

**KALHD Board Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2025**

Board Members

Jennifer Cure, President
Brie Greeson, Past President
Krista Schneider, President-Elect
Shalei Shea, Secretary-Treasurer
Angela Kahle, District 1 Representative
Faye Jones, District 2 Alternate
Leslie Campbell, District 3 Representative
Crystal VanHoutan, District 3 Alternate
Denise James, District 4 Alternate
Lynnette Redington, District 5 Representative
Lisa Scott, District 6 Representative

Attendees

Erin Kibbe	Jayme Lewis	Dana Rickley
Melissa Miller	Mila Bandel	Jenette Schuette
Lori Eichman	Cindy Mullen	Monica Scrudder
Jackie Patterson	Tia Mattheyer	Karen Winkelman
Stephen Maheux	Jason Tiller	Jamie Downs
Dennille Schweitzer	Amanda Snyder	Elizabeth Sheldon
Meckenzie Kelly	Jennifer Hurst	Gina Pack
Diane Creek	Dawn Jones	Teresa Fisher
Renee Hively	Tonya Medina	Misty Trudeau
Chantal Wilburn	Skye Reid	Laura Hageman
Mary Ann Cunningham	Kory Owen	Natalie Savage
Tracy Axtell	Leslie Pfannenstiel	Ty Kane
Rayna Maddox	Christina Beer	Cristi Cain
Michelle Horstmeier	Brenda Pfizenmaier	Shelly Schneider

Staff

Randy Bowman, Executive Director

Call to Order

Jennifer Cure, President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Board Roll Call

Randy Bowman, Executive Director, conducted a roll call of Board members in attendance and confirmed that a quorum was present for conducting business.

Approval of Agenda

Jennifer Cure commented about the revised agenda that Randy emailed out on Monday. Then asked for approval of the agenda for today. **Lynnette Redington moved to approve the agenda which was seconded by Faye Jones. The motion was approved.**

SFY2026 PHEP Funding

Randy Bowman started this conversation by providing some background information on a recent meeting between KDHE PHEP and KALHD. He shared that the purpose of this meeting was to begin to explore how we can help the system work through the current funding situation and those that may come in the future based on the President's budget request to Congress and Executive Orders issued in March of 2025 addressing State and Local Preparedness. It was out of this conversation that we concluded it would be helpful for Natalie Savage to be added to the agenda for our meeting today.

Natalie then recapped the information KDHE shared during the June Monthly Health Department Update meeting in which the Federal government required States to revise their grant request to 70% of the previously requested amount. This was requested with no notice and KDHE was given 2 days to resubmit the funding request. Randy and Natalie shared that both are hearing from sources within and outside of the Federal government that there will be a second component to this award at some undefined time equal to the remaining 30%. The Federal government says the 70% amount will become a full award so, although when asked Federal staff cannot make any guarantee of additional funding, they will not allow States to adjust the requirements under this funding source.

KDHE has no alternative but to proceed with distributing funding based on the 70% funding level that is available. In doing so, the goal is to navigate this a way that does the least amount of harm and causes as little disruption as possible, while continuing to meet the federal requirements. She then described the proposed plan to begin getting sub awards out as quickly as possible and took questions/comments on the plan from attendees. The plan would apply the 70% allocation to internal KDHE operations for PHEP, Lab, and EPI staff and to LHDs equally. Then based on a review of expenditures, the allocation for the PHEP regions would be 50% funding. All entities are expected to deliver the same requirements for this reduced funding amount.

After discussion, the consensus of the Board and members present was that KDHE should proceed to allocate the available funds as described in the discussion today.

Multiple members expressed their appreciation to Natalie for coming to the meeting today to discuss this topic and the options with KALHD.

Approval of Minutes

Jennifer asked if everyone reviewed the minutes of the June meeting. **Brie Greeson motioned to approve the minutes which was seconded by Angie Kahle. The motion was approved.**

Monthly Financial Report

Secretary/Treasurer Shalei Shea presented the financial report for June 2025.

In May, KALHD realized a net financial loss of \$10,122.45 with \$853.03 in total income and \$10,975.48 in total expenses. The ending bank balance was \$473,306.28.

Brie Greeson moved to approve the report and place it on file. Angie Kahle seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

KDHE Updates

Cristi Cain, KDHE, provided the following updates.

- KDHE has just been notified of a reduction in funds in the immunization grant Kansas will receive for the current budget year. No figures were available on the size or amount of the reduction. She led a discussion with members about ways KDHE could potentially revise deliverables because they will be difficult to do with less funding. In the discussion suggestions included: reducing administrative requirements such as reporting data in progress reports that is already available to KDHE in electronic data systems, eliminating the immunization conference or incorporating any needed updates from that conference into the Governors Public Health Conference to reduce travel time and expenses, increase use of virtual training to reduce time and travel expenses, revise the requirements for vaccines that have to be carried by LHDs as are some that are not provided or needed in a given county.
- Measles Update. KDHE has canceled the every other Thursday meeting for counties with an identified outbreak Measles case(s) and those contiguous counties. This was done in consultation with these counties and updates for all counties will continue to be provided in the Wednesday meetings.
- Late yesterday the KDHE WIC program sent an email to WIC Coordinators and LHD Administrators asking for them to complete a survey by Friday. She asked if the email had been received some responded affirmatively but others had not received the email. Based on the discussion she shared that KDHE is working on distribution lists and will keep working on improvements.
- The HOOK annual in person meeting will be held in Wichita on September 11, 2025 at the Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) who along with the Kansas Health Foundation are sponsoring the event.
- The Governor's Conference on Public Health (GCPH) has been scheduled for March 30 – April 1, 2026 in Wichita. The planning team will begin meeting soon plan the content and based upon discussion today exploring virtual options for participation will be part of discussions.
- The Drug Endangered Children (DEC) conference is scheduled for April 28, 2026.
- The remaining regional meetings for this quarter are scheduled for tomorrow for South Central Ks, then Southwest Ks on July 23rd and Northwest Ks on July 24th.

WSU Updates

Ty Kane provided the following updates.

- He described the approximately 10-year history of WSU-CEI, KDHE and others work to support the Community Health Worker (CHW) workforce in Kansas. And as a continuation of that work, he distributed a flyer in the chat with details on the upcoming virtual core competency program for CHWs.
- He distributed a second flyer with details on the Local Public Health Leadership Series (LPHLS) for which registration will close in a couple of weeks. He then described some of the training content, benefits to participants and encouraged Administrators to attend themselves or to make a recommendation to 2 other people in public health who might benefit from the training.

KAC Updates

Randy Bowman provided an update for Karla Nichols who could not attend today due to a County meeting. He shared that registration is now open for the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) 50th Annual Conference. It will be held at the Hyatt in Wichita on December 9-11, 2025. Due to federal funding cuts, KALHD will not be able to help with the cost of attending for Administrators this year, but hopefully you will still be able to attend.

Executive Director's Report

Randy highlighted some of the items in the written report that are included with the Board materials and provided updates on topics that have happened in the days since it was written.

- The 2025 audit is on schedule for presentation to the Board in our September meeting. No draft has been shared by the Auditor to know what they may present.
- Did get an email from our payroll provider, Paychex, confirming their understanding that KALHD is not subject to unemployment taxes. No fees or penalties will be assessed to KALHD while Paychex resolves this through their software.
- He has confirmed with KDHE that KALHD will also experience the reduction in PHEP funding to 70% of the contract amount beginning this quarter.
- Last Thursday KDHE contacted KALHD as they are now exploring the potential use of commercial couriers (ex. FedEx, UPS) instead of the current contractor. His understanding is that the State has existing contracts with these entities that are at lower costs than we would pay, and if KDHE initiated using these carriers the cost would be paid by KDHE. KDHE asked for help in finding whether or not LHDs had access to local pickup services and if those services included overnight shipping. KDHE is prioritizing 11 counties for reasons that are unknown and KALHD has reached out to those LHDs for information on local access. Those results are expected later today, then based on those responses would proceed to get information from all LHDs. The group discussed these commercial carriers and the consensus among members is that these commercial carriers are unable to serve most communities with overnight services as advertised. Concerns were also raised about

safety and security of packages when left at Dollar General drop-off locations. Based upon the discussion, he will share with KDHE the concerns that commercial carriers may not be a good option.

- Referencing materials sent out to Administrators last week on the Federal reinterpretation of the 1996 law on what is a federal benefit and who may receive federal benefits, just today he received more information from national colleagues. He shared that he has begun compiling that into a document to share with Administrators and hopes to distribute that later today or tomorrow. At this time, no guidance on implementation of these changes has been received from KDHE or found online through HHS.
- Attended the Bob Bethall Joint Committee on Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight on Monday and plan to attend more later today. Heard updates by legislative staff and agencies on the impacts of the Federal House Resolution 1. And had a brief conversation with the Chair of the House Social Services Budget Subcommittee about cuts being experienced in Kansas public health funding. The Chair is interested in hearing more and tentatively will make time for a meeting in September.
- A summary report for the Mid-Year Meeting is included with the materials; however, the participant evaluation information was just received and is not included. He reviewed the financials sharing that a net profit of \$4,945.38 was realized and another \$300 should be realized when full payment made by KDHE. He will plan to revise the report to include evaluation information and distribute in an email. While 97 registrations is slightly lower than the 100 registrations last year, we did have representatives from 60 LHDs an increase over 54 last year. And did have 6 LHD's attend who had not in the prior 3 years, so the outreach by members of the Board to peers appears to have helped attendance.
- Looking at the 2026 MYM, he shared that exploring the potential of non-hotel sites to reduce costs for both the venue and food. It is possible that with any reduced cost there, and if we did not use WSU Conferencing to help plan and support the MYM, we might increase revenue from this event to partially offset reductions in funding KALHD is experiencing. Will explore these options with a 2026 MYM Planning Team as go into the fall season.

Discussion for Board Members and KALHD Members Only

Prior to discussing the next agenda item, Jennifer thanked our guests for attending and asked them to please leave the meeting. These minutes will only reflect the final actions/decisions from this discussion.

Open Discussion

No items identified for follow up.

Adjournment

Jennifer asked for a motion to adjourn. **The motion by Angie Kahle was seconded by Shalei Shea and passed.** The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.