

**KALHD Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2020**

Board Member Attendees

Destany Wheeler (District 6 Representative)
Arlene Doll (Member-at-Large)
Jason Tiller (President)
Tammy Von Busch (District 3 Representative)
Paula Bitter (District 2 Representative)
Adrienne Byrne (Member-at-Large)
Dan Partridge (Secretary-Treasurer & KAC Representative)
Aften Gardner (President-Elect)
Lynnette Redington (District 5 Representative)
Rayna Maddox (District 4 Alternate)

Non-Board Attendees

Dennis Kriesel (KALHD)
Adam Wuerfele (SS&C)
Cristi Cain (KDHE)
Dana Rickley
Leslie Pfannenstiel
Diana Parke
Jennifer Cure
Gia Garrett
Lori Eichman
Lacey Miller
Stephen Maheux
Lisa Goins
Leslie Campbell
Cindy Mullen

Call to order

Jason called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Board roll call

Dennis ran through a roll call of online board members. He confirmed a quorum was present.

Approval of agenda

Paula Bitter moved to approve the agenda. Arlene seconded. Motion passed.

2019 audit report

Adam Wuerfele, Senior Associate with Summers, Spencer & Company, explained the 2019 audit report and related documents.

Arlene moved to approve the 2019 audit report and related letters. Paula Bitter seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of July 2020 minutes

Aften moved to approve the July 2020 minutes. Dan seconded. Motion passed.

Monthly financial reports: July 2020 and August 2020

Dan walked through the July and August 2020 financial reports.

Paula Bitter moved to receive and place on file the July and August 2020 financial reports. Destany seconded. Motion passed.

KDHE updates

Cristi Cain gave the KDHE update.

She indicated they are still trying to decide what to do with the 2021 Governor's Public Health Conference in terms of in-person, virtual, or hybrid. Feedback leans to virtual only, but the planning committee really wants to have some element(s) in-person.

COVID has consumed much time at the agency. Several local health administrators have informed Cristi of numerous political challenges, and many are considering changes in employment.

Jason stated he really appreciates the time extension to tackle Q&A on the LHD update webinars. Cristi asked when a reminder email about the webinars would be helpful. Destiny and Arlene both said morning of would work best, versus day before. They also discussed reminders relating to the Thursday local partner webinars.

Lynnette brought up the topic of any funding beyond 12/30/2020 for local health departments, be it federal or other. Cristi explained the ELC funding runs through November 2022. KDHE is not aware of additional federal funding at this time. Dennis brought up KDHE supporting a State Formula increase via the Governor's recommended budget.

Adrienne asked about if the CARES money would be extended. Cristi noted other states have been asking and she thinks it is possible but currently there is no extension so they are operating on the assumption it will not be extended.

Dana Rickley asked about vaccine billing for COVID to third-party payors. Cristi said she'd share that with KDHE's vaccine experts to find an answer. Adrienne stated Sedgwick wants to sample for the flu when sampling for COVID; is there a way the state would consider a state contract with a lab to reduce the price for this work? Cristi said she would check on that.

Leslie Campbell noted they are getting a lot of calls from nursing homes about the high volume of COVID testing; is there anyone talking to CMS about how this is impacting those facilities? Cristi stated there

are lots of conversations going on about the CMS guidelines. Leslie noted some are running out of supplies and trying to get more from the lab to keep up with the volume, which in Riley County is twice per week testing. Jason noted he isn't aware of any private lab that can meet a 48-hour turn-around. Cristi noted if a nursing home can't afford the testing the nursing home can document that it is cost prohibitive and that they can't do it at this time; as long as they try and document it no action should be taken against them. Nursing homes can be directly contact KDADS about issues at: kdads.reopening@ks.gov

Cristi shared KDHE's appreciation for all the local health departments and their work to keep their communities safe in the face of local criticism. Jason noted that local health departments are just trying to do their jobs and until things change they'll do what is required to be done.

KAC update – if any

Dan shared the KAC annual conference is virtual in October 12-13 at no cost.

Executive Director's Report

Dennis ran through his written executive director's report.

Dan asked about what the State Formula would become if \$2.58 million was added. Dennis noted it would more than double to \$4.8 million.

Open discussion

Lynnette brought up HB 2016 and whether it would become permanent. Dennis explained just the privacy act aspects were temporary from the public health focused areas, not the changes to home rule, 65-201 or 65-202, as HB 2016 changed multiple laws. He noted the privacy act is governed currently by temporary regulations and a public hearing on the permanent regulations is set for October 15, 2020 but that he'd not heard any complaints about the regulations, just the law itself. Given the law is expected to sunset 5/1/2021 Dennis noted he did not think it likely to get a bill through before that date, and that he thinks the legislature would be unlikely to pass such a bill, though he also stated he expects the deadline for the law's expiration to be extended. He also spoke about the school sanitation inspections and suggested the legislative platform committee, if it wants to address that, would probably make more progress changing the inspection requirement in 65-202 from a "shall" to a "may" rather than going after getting the home rule authority for counties restored on those statutes.

Adjournment

Jason adjourned the meeting at 11:13 am.