

**PUBLIC HEALTH SOLUTIONS
District Health Department**

Board of Health

September 19, 2019

Board Members in Attendance:

Janet Henning John Hill Dave Norton Mark Schoenrock Dr. Josue Gutierrez
Judy Henning Tim Pickering Larry Cerny

Board Members Absent:

Kristi Lucking Stephanie Knight Dr. Bruce Kennedy Dave Bruning

Guests in Attendance:

Senator Myron Dorn

Staff Members in Attendance:

Kim Buser, Director; Sonya Williamson, Fiscal Administration; Debra L. Wendelin, Office Coordinator/Immunization Coordinator; Jen Hansen, Safe & Thriving Communities; Johanna Pesante-Daniel, Minority Health/Health Hub

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Larry Cerny. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting required by law.

Approval of Agenda:

Meeting agenda was reviewed. No changes were noted in the agenda previously emailed to Board of Health members. Motion to approve the agenda by Mark Schoenrock, seconded by Dave Norton. All ayes, motion #1 carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Previous meeting minutes were emailed before the meeting. Motion to approve the minutes by Dave Norton, seconded by Mark Schoenrock. All ayes, motion #2 carried. (Janet Henning abstained from voting.)

Financial Reports: Acceptance

Sonya Williamson presented on the Financial Reports. Sonya asked that Larry initial our bank statement. At the beginning of a new fiscal year our financial position is sitting well with adequate cash flow. The Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual will be revised so it matches the spreadsheet. We have to project out any potential funding per our auditors. This year that total was \$150,000. Part of that total will be received through a Maternal and Child Health grant in the amount of \$50,000. Tim requested an explanation of why health services is over budget. This is due to Kate instructing CPR classes and billed for the cost to do those classes (fee for service). Motion to approve the financial reports by Mark Schoenrock, seconded by Judy Henning. All ayes, motion #3 carried.

Grants and Contracts - Acceptance

Grants and Contracts was tabled until our next meeting in November.

Directors Report:

In lieu of the Director's Report, Kim reminded everyone that the Legislative Interim Study Hearing regarding public health infrastructure is scheduled for Friday, September 20, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. The Interim Hearing has been introduced by Senator Quick with Senators Cavanaugh, Howard, and Walz signing onto the study. This will be the precursor of the local health department's attempt to get an appropriations request passed in the upcoming legislative session.

Minutes of PHSDHD Board of Health Meeting

Orientation was held this week for new employees and PHS interns. When the group was asked what our responsibility as Chief Health Strategist is the response was “it’s about everybody!” Kim shared it was interesting to see what we had in the room to include interns in disease surveillance, community planning, GIS mapping, and population protection.

The Community Health and Improvement Plan (CHIP) was the result of a wide-range of partners coming together, reviewing data, and identifying health priorities to focus our energy and resources. All of this review lead to four priority areas – mental health, chronic disease, access & health equity, and environmental health, to include Safe & Thriving Communities. Jen Hansen, Safe & Thriving Communities Program Manager, shared with Board of Health members activities that are going on in Gage County.

Double Up Food Bucks – making “the healthy choice the right choice”. Nebraska Extension's Double Up Food Bucks program doubles the value of federal nutrition (SNAP or food stamps) benefits spent at participating markets and grocery stores, helping people bring home more healthy fruits and vegetables while supporting local farmers. PHS, as the convener of the program, makes sure opportunities are available.

Beatrice on the Move – increase walkability/bike ability in Beatrice. Complete streets is a transportation policy and design approach that requires streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel and access for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation.

Strategic Planning identified two huge gaps that we currently do not have the staff or resources to address which include data management and environmental health. The vision for our district moving forward is to pull everyone from all five counties and formalize a Coalition to share resources. Mark was very complimentary of the coordination, integration and buy-in that has been huge in the last year. Kim introduced Senator Dorn and asked for his guidance and thoughts on how we can move the conversation along best with his colleagues regarding public health infrastructure.

Senator Dorn gave a brief personal history to Board of Health members and then dove into his position as a member of the nine-member Appropriations Committee. The two factors that he felt will best influence public health will be the Legislative Interim Study Hearing and funding. Senator Dorn explained that 74 agencies with over 260 programs present during the public hearing for funding requests. The Governor has his proposed budget while the fiscal office has their budget. The Appropriations Committee affects only 36% of the budget. Currently there is \$472 million in the rainy day fund which started at \$275 million. Time will tell if this increase is a trend or whether we can count on this increase in revenue in the future. The main topics that will take over where they left off last year are property tax relief and the tax incentive bill. One unknown this year is Senator Chambers as this is his last year and how much time he will use up on topics he feels strongly about. Medicaid expansion should be rolling out next October. Senator Dorn stressed not to be afraid to contact any senators and how important it is to them to hear from people.

Open Forum:

Judy wanted to know if any Board member might know who accepts tabs from pop cans for the Ronald McDonald House. John thought that the American Legion in Beatrice accepted them.

Our internal audit has been completed. A report will be presented at the next Board meeting.

The next Board of Health Meeting is Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. in Crete, NE.

Being no further business the meeting was declared adjourned.

Debra L. Wendelin
Office Coordinator/Immunization Coordinator

