

Executive Director Report April 16, 2024

Organizational Updates

- The Immunization Conference on May 20-23, 2024, may cause a schedule conflict for some KALHD members with our currently scheduled May 21, 2024, Board meeting. In the open discussion portion of this agenda, we can evaluate whether or not a change to the date of our May meeting is appropriate.
- Still awaiting receipt of signed management letters from SSC Advisors, Inc/SSC CPA's P.A. to provide our tax and audit services for this year.
- KALHD Dues. All 100 Local Health Departments elected to continue membership in KALHD for 2024. As of April 9th, we have three LHDs with checks in the mail and all other payments have been deposited.
- NACCHO Dues. We have 61 Local Health Departments who exercised the option to pay dues to NACCHO.
- Transferred \$120,000 from our INTRUST checking to INTRUST savings account to reduce the amount of funds in non-interest bearing accounts.
- Attended lobbyist meetings hosted by the League of Municipalities (Thursdays) and the Kansas Association of Counties (Friday) legislative update meetings on multiple occasions.
- Completed the Secretary of State's required lobbyist expenditure report for the month of March.

Project Updates

- I received a member question about possibly creating a KIPHS group on the KALHD list serve. We currently have 16 separate lists, and another can be added without additional cost as we pay fees by the message not by the list. If you have interest in being added to such a group, please let me know via email, call or other means that is most convenient for you and I will work with the vendor to get the group added.
- Continued participating with the Kansas Association of Counties, Wichita State, Kansas Health Institute and KDHE staff on a group convened by KDHE to plan the "road show". Thank you

to all who participated in the KDHE survey after our March meeting. Discussions are ongoing and no specifics are available to report this month.

- Workforce Investment Grant Applications. KDHE will not present any grant applications to the Board for a vote during the April 19th meeting due to key KDHE staff being unable to attend the meeting. At our May meeting, we could see five or more applications to consider based on information shared with KALHD and information shared by stakeholders who indicate they have or will apply for funding.
- Immunization Symposium: This is a first-time event funded by KALHD utilizing unexpended immunization funding we have received since 2021. The concept is to have a day at the Immunization Conference that is tailored for LHD staff more so than the full conference. Last summer/fall, KALHD requested the budget change from KDHE to support this event and then contracted with Wichita State University (WSU) to plan and deliver the Symposium.
 - Registrations opened on April 8, 2024 for both events [Kansas Immunization Conference \(wichita.edu\)](https://www.wichita.edu)
 - The last few weeks have been focused on finalizing the content and speakers, which is still being finalized.

I hope that we will have good attendance and that these sessions will be beneficial to them.

- KALHD Immunization Funding project: On April 4, 2024, KALHD like our member health departments with potential unexpended funds, received notification from KDHE on the potential to extend funding for another year to June 30, 2025.
 - That notification made clear that additional funding is not available, and no new activities will be approved.
 - KALHD projects approximately \$90,000 in unexpended funds at the current June 30, 2024, expiration date for this project. The majority of the unexpended is in two areas:
 - Salary/benefits for the vacant Assistant Director (approximately \$50,000)
 - Other which were articles, social media posts, and other outreach activities previously written by the vacant Assistant Director position and then posted by the Kansas Association of Counties (approximately \$35,000).
 - On April 8, 2024 the requested letter of intent was submitted to KDHE to give KALHD the opportunity to extend current activities.
 - This would not be a good funding source for the Assistant Director given it would be a 1-year temporary position.
 - Greater potential may exist to continue current activities at the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) conference in December of 2024, continued activities at the June 2025 MYM, and/or a second Immunization Symposium in 2025 if evaluations from the first ever such event in May 2024 merit continuation.
- PHEP: After the March meeting, distributed the KDHE draft of the 2024-2025 PHEP Local Health Department Work Plan to LHD administrators via email. No written comments on the draft were received. Coordinated with KDHE on the draft KALHD concurrence letter that will be considered in our April Board meeting and on an update KDHE made to item #18 based upon additional information received from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) after our last Board meeting. Also attended the April 11, 2024 Final Workplan Review hosted by KDHE.

- KALHD Mid-year-meeting (MYM):
 - The planning committee met on March 28, 2024 and April 15, 2024.
 - A list of over 40 potential topics have been generated from the 2023 evaluations, prior Board meetings, and the committee discussion. Working to prioritize those to make selections and build the agenda.
 - Received bid from WSU to provide support for the MYM. Finalized a contract for \$5,800 to cover WSU management fee for scope of work to include conference registration, sponsors, on-site logistics, vendor management, speakers, CEU, program and marketing.
 - Estimating registration and materials available in mid-May.
 - The dates are June 25-26, 2024
 - The location is the same as last year at the Salina Holiday Inn, 3145 South 9th, Salina, Ks 67401
 - Format and timeframes will align with last year with an approximately 8:30-4:30 Day 1 agenda (plus breakfast and registration beginning at 7:30) and 8:30-2:00 Day 2 agenda (also with breakfast beginning at 7:30).

- Data Day with the KALHD MYM:
 - Again, this year, WSU will host Data Day in conjunction with the MYM.
 - This will be on June 24, 2024
 - Located at the Rolling Hills Zoo at 625 N Hedville Rd, Salina, Ks 67401
 - Time frame will be approximately 10:00-4:30
 - Registration materials and process will align with the KALHD MYM in mid-May

- I attended day 1 of 2 of the Local Health Department Billing Symposium. April 2-3, 2024, at the Wichita State University Metropolitan Complex. The event was well attended, and the information presented was particularly helpful to me at this early stage of my learning. And seemingly was well received by our LHD billing experts. A thank you to our colleagues at WSU for planning, funding, and executing this important event.

Legislative Updates

- Updates for LHD Administrators were sent each Friday.

- First adjournment of the 2024 legislative session occurred on April 5, 2024, leaving only the Veto session that begins on April 29, 2024, to be completed before the Legislature will conclude their work for the year.

- A \$843,493 increase in funding to LHDs is contained in the budget bill (not yet acted upon by Governor)

- Continuation of the budget proviso to increase the minimum allocation for a LHD to \$12,000 is also contained in the budget bill (not yet acted upon by Governor)

- HB2579 is a school inspection bill passed in both chambers that would allow County Commissioners to decide not to have LHDs do these inspections (not yet acted upon by Governor). Please keep in mind, if your LHD would like to cease inspections, you will have to get that before the Board of County Commissioners for consideration and action as only they can make the change.
- The harmful public health legislation (e.g. SB391, SB390, SB5, SB6) considered did not advance under these bill numbers and do not appear to have been amended into another bill. Many individuals and organizations worked diligently to prevent legislation of this type from being enacted this year. A great job by everyone.
- Action on child care licensing has not yet advanced (but still could) that would change the state agency LHDs partner with and licensing requirements. A conference committee reached an agreement on the Conference Committee Report on SB96 which was passed by the House on April 4, 2024, by a vote of 110 – 10. The Senate has not taken any action on that CCR. They could still take action during the veto session that begins on April 29, 2024

Important Dates to Remember

- Board Meeting: May 21, 2024 (virtual) – possible date change will be discussed at the April meeting.
- Kansas Infectious Disease Symposium 2024 – hosted by Johnson County on May 9-10, 2024. See here [Kansas Infectious Disease Symposium 2024 | Johnson County Kansas \(jocogov.org\)](https://jocogov.org/kansas-infectious-disease-symposium-2024)
- 2024 Kansas Immunization Conference: WSU has sent out save the date for May 20-23, 2024, at the Wichita Marriott. See here [Kansas Immunization Conference \(wichita.edu\)](https://wchita.edu/kansas-immunization-conference)
 - WSU CPHI is assisting KALHD with planning the KALHD Immunization Symposium. This event will be held in conjunction with the KDHE Immunization Conference on May 20th. It is intended for immunization professionals from local health departments.
- Data Day: June 24, 2024, at the Rolling Hills Zoo at 625 N Hedville Rd, Salina, Ks 67401. Registration information is projected to be available in mid-May.
- KALHD MYM: June 25-26, 2024, at the Salina Holiday Inn, 3145 South 9th, Salina, Ks 67401. Registration information is projected to be available in mid-May.