

KALHD Board Meeting Minutes July 21, 2026

Board Members

Krista Schneider, President
Teresa Fisher, President Elect
Shalei Shea, Secretary-Treasurer
Jennifer Cure, Past-President
Angela Kahle, District 1 Representative
Monica Reuber, District 1 Alternate
Courtney Murrow, District 2 Representative
Faye Jones, District 2 Alternate
Leslie Campbell, District 3 Representative
Brie Greeson, District 4 Representative
Lynnette Redington, District 5 Representative
Charlie Hunt, At-Large #1
Adrienne Byrne, At-Large #2

Attendees

Tia Mattheyer
Jamie Johnson
Laura Hageman
Lori Eichman
Brenda Orr
Broderick Bean
Erin Corbett
Renee Hively

Cristi Cain
Misty Trudeau
Lindsey Ensley
Kendra Glassman
Dawn Jones
Aaron Davis
Tiffany Hayman
Shelly Schneider

Kristina Hanks
Jennifer Hurst
Mackenzie Kelly
Melissa Miller
Susan Moore
Monica Scrudder
Beverly Wendel
Beth Brown

Staff

Randy Bowman, Executive Director

Call to Order

Krista Schneider, 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

Krista Schneider asked for approval of the agenda presented for today. **Monica Reuber moved to approve the agenda which was seconded by Adrienne Byrne. The motion was approved.**

Approval of Minutes

Krista Schneider referenced the June minutes and asked for a motion to approve them. **Faye Jones moved to approve the minutes, and Lynnette Redington Adrienne Byrne seconded the motion. The motion was approved.**

Monthly Financial Report

Secretary/Treasurer Shalei Shea presented the financial report for June 2026.

In June, KALHD realized a net financial loss of \$10,352.15 with \$2,179.95 in total income and \$12,532.10 in total expenses. The ending bank balance was \$487,041.47.

Teresa Fisher motioned to approve the report and place it on file and Leslie Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

PHIG Survey Results

To begin the conversation on this agenda item, Randy Bowman provided an overview of the results of PHIG survey of LHDs. A total of 47 responses were received providing a good response rate to inform the discussion today. In the narrative responses he observed a few key themes: paying costs to attend training and conferences, staff salaries or bonuses, and technology costs some relate to EHR but more broadly to replacing computers and phone equipment.

In the discussion there was a consensus that using these funds for restoring the statewide laboratory courier is not a very good option as we've seen before how unsustainable federal funding sources affect that core public health laboratory function. State General funds would be our preferred funding stream for KDHE. Similar sustainability concerns were discussed for a statewide EHR in addition to that many LHDs have made this investment and would not benefit from such an investment by KDHE. KDHE using the funds to support LHD participation at existing trainings and conferences (ex. LPHLS, Billers, GPHC, KPHA, etc.) is an ideal supported by a majority of the Board and members participating in today's discussion.

From the discussion it was decided that we need additional facts from KDHE regarding the \$5.0 million figure shared with us at the MYM. Such as how KDHE envisions sustaining the requirements of the original NOFO that at least 40% of funds go to LHDs, are these funds available for all purpose areas of that NOFO, and what portion of this figure is funds previously declined by LHDs in the initial grant award. Randy will attempt to get additional information from the agency to inform continued discussions. No final recommendations or decisions were made today.

LHD Technical Assistance Requests in ATL Survey: A Potential Resource

Randy Bowman shared that he has been in conversations with KDHE and PHAB for several months about how to bring additional support to LHDs. And a key data point in those conversations has been the results of the ATL survey, which has listed for a few years the greatest need for technical assistance as being policy development and support, with 63 of 100

LHDs rating that as the greatest need in the most recent survey results presented at the MYM. PHAB has proposed providing staff support for a process they have utilized in other states to bring together a group of health departments for peer driven discussions focusing on topics related to accreditation, a process that could be transferable in Kansas to support the technical assistance needs for policy development. He shared that in a recent meeting, KDHE and PHAB agreed to move forward and are working to develop a scope of work and an agreement funded through either a technical assistance request or funding provided by KDHE. And the task for KALHD is to identify any LHDs who would be interested in this project.

In the discussion today, it was clarified that this project would focus on LHD policies for the operation of the department, this is not focused on legislative policy. And while policies are a key component to accreditation and PHAB would welcome any future Kansas LHDs who decide to pursue full accreditation, future participation in this project would not obligate an LHD to accreditation. This project would bring together LHDs with some support from PHAB to work on topics such as policies that would be of mutual benefit to those who participate. It was also noted that if KDHE would include grant program staff in this process that would be helpful. As any policy the group worked on must meet their requirements and get that input in the group would be helpful. Others noted that base level policies or templates such a project might produce would be helpful for small LHDs where there are limits on time making developing original policies difficult.

Randy will continue working with PHAB and KDHE to hopefully see this opportunity realized. And any LHD Administrator who is interested in possibly participating in this project can reach out to him individually for more information or to volunteer to participate.

KDHE Updates

Cristi Cain, KDHE, provided the following updates.

- KGMS update. After a fix was pushed out last week issues remain and a new fix is currently in testing. She expressed her apologies for these challenges and shared that the current reporting deadline of July 31st may be extended further. She would welcome input on how much additional time might be appropriate so she can advocate for that.
- Health Officers of Kansas (HOOK) will have an in-person event on September 10th at the Rolling Hills Zoo near Salina. The agenda includes topics on infectious disease, zoonotic diseases, expedited partner therapy, kratom and more.
- Substance Use First Aid is an evidence-informed training to equip participants with the skills to recognize and respond to substance use and overdose situations. It emphasizes stigma reduction and connecting people to resources. It had never been offered in Kansas before, until the 2 recent general training sessions which were filled up quickly and hope to offer additional sessions. It is similar in format to Mental Health First Aid with a daylong training or trained trainer opportunities that are scheduled for August 13-14 or September 17-18 from 9:30 to 5:00 each day.

- The third and final training course for County Commissioners as part of the Pulse of Public Health series is scheduled for Friday, July 24, 2026, at noon. This session will focus on public health funding. Is targeted at County Commissioners and other officials, but everyone is welcome.
- The regional meetings continue with three more for this quarter in Beloit on July 23rd, Garden City on July 29th and Colby on July 30th and each is from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Topics include Food is Medicine for Kansas Communities, Childcare Aware and Public Health Putting the Pieces Together, and Mobilizing Community Members to Engage on Key Issues with a Hunger Free Kansas Data Walk.
- Please mark your calendar for the 2027 Governor's Public Health Conference on March 30 – April 1, 2027.
- And a reminder that her team is partnering with Family Planning to help with the clinical chart audits. So, if you have any questions, you may reach out to your Regional Public Health Specialist and please don't stress about this process it is learning for everyone as the entire Family Planning team is new.
- You should have received an email yesterday from Aubry Richardson as a follow-up on HB2513 section 54u. Previously the ATL funding process was on hold awaiting approval from the Department of Administration to move forward due to this new law. The email provides notification that KDHE is proceeding with distribution of ATL funding.
- She also shared that the northeast regional meeting included a tour of the State Laboratory. If others are in town in the future and interested reach out as she can get that scheduled.

WSU Updates

Aaron Davis provided the following updates.

- WSU is working with KDHE to finalize a contract to offer another session of the Foundations for Public Health Course. Registration will open in August, and the session will hopefully begin in October. This is an eight-week crash course or mini-MPH on all things public health in Kansas.
- They have created what they call the Public Health Launch Pad, a shift from the past 10 years of one-off training for local health departments that are working to turn into online self-paced modules for use by health departments and their staff.
- He also asked for help getting word out about Elevate Kansas which is an effort to empower local coalitions through Community Development Forums. Those forums will be held at 5 locations across the state with representation from many stakeholder groups who have an interest in improving their community. The meetings will include training, peer learning, and updates from Foundations on where they are making investments.
- And he shared that he and a couple of Kansas health departments attended the NACCHO national conference last week. And the key themes were workforce burnout, funding, and artificial intelligence.

KAC Update

Jennifer Cure shared that she will be attending the upcoming KAC Board meeting next month. The primary focus right now is on planning for the annual meeting in December.

Executive Director's Report

Randy provided updates on some items in his report.

- Beginning with the 2026 MYM Final Report, he reviewed the registration numbers noting that we had similar total numbers as recent years, however an increase in Data Day and decrease in MYM participation by LHDs is noteworthy as that results in fewer paid participants. Fewer paid registrations were offset by higher sponsorship revenue, including \$1,500 from the Sunflower Foundation that was received in early July, resulting in total revenue of \$21,600 which is slightly higher than the \$20,000 that was projected.

By changing the venue and managing expenses the net gain was \$15,957.05. As of this report KAC has transferred only the revenue received by credit card payments resulting in \$16,300 in revenue received and the remaining \$5,300 from checks received by KAC has not been received into our bank account. It is also possible that this will come in slightly lower if any registrations are unpaid. As funds are received that will be reflected in future financial reports.

Overall, MYM and its sessions received high ratings, except for the meeting space, which received the expected low rating due to sound system failures, backup sound system issues, and room acoustics. As planning begins this fall for next year's event, the quality and reliability of the venue's sound system will be a key factor in site selection to prevent similar technical problems.

In the discussion it was noted that some had challenges with a hotel related to recognizing tax exemptions applicable to county-related travel. It was understood that this was because the booking was through third parties at a discounted rate instead of directly with the hotel. Libraries or hospitals were noted as possible meeting spaces for next year.

- Since being notified by NACCHO in mid- June that KALHD has been invited to join the second Administrative and Legal Preparedness Toolkit and Training cohort no next steps have happened. Last week NACCHO indicated they would follow up after their national conference to begin this work.
- Deputy Secretary Ashley Goss touched base a few days ago to advise that she is having discussions within KDHE regarding the concerns that were voiced at the mid-year mtg. He anticipates hearing more at a later date.
- He shared that after months of discussions on a new project that did not materialize between the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO), WSU, and KAHLD, one of the MCOs approached KALHD this month to try and resume this effort. The concept would be

to identify a few LHDs who are interested in partnering with the MCO to look at how they might help LHDs increase billable revenue while helping the MCO meet performance indicators required of them in their contract with Medicaid. He is currently awaiting some data and proposed communities that the MCO would like to target. They want to target big communities where more Medicaid consumers live but he hopes they will also be interested in working with medium or small LHDs in this project. If any LHD is interested in being part of this project, please contact him by email or telephone.

- Kevin Kovach at the Kansas Health Institute (KHI) is working on a research project to study the vision and values of County Commissioners. The goal is to see how those may align with public health. If you could help out by sharing the information from the link provided with your commissioners, it would be helpful as he hopes to increase the number of participants. <https://www.khi.org/articles/share-your-vision-for-your-community/>
- He also provided an update on the efforts of the Federal Office of Budget and Management (OMB) to adopt new federal regulations that would affect all federal grant programs and the recipients of those funds. The comment period closed last week and NACCHO shared that some 300,000 comments were submitted. Word he has heard from NACCHO is that these are expected to be implemented as proposed and a counter strategy they and others are advocating for from Congress is language in a future budget bill that would override these new rules.
- He recently attended presentations by lobbyists working in Washington D.C. and by NACCHO, both of which shared their best estimate that Congress will be unable to agree on a Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027 budget by October 1, 2026. If that proves to be correct, a Continuing Resolution (CR) continuing the current FFY2026 appropriations level until sometime after the election is anticipated. There are several weeks to go before this deadline, so we will continue to monitor for progress.
- The Kansas Legislature has had a few Interim Committee meetings, but things are likely to remain slow until at least after the primary election on August 4th and perhaps longer.

Discussion for Board Members and KALHD Members Only

Prior to discussing the next agenda item, Krista 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

Krista asked for a motion to adjourn. **A motion to adjourn was made by Brie Greeson and seconded by Faye Jones.** The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.