

**KALHD Board of Directors/Annual Meeting
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2021**

Board Member Attendees

Aften Gardner (President)
Destany Wheeler (President-Elect)
Jason Tiller (Past President)
Dan Partridge (Secretary-Treasurer & KAC Representative)
Paula Bitter (District 2 Representative)
Tammy Von Busch (District 3 Representative)
Diedre Serene (District 5 Representative)
Betha Elliot (District 6 Representative) [joined 10:04 am]
Rayna Maddox (District 4 Alternate) [joined 10:16 am]
Dr. Sanmi Areola (District 3 Alternate) [joined 10:18 am]
Jennifer Cure (District 1 Alternate) [joined 10:38 am]
Adrienne Byrne (Member-at-Large #2) [joined 11:11 am]

Non-Board Attendees

Dennis Kriesel (KALHD)
Misti Byers
Leslie Pfannenstiel
Lisa Goins
Skye Reid
Yazmin Moreno
Diana Parke
Angie Kahle
Cristi Cain (KDHE)
Leslie Campbell
Aaron Davis (CPHI)
Lacey Miller
Rita McKoon
Jamie Downs

Call to order

Aften 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

Jason moved to approve the agenda. Tammy seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of November 2020 minutes

Dan moved to approve the November 2020 minutes. Paula Bitter seconded. Motion passed.

Monthly financial report: November 2020 & December 2020

Dan walked through the November and December 2020 financial reports.

Paula Bitter moved to receive and place on file the November 2020 and December 2020 financial reports. Aften seconded. Motion passed.

KDHE updates

Cristi Cain gave the KDHE update. SFY 2022 applications are open and are due March 15, 2021 at noon. Governor's Public Health Conference is March 30-April 1 and is virtual only. All four 2020 keynotes were secured to participate in 2021. Cristi gave a summary of the conference topics and related activities, including the hopes for a new administrator orientation.

\$167 million additional funds for ELC are in now. Cristi asked for ideas on what to do with the \$167 million to help LHDs and welcomed ideas in the meeting or emailed (cristi.cain@ks.gov) to her.

Cristi noted Shelly Schneider is helping with Vaccine Finder issues and if there are issues with that federal system to contact Shelly (shelly.schneider@ks.gov) for assistance.

Cristi stood for questions. Aften welcomed Cristi back who had been out sick for two weeks.

Dennis asked if Phase 2 would be starting this week. Cristi said either yesterday or today information was to go out to state when exactly Phase 2 would be starting. Cristi believes it will be this week but regardless LHDs will know before the public.

Aften asked how the vaccine process is being handled, whether it is via the Governor's Office or the Kansas Immunization Program. Cristi noted KIP is handling distribution but the priorities and when those are released Cristi thinks is a Governor's Office call... but all the nitty-gritty details are KDHE's KIP.

Betha noted she had received an email saying they were getting vaccine but it didn't discuss the phases. She also noted another email with a survey asking if she wanted to oversee getting vaccine out in her county. Dennis talked a bit about COVAC and their discussion today about communication and his emphasis on LHDs determining the coordinator of deployment but more information is needed about dose quantities and locations within the counties.

Cristi asked if there was a lot of local support for vaccination after Aften pointed out seeing a lot of positive results. Sanmi noted interest has been great in Johnson County but they just don't have the doses to meet it. Destiny said they are seeing about 50/50 uptake, but after the 2nd doses were administered some of those who decided against have changed their mind (but the county is now out of vaccine for them). Jason noted he's not seen much from anti-vaxxers, mostly just people wanting to know when they can get it. Betha noted anti-vaxxers haven't been calling in to her, she just sees their posts on Facebook.

Destiny asked about getting more vaccine. Cristi said she would check but that federal distribution is chaotic.

Leslie Campbell asked if the health department isn't the main coordinator, can they get the number of vaccines going to each place within our county. Cristi said she would request that information.

Sanmi asked if there was any information about CVS and Walgreens and their involvement in Phase 2. Cristi said she would check on this. She noted all counties are to remain in Phase 1 but some smaller counties did vaccinate further down the list to those who were a high priority.

Jason asked about the impact on short-term vaccine supply with there being no federal reserve. Cristi said she will check on this. Diedre also asked about the second doses.

Aften noted they have a lull in cases right now and her concern is if another surge happens they will need to rely on KDHE for case investigation and contact tracing and so she's hoping KDHE is keeping a reserve in mind in case an uptick arrives so they don't have to fully ramp back up. Cristi noted there were plans to scale back but concerns were raised internally; she's also not sure how hard it would be to re-board those who might be scaled back.

Attendees suggested some ELC ideas to Cristi for consideration.

Vaccine administration fees were discussed. Dennis shared the latest KALHD survey showing only 1/3 of respondents said they are charging an admin fee for COVID vaccine.

Governance guidelines

Dennis walked through the governance guidelines for the KALHD board to understand their responsibilities to the organization.

KAC update – if any

Dan mentioned KAC is working with KALHD on a Sunflower Foundation project. Dennis noted he'd give more details on that during the Executive Director's report.

Future Mid-Year Meeting contract discussions

Dennis noted that he presented three proposals (Old Town in Wichita, Hilton in Wichita, and Holiday Inn in Salina) regarding contracts for the KALHD Mid-Year Meetings starting in 2022, and that he was exploring a three-year arrangement. The outgoing board wanted to defer to the new board, hence why it is being discussed again. Dennis advised against the Hilton in Wichita due to the cost being so much higher than the other two options.

Discussion about moving the conference commenced. Dennis indicated seeing broad consensus for trying Salina and that he would work to secure that location for 2022-2024.

Aften asked about whether the 2021 MYM would be in-person. Sanmi raised concerns about the optics of an in-person meeting in 2021 if the vaccine deployment isn't widespread enough. Dennis noted he

has told the facility to plan on in-person but if the board ultimately decides it cannot be done KALHD expects enough surplus funds in 2021 to cover any contract penalties. Dennis said his recommendation is if no in-person is possible in June to have him do a virtual MYM akin to what he did in 2020 rather than trying to find another, later 2020 date. Logistically, however, Dennis expects most of the membership that wants vaccinated to be vaccinated by then and that the facility knows to take into account social distancing protocols so attendees feel more comfortable participating even if vaccinated.

Executive Director's Report

Dennis ran through his written executive director's report.

Open discussion

Aften said she heard a rumor that if your county doesn't have a mask mandate you would be a lower priority to receive vaccine. Cristi noted not hearing about such plans but she would check.

Rita McKoon asked about lost money on the State Formula. Dennis explained 2020, allotment, and the SFY 2021 proviso. Everything is set to reset back to the old 1992 levels as of SFY 2022, so those that saw proviso increases will go back down and those who lost funding (due to covering those proviso increases) would be back to the old level. The bill KALHD is pursuing to statutorily raise the minimum only triggers the new minimum if the State Formula has at least \$3 million in it to avoid causing any loss of funding to any LHD.

Leslie Campbell asked about direction implementing home visiting and other face-to-face visits. Cristi said she would check with the relevant bureau to find more details.

Diana Parke asked about the admin fee and grants from the state. Dennis explained it is a proposal for use of ELC funds but nothing is approved yet. Dan asked about lack of billing insurance on COVID. Discussion ensued with counties not billing explaining their logic., ranging from messaging to lack of billing staff.

Aften noted they are looking into an app to do things like messaging and alerting interested clients.

Aften asked about legislative templates. Dennis said there is no project for those anymore but he plans to create templates on priority issues. Prior templates remain available on the KALHD website to assist anyone who wants to write testimony. Dennis also noted that if there are any bills a LHD wants to testify on, whether KALHD is or not, that he can be contacted to help turn in those documents and get everything properly submitted as an organizational service.

Adjournment

Aften adjourned the meeting at 11:57 am.