

**KALHD Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2021**

Board Member Attendees

Aften Gardner, President
Shalei Shea, President-Elect
Jason Tiller, Past-President
Dan Partridge, Secretary-Treasurer & KAC Representative
Jennifer Cure, District 1 Alternate (joined 10:13 am)
Paula Bitter, District 2 Representative
Cortney Murrow, District 2 Alternate
Tammy Von Busch, District 3 Representative (joined 10:02 am)
Dr. Sanmi Areola, District 3 Alternate
Diedre Serene, District 5 Representative
Lynnette Redington, District 5 Alternate (joined 11:17 am)
Betha Elliott, District 6 Representative (joined 10:03 am)
Adrienne Byrne, Member-at-Large #2 (joined 10:04 am)

Non-Board Attendees

Dennis Kriesel, KALHD
Angie Kahle
Dana Rickley
Diana Parke
Adam Wuerfele, SSC
Shelly Schneider, KDHE
Lisa Goins, KDHE
Rebecca Adamson, KDHE
Aaron Davis, CPHI
Cristi Cain, KDHE
Charlie Hunt
Lacey Miller
Leslie Campbell
Julie Gibbs
Karen Winkelman
Cindy Mullen

Call to order

Aften called the meeting to order at 10:01 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. Paula B. seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of June 2021 minutes

Paula B. moved to approve the June 2021 minutes. Dan seconded. Motion passed.

Monthly financial report: June 2021

Dan walked through the June 2021 financial report.

Jason moved to receive and place on file the June 2021 financial report. Diedre seconded. Motion passed.

Presentation of KALHD 2020 audit

Adam Wuerfele with SSC walked through the 2020 audit report and related documents.

Dan moved to receive and place on file the 2020 audit report and related letters. Paula B. seconded. Motion passed.

KDHE updates

Cristi Cain gave the KDHE update.

The workforce assessment still plans to be launched in July.

Dr. Norman wanted to know if there would be interest in having him on the webinar tomorrow or next week to give a State of the State type update and to answer questions. Diedre said she thought it might be a good idea particularly given health departments are working with the schools right now. Jason agreed. Aften also agreed and suggested waiting until next week so that it could be promoted so people would know to attend. Diedre agreed that next week may be best.

The Lougene Marsh Scholarship Fund will be unveiled at the KPHA conference in September and contributions will begin to be accepted at that time.

LCaP (The Local Health Department Capacity Project) has been paused for a chance to update policy makers, and the hope is it will restart soon.

The local health department recovery event is planned for August 31-September 2 at two locations, Manhattan and Hays. A virtual event is not really a viable option but there is concern whether it should move ahead given what is going on with the Delta Variant. Betha said they have not recovered yet. Jason said he was torn, that it is needed for staff but it hard for it to happen now with everything going on. Betha asked how people can close their offices. Adrienne suggested not calling it a recovery event, but Cristi noted it needed to be classed that way for Federal funding and also that it needed to be conducted by the end of September to use the particular pool of funds identified. Diedre said it should be placed on hold until everyone sees how things play out with the K-12, colleges, and universities. Paula B. asked if it isn't held now when would a good time be, given how bad the Fall may go; Cristi did mention KDHE is checking to see if an extension to use the funding is viable. Charlie Hunt noted that

part of the event is to include an AAR/IP. Adrienne said staff still need it in terms of recovery from the first round of COVID and reframing for what is currently happening. Jennifer asked if the funds could be divided up to the LHDs to have them do something locally; Betha suggested or regionally via PHEP region. Cristi said she could check with Denise Kelly about if that is viable but KDHE's planning for a lot of events would be limited; Betha noted the local level. Dennis launched a poll asking if the event should still be hosted (results: 57% yes hold the event, 43% no do not hold the event).

Dennis launched a poll asking if folks would like the Recovery funds to be sent to the PHEP level for Regional events (results: 63% yes, 37% no).

Betha asked about having to pay for hotels and Cristi noted she believes KDHE can still get out of the contracts. Lots more discussion ensued around the value of the events, the optics of holding the in-person events, and the needs of public health staff.

Dennis launched a poll asking if folks would like to do the as-planned recovery events now, postpone in favor of PHEP regional events, or neither option (results: 53% hold as planned, 37% regional later on, 11% neither).

Dennis launched a poll asking if the recovery events continue as planned how many people do the LHDs plan to send (results: 14% sending 0 people, 14% sending 1 person, 7% sending 2 people, and 64% sending 3 or more people).

Dennis launched a poll asking if LHDs work with K-State Research and Extension in their county (results: 69% yes, 31% no). Cristi asked for thoughts on why those who do not partner choose not to, or for benefits to partnering. Shalei said she supports a systemwide partnership with Extension; currently they work together when paths cross but more could be done if a foundation existed. Aften agreed, noting Extension has amazing tools and resources that directly relate to public health. Jason also agreed with Shalei.

KAC update – if any

Dan said at the June board meeting there was a conversation with KDHE's public water supply bureau which was asking KAC to support an effort to obtain legislative authority to manage very small public water supplies that have repeated violations and have been able to gain compliance. Exploration appears to be the stage everything is in on this.

Dan also noted that KAC's Legislative Policy Committee is meeting on July 30th and the deadline for additions to the platform is this Friday, the 23rd. Dennis said he thinks KALHD is in a good place with KAC's legislative statement and its support for KALHD's main interest in more State Formula funding, which was added last year, and that he was not planning to request any new items for KAC on behalf of KALHD.

Aften asked about the water issue and Dan noted a lot of KAC board members said they have some of these violator water supplies in their county and Dan isn't sure it really is a rural versus urban county

issue. KDHE gets to the point where their option is to put the operator in jail but then no one is doing anything to correct the problems.

KALHD Executive Committee action summary

Dennis announced that, between KALHD board meetings, the KALHD ExCom took the following actions:

On May 26, 2021 the ExCom voted to make face masks optional at the 2021 KALHD Mid-Year Meeting.

On June 16, 2021 the ExCom voted to give a one-time \$5,000 bonus to the KALHD Executive Director, to be paid on the June 2021 payroll, and increase the annual salary of the KALHD Executive Director by \$10,000 with an effective start date of June 1st, 2021.

On June 16, 2021 the ExCom voted to recommend, at the next board meeting, that the KALHD personnel policies manual be amended to increase the health insurance stipend by \$200, moving it from \$650/month to \$850/month. That item will appear later in the agenda.

Proposal to adjust KALHD personnel policies manual to increase health insurance stipend by \$200/month

Aften explained the proposal as reflected in the draft personnel policies manual.

Paula B. moved to amend the personnel policies manual to increase the health insurance stipend to \$850/month. Aften seconded. Motion passed.

KALHD MYM Debrief

Dennis walked through his 2021 KALHD Mid-Year Meeting final report.

Executive Director's Report

Dennis ran through his written executive director's report.

Discuss Changing the September 21, 2021 KALHD Board Meeting Date

Aften noted the KPHA conference is running during the KALHD Board Meeting and thought either a week earlier or a week later may work better. Dennis suggested 2-4 pm as a time change on the same date given the KPHA event is virtual and that would allow for spacing while keeping the same planned date. Numerous chat comments agreed with Dennis's suggestion.

Betha moved to change the September 21, 2021 board meeting from 10:00 am-12:00 pm Central to 2:00 pm-4:00 pm Central. Jason seconded. Motion passed.

Open discussion

Betha asked about discussions on changing isolation and quarantine, or other COVID changes, to deal with things moving forward as other states have done. Dennis pointed the question to Cristi Cain. Cristi said she believes a decision was made to continue isolation and quarantine as Kansas has been but that she will raise it at ICS tomorrow and also seeing about routing more cases per county to KDHE.

Cristi also noted she'd check with Epi about changes to quarantine guidelines for Delta Variant. Cristi also said she'd bring up at ICS the desire for LHD involvement in the school guidance crafting.

Additional discussions regarding COVID and KDHE ensued.

Adjournment

Aften adjourned the meeting at 11:56 am.