

PUBLIC HEALTH SOLUTIONS District Health Department

Board of Health

September 21, 2023

Board Members in Attendance:

Larry Cerny	Judy Henning	Stephanie Knight	Dr. Bruce Kennedy
Richard Koch	Christy Lucking	Mark Schoenrock	Don Schuller

Board Members Absent:

Dr. Josue Gutierrez	Janet Henning	Tim Pickering
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Staff Members in Attendance:

Kim Showalter, Director; Sonya Williamson, Fiscal Administrator; Debra L. Wendelin, Administrative Program Assistant

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Agenda:

Meeting agenda was reviewed. Motion to approve the agenda by Stephanie Knight, seconded by Don Schuller. All ayes, motion #1 carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Previous meeting minutes were emailed before the meeting. Motion to approve the minutes by Larry Cerny, seconded by Janet Henning. All ayes, motion #2 carried.

Financial Reports: Acceptance:

Sonya Williamson presented on the Financial Reports. We are in the second month of our fiscal year at this time. You will notice larger payments on the check report as we are starting to see flu vaccine come in. We made our final payment to Partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE) for their work on the Community Health Assessment (CHA). We have made a downpayment to Kidwell to upgrade our door system to include our new THRIVE clinic area. The Healthy Families America (HFA) grant year ended September 30. You will note that expenses on the U.S. Bank credit card are higher as the program is spending down funds to restock their emergency family supplies. Hotel and meal expenses on the Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual (FY23-24) are higher due to expenses incurred at the Nebraska Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) 360 Conference held in July. Program Supplies, item 4325, is at 56% of budget. This is largely due to timing. Some grant programs “front load” their supplies as they will be needed throughout the year, others purchase a larger amount towards the end of the grant cycle. Sonya has created a new line item for each separate grant listed other “Other Grants” that will help for better tracking and clarification. Motion to approve the financial reports by Don Schuller, seconded by Christy Lucking. All ayes, motion #3 carried.

Director’s Report:

Kim shared with Board members that Dr. Eric Brandt, veterinarian and owner of the Beatrice Animal Hospital, is not interested in assuming the position of spirted person for Gage County. Don Schuller presented the idea of another possible candidate, who will be contacted to determine if there is interest.

The Community Health Summit was yesterday in Geneva at the fairgrounds. The two priorities determined by the group that we will focus on over the next ten years are Mental Health and Access to All Resources. Stephanie Knight felt we had well-spirited conversation with passionate people involved. If over the next ten years we put our resources into these two buckets, we will make the best

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use of everyone's time and resources. Mark Schoenrock commented that if we concentrate on two priorities versus several, we can prioritize underlying issues and pool our resources. For those Board members who would like a copy of the CHA, please let Kim know and we will print and mail one to you. Kim shared her thought on what if we lobbied for the most resources to be allocated to early childhood development, making a generational change starting early to get these kids on a better track providing resources to give these kids a healthier start in life. Stephanie Knight felt our focus should be pouring resources into intervention rather than prevention. Concerning questions arise as to who manages this, how do we get the funding program to support efforts, and why aren't people putting funds into this concept. If people had access to services, we could have a chance at stopping generational patterns. Mark Schoenrock stressed we need to gauge all keys players in our district and make everyone aware that we need district-wide active participation. Stephanie shared how much she learned from attending a Circle of Security parenting class and wished she had known aspects of what was covered when she first became a parent. Kim suggested we need something to prompt or provide an incentive to parents early on to engage in classes that teach parenting skills. Stephanie indicated that many parents don't attend due to the "stigma" around parenting classes that if you attend, you are a bad parent. Mark Schoenrock shared that Senator Dorn attended the last Board meeting of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) that highlighted mental health. Mark said that Governor Pillen attended the most recent Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACo) meeting which highlighted the issue of mental health and that mental health is a key issue that affects so many things. Mark said that Governor Pillen is open to learning more about these issues and understands the collaborative effort needed by entities in the State.

The opioid substance abuse disorder behavioral grant was not funded.

We have not been able to hire anyone for the Surveillance/Communicable Disease position. We are at this time requiring a nursing license. as the position can involve intense case management with questions that a nurse can answer. We may have to train someone without a medical background. The position was also going to alleviate some of the workload by covering vaccine clinics for Kate and Michele.

Community flu clinics have been scheduled in all five counties. We have a children's clinic scheduled for October 30 at our department. With the COVID-19 vaccine cost no longer being covered by the government, we are discussing what that will mean for our department, which insurance companies will cover the vaccine and how do we process those individuals that are uninsured. The RSV vaccine for those 65 and older is very expensive and Medicare Part D may or may not cover the cost.

CureMD, a health information system that will assist us with scheduling and billing, is set to launch the first of November.

Board members are invited to attend next Monday's Incident Command System (ICS) training at 9 am here at the department. This table-top discussion will walk staff through a catastrophic event and what our role is in a natural disaster.

Carmen Chinchilla Gutierrez has contracted with PHS and has begun policy writing for our department to include Board of Health policies.

Minority Health Initiative (MHI) money supports Johanna's position as health equity coordinator. We are looking at the word "equity" and contemplating making a change as most people associate it with only minority groups. The funds from the HMI grant focus on Saline County as this is where the highest percentage of our district's minority population resides.

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Kim has been working with staff using CliftonStrengths. The latest training involved discussion around employee burnout based on the employees top five themes. The next employee training will be setting goals, both personal and work, based on the employees top five themes.

Stephanie Knight, Board member of the Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations (NABHO) believes that PHS should be at the table at their meetings coordinating with the association as we launch a behavioral component within our THRIVE clinic.

The PHS Board of Health Legislative Committee will kick off in December. Mark Schoenrock stressed the importance of visiting with our State Senators before the next session starts to refresh them on our district's priorities. We will invite Senator Dorn and Senator Brandt to the November 16 Board of Health meeting.

Mark Schoenrock informed Board members that NACo will meet in West Point, Nebraska on October 11 and 12 to review and begin setting NACO's legislative priorities for the next session. Mark encouraged the Board to email him with any issues they would like him to present. The meeting is open to the public. Mark will email members with a link to register.

Closed Session:

President Mark Schoenrock requested the Board go into closed session. Motion to go into closed session at 9:20 am by Mark Schoenrock, seconded by Don Schuller. All ayes, motion #4 carried.

Motion to come out of closed session at 9:35 am by Larry Cerny, seconded by Don Schuller. All ayes, motion #5 carried.

Mark Schoenrock asked for the Board's approval of starting the November and January meetings at 10 am to accommodate members not having to drive in the dark. All members were in agreement on the time change. Kim also mentioned that we haven't used our allocation of Zoom meetings so that might be another avenue. Sonya shared that the auditor's will be presenting their annual report at the November Board of Health meeting. As we will have Senator Dorn and Senator Brandt in attendance, Kim will clear the agenda after the auditor's report to focus on conversation with the Senators.

Open Forum:

Dr. Bruce Kennedy noted that the Nebraska Department of Veteran's Affairs is hosting a Mission of Mercy dental event for military veterans and spouses on October 7 and 8th in Yutan, Nebraska at the National Guard Readiness Center from 8 am-5 pm. Services are comprehensive from cleanings to extractions. Kim will send out the link to Board members and have Jill promote from within our department. Dr. Kennedy said he had the opportunity to talk to our new dental coordinator, Chelsea Carrera, regarding access to dental care and inequity in the dental system. Kim noted her and Chelsea are working to put stories from our patients in writing and present to our senators that the problem is personal, it's real. Stephanie Knight said she would include dental on the agenda for discussion at the next NABHO meeting as it is an important piece that is missing in our conversation on health care.

Christy Luckiing inquired on next steps after the Community Health Summit. Kim indicated our next step is for the big group to set strategies. From there, we will break into sub-groups to facilitate those strategies.

The next Board of Health Meeting is Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 10 a.m. in Crete, NE

Being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned.

Debra L. Wendelin
Administrative Program Assistant

PUBLIC HEALTH SOLUTIONS

Board Members Roll Call & Roll Call Votes

Meeting Date: 09-21-2023

		MOTIONS																		
Board Members	Roll Call		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9	
	Present	Absent	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay	Yea	Nay
Larry Cerny	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Dr. Josue Gutierrez		X																		
Janet Henning		X																		
Judy Henning	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Dr. Bruce Kennedy	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Stephanie Knight	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Richard Koch	X				X		X		X		X									
Christy Lucking	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Tim Pickering		X																		
Mark Schoenrock	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Don Schuller	X		X		X		X		X		X									
Totals	8	3	7	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0								