

**Q2 of FY 2026 PHEP Advisory Team
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2025**

Attendees

Skye Reid	Lisa Beebe	Tom Langer
Amber Kelly	Kendra Baldrige	Amy Kahbeah
Tamara Wilkerson	Natalie Savage	Randy Bowman
Luke Johnson	Shelly Schneider	
Nancy Griffith	Dana Rickley	

Meeting Start and Approval of Agenda

Randy Bowman started the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Follow up from Q1 discussion

Randy Bowman began the conversation by reflecting on the conversation on these topics in our previous meeting. And recognizing that there have been unexpected workload impacts of reduced PHEP funding and related activities that understandably could have impacted the planned follow up on these topics. He then asked KDHE if there are any updates to share.

Fit Test Machines. Kendra Baldrige provided an update for the group. These machines were purchased by KDHE 5 years ago from SPARK funding and given to Local Health Departments (LHD) resulting in them becoming the property of the LHD. And those that determine that the machine is no longer needed, may dispose of them in accordance with county policy in the same manner as any other surplus property. As a next step KDHE plans to communicate this in writing to LHDs and address this in future webinars.

During discussion, the consensus of the group was that this will be helpful for those LHDs who have a means to conduct fit testing for LHD personnel through another entity as the annual calibration costs associated with any machines that are not needed could be avoided in the future. Fit testing will continue to be an essential safety process for LHD personnel and will continue to be a workplan requirement. It will be important that future communications on any disposal of fit testing machines make that clear for everyone.

Parallel to this, Shelly Schneider offered to try to identify a source for calibration and invite them to the 2026 Governor's Public Health Conference. Perhaps a source would be willing to come and then LHDs could bring their machine to that one location, avoiding the shipping costs associated with recalibration.

PHEP Regions. Natalie Savage provided an update that KDHE is talking with DCCCA, Inc. who will hopefully be able to facilitate a process to gather input from stakeholders on the current PHEP regions. They would like to use the existing quarterly regional PHEP meetings as a forum to get input on the effectiveness of the current PHEP regional structure. These current structure has been in existence for more than 20 years and some have expressed challenges they experience with the current structure indicating that it is time to look at the structure to see if improvements could be made.

PHEP Funding. Natalie also provided an update on the status of funding for LHDs and Regions in which she shared the good news that KDHE did receive the second component of PHEP funding for this year. This will allow KDHE to proceed with making amendments to awards and begin reaching out to LHD Administrators to issue the additional 30% for LHDs and 50% for regions that had previously been withheld making the awards for the year whole.

FIFA World Cup

Randy Bowman started discussion on this topic by recognizing that it has been included in other meetings recently. And that it was added to today's agenda to help raise awareness and to identify any needs that might not have been previously recognized.

Participants shared updates with others based on the local, regional and state meetings they take part in as Kansas prepares for this event. Preparation meetings have been happening since about January of 2025, and in recent weeks those have been increasing. KDHE plans to provide regular updates on the monthly LHD Updates meetings (3rd Wednesday's) and on PHEP webinars and meetings. Hopefully, these will offer multiple opportunities for LHDs to hear information and provide input as the impact of the games and need to plan for potential impacts that could be well beyond just the Kansas City metro area.

Other Business

Tom Langer shared with the group that he will be retiring the last day of January 2026. Several members of the group offered comments wishing him well and thanking him for his service.

Adjourn

Randy Bowman adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.