanche-Journal

Home News Sports Business Life Opinion A-J Pedia Obituaries Autos Homes Jobs Classifieds Service

**Alert** Avalanche-Journal voice mail not working today 

Local News 

Comment      

# County willing to discuss joint health department

Posted: November 18, 2011 - 10:52pm | Updated: November 19, 2011 - 12:29am

FOLLOW TOMMY MAGELSSSEN



By TOMMY MAGELSSSEN

AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

The Lubbock Board of Health acted on the city council's orders to open discussion with the county about a joint city-county health department at the board's meeting Friday.

But it took some time for some board members to understand they couldn't act just yet.

County Judge Tom Head was in attendance, and he told the board he was willing to talk about the issue — but talking is all he can commit to.







"Our budget session goes from the end of May through the end of September," he said. "Our budget was finalized in September of this year. So, I keep hearing about pots of money, there are no pots of money. Our budget is set, we can't spend a dollar more than what our budget says we can.

"But the commissioner's court is interested in sitting down and talking about a joint city-county Health

Department. If you all would like to talk, let's talk."

City Attorney Sam Medina sat to the right of Dr. Steve Presley, chairman of the board,

ADVERTISEMENT

 AJ's List	 drive
 coupons	 AJ apps
 homes	 jobs

**CINEMARK**  
TINSELTOWN / MOVIES 16

**"Check out our Showtimes!"**

**CLICK HERE**

ADVERTISEMENT

having to spend the first 20 minutes of the meeting reminding the board it could not take action on the board's behalf or have any illegal meetings between more than four members to discuss items on the agenda.

Brian Carr, board member, is eager to move the process forward, and he will gather information on his own to present to the board at its next meeting about health education and communication methodology, STD immunization and surveillance services, and the development of new revenue streams.

Ted Reid, also on the board, will collect data about the finances or the operating budget of the department, the board's structure and process, and the building needs and potential locations.

Carr said he wants the research to show the county would not have to split the entire budget with the city, just that of non-city dwellers.

Head reminded Carr to take into account the millions of dollars already used for indigent care by the county.

Presley will file his report with the City Council, informing them the county has agreed to discuss the feasibility.

Also, Presley will recommend forming a committee to start researching not only a city-county department, but a city-county-university department.

Reid said including Texas Tech could make Lubbock's Health Department one of the best in the state.

Some on the board were eager to get the information flowing, which is why Carr and Reid are undertaking their personal research to present, but others are questioning the rush.

"I don't see any need for rush, either, because, like the county said, it's next years budget before they can even consider anything," Presley said. "I don't see there's any big rush; I think we answered the question, which is we can sit down and talk now, and that's what we're going to pursue."

To comment on this story:

thomas.magelssen@lubbockonline.com • 766-8723

leesha.faulkner@lubbockonline.com • 766-8706



### Spotted

Featured Photos - 9 total ( [Expand](#) ) [next »](#)



Toys for Tots Rally



TAGS: LOCAL NEWS TOMMY MAGELSSSEN ATTORNEY BOARD MEMBER BOARD OF HEALTH BRIAN CARR CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD COMMISSIONER CONTACT DETAILS FORWARD GEOGRAPHY OF TEXAS GEOGRAPHY OF THE UNITED STATES HEALTH HEALTH EDUCATION JUDGE LUBBOCK METROPOLITAN AREA LUBBOCK, TEXAS PERSON CAREER QUOTATION SAM MEDINA STEVE PRESLEY TECHNOLOGY TECHNOLOGY TED REID TEXAS TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Comment 0

[Follow This Article](#)



**Sign up for Google Offers**

Find great deals in your city from Google Offers. Sign up today!  
google.com/offers

**Lubbock Attorneys**

Free Consultation & Low Cost Legal Services. Call Now 1-800-610-7563. LegalResourceUSA.com

**\$9 Car Insurance**

**Trick?**  
If you drive 25 mi/day or less you better read this... Insurance

Ads by Yahoo!



## THANKSGIVING FEAST & BRUNCH

Let Stella's take the  
hassle out of cooking  
this Thanksgiving.

[Click here for more info](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

### Latest Updates

Most Viewed | Most Commented | Highest Rated

- Texas child psychiatrist, fired over sex abuse allegations, had been accused before
- Records show past convictions for men charged in deadly shooting
- South Plains pharmacists, doctor say Adderall shortage to last into 2012
- Oklahoma State hands Tech worst loss in program history
- Teen dies after overnight shooting near Lubbock nightclub
- After girl followed by van, Muleshoe police advising residents to stay alert
- Police ID fatal shooting victim
- Tahoka second-grader killed in fire early Friday
- O'Donnell man dies after Lynn County crash
- Affidavit: Crawford confessed to beating Braddock to death
- Occupy Lubbock experiences little conflict
- Okla. St. women's coaches die in Ark. plane crash
- Soldering accident blamed for West Lubbock apartment fire
- Man stabs himself after incident at Bash Riprock's, crash, police say

- Despite a crippling accident, Victor Coronado pushes himself to succeed

### Staff Blogs



Musical 'Miracle on 34th Street' arrives Dec. 7 at auditorium

BY WILLIAM KERNS  
Journal: Center Stage »



Prairie Scholars plan house concert

BY WILLIAM KERNS  
Journal: Center Stage »



Ely will be joined by Plankenhorn

BY WILLIAM KERNS  
Journal: Center Stage »

### Community Blogs



The Impending Linkup of Syria and Iran

BY MAY  
Blog: Mr. Conservative »



Why Our Military Is So Expensive

BY MAY  
Blog: Mr. Conservative »



Obamaville Can Become America

BY MAY  
Blog: Mr. Conservative »

### Recent Comments

- Crying Wolf--Youth and Inexperience no longer excuses
- QB rating
- SOUTHERN CONFEDERATE TRAITORS, TERRORISTS

### Featured Real Estate Agent

**Cheryl Isaacs**

COLDWELL BANKER RICK CANUP,  
REALTORS



(806) 535-7077

[View my listings](#)

POWERED BY



Site Web

Web Search powered by **YAHOO!** Search

[Avalanche-Journal News](#)

[Multimedia Facebook](#)

[Our Websites Red Raiders](#)

[Our Products Classifieds](#)

[A-J Services Contact Us](#)

[Sports](#)  
[Money](#)  
[Life](#)  
[Opinion](#)  
[A-J Pedia](#)

[Twitter](#)  
[Spotted](#)  
[Archive](#)  
[Video / Slideshows](#)

[Lone Star Varsity](#)  
[skirt! Lubbock](#)  
[Lubbock Magazine](#)  
[Make Kids Count](#)  
[Frenship Today](#)

[Homes](#)  
[Rentals](#)  
[Autos](#)  
[A-J's List](#)  
[Find Lubbock jobs](#)

[Staff directory](#)  
[Staff Journals](#)  
[A-J Subscriber Services](#)  
[e-edition](#)  
[Site Map](#)