

**KALHD Mid-Year Meeting  
Business Meeting  
June 26, 2024**

**Board Members**

Brie Greeson, President  
Jason Tiller, Board Past-President  
Jennifer Cure, President-Elect  
Julie Gibbs, Secretary-Treasurer  
Leslie Campbell, District 3 Representative  
Kendra Walsh, District 4 Representative  
Lynnette Redington, District 5 Representative  
Cortney Murrow, District 2 Alternate  
Crystal VanHoutan, District 3 Alternate  
Denise James, District 4 Alternate  
Karla Nichols, District 5 Alt/KAC  
Debra Anthony, District 6 Alternate  
Adrienne Byrne, At-Large #2

**Attendees - Registered**

Rebecca Adamson	Kaylee Hervey	Melissa Miller
Aline Albrecht	Stacey Hileman	Susan Moore
Laigha Anderson	Renee Hively	Brenda Orr
Debra Anthony	Cheryl Hoberecht	Kory Owen
Cynthia Becker	Sara Hodges	Gina Pack
Christena Beer	Lisa Horn	Tina Payne
Brandi Bray	Alaina Hughes	Sheryl Pierce
Cristi Cain	Robin Hull	Lynnette Redington
Shruti Chhabra	Toni Irvin	Kim Reel
Tisha Coleman	Kathy Janousek	Monica Reuber
Denice Cragg	Faye Jones	Dana Rickley
Aaron Davis	Angie Kahle	Meagan Rico
Kandy Dowell	Peyton Kessler	Aubrey Robinson
Kerianne Ehrlich	Brandee Kirk	Kristina Romine
Katie Feldman	Kim Knieling	Candice Sauers
Ray Finley	Dennis Kriesel	Krista Schneider
Teresa Fisher	Kate Lear	Shelly Schneider
Crystal Freeman	Cherie Lee	Jenette Schuette
Amy Gaier	Vicki Lindsey	Mary Schwartz
Aften Gardner	Kelsey Lipkea	Dennille Schweitzer
Kendra Glassman	Christina Loburgio	Shalei Shea
Tobias Harkins	Rayna Maddox	Elizabeth Sheldon
Hope Harmon	Amilia Marchant	Cheryl Skalla

Melissa Smith  
Tonya Sulanka  
Brandon Swart

Amy Teeter  
Misty Trudeau  
Kerri Ulrich

Ruth Walker  
Karen Winkelman  
Destany Wheeler

### **Staff**

Randy Bowman, Executive Director

### **Call to Order**

Brie Greeson, President, called the virtual meeting to order at 9:56 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**

Brie asked if there were any changes to the agenda and none were identified. **Karla Nichols moved to approve the agenda which was seconded by Jennifer Cure. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

Brie referenced the May 2024 minutes provided with the meeting materials. **No changes were identified. Jason Tiller motioned to approve the minutes and Adrienne Byrne seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **Monthly Financial Report**

Julie Gibbs, Secretary/Treasurer shared the May 2024 financial report. KALHD realized a net financial loss of \$15,816.74 for the month with \$6,382.99 in total income and \$22,199.73 in total expenses. The ending bank balance for May was \$419,833.44.

Brie asked if there were any questions, and there were none, and then for a motion to approve the financial report and place it on file. **Leslie Campbell motioned to approve the report and place it on file and Adrienne Byrne seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **YTD walkthrough of KALHD's financial shape**

Randy began by referencing the two documents in the packet of handouts. The first being the statement of financial position as of May 31, 2024 and the second being the budget v. actuals report for January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, which is expenditures through the date the report was run. He then discussed items that have a material impact on our financial position, but were not yet known when the 2024 budget was approved in December of 2023. This includes the vacancy of the Assistant Director position which results in lower expenses and revenue from the approved budget, a letter received from KDHE in May of 2024 that will allow KALHD to use currently unexpended KIP funds in state fiscal year 2025, and the upcoming commissioner roadshow which may result in increased revenue from KDHE in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year to offset

considerable travel costs to attend those 12 events statewide. He also advised that with just over \$419,000 in the bank after payment of annual dues, this appears to be the highpoint of the year in terms of available cash, a trend that is consistent with the 2020-2023 financial years. In most categories, expenses are running a little under budget, with exception of professional services which has increased due to the decision to contract with WSU to support the MYM. Our current contract that provides revenue for PHEP activities expires at the end of this month. No word yet on our bid to sustain that revenue source, but we were unsuccessful in that bid we should be ok for the balance of the 2024 budget year, but would be an impact in 2025 and beyond. Overall, we continue to be in good financial shape.

### **Thoughts on the year so far to the membership**

Brie addressed attendees in her role as KALHD President and thanked everyone for making time in their busy schedules to attend. She also thanked Randy for jumping into the work while acknowledging the contributions of past President Jason Tiller and past Executive Director Dennis Kriesel who both left big shoes for Brie and Randy to fill. She discussed the challenge of being a LHD administrator which requires working on funding and with elected officials, all to improve the lives of the people in each county. A lot has changed since COVID and we got through it. So, her charge to everyone was to take time to soak in the moments, tomorrow is not promised. And when necessary, change your perspective to a positive one.

### **Explanation of dues formula**

Randy summarized the discussion at the April Board meeting, where the consensus of those in attendance was to not make a change in the dues calculations for 2025. And that today this topic appears on the agenda, along with the table in the packet of materials, for the required formal action to continue the 2024 dues calculations for 2025. He also advised that new population figures will not be available until after July 1, 2024, the table will be updated so the dues amounts will change slightly based on population changes when invoices are sent in January of 2025. There were no questions or discussion and Brie asked for a motion. **Jennifer Cure motioned to continue the 2024 dues calculations for 2025 and Karla Nichols seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **Consent Agenda Item: Sub-Committee recommendations for Workforce Grants**

Brie initiated action on this item by providing background on this process and how these items were placed on the agenda. She then listed the recommended approval and deny of grants as they appear on the agenda.

Brie asked for a motion and second to approve the one and reject the four applications as recommended. **Adrienne Byrne made and Jennifer Cure seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Public Health and Medicaid Advisory Group – Recommendations to KALHD Board**

Aaron Davis and Tina Payne, WSU, updated members on the work of the Public Health and Medicaid Advisory Group which is facilitated and supported by Wichita State University Center for Public Health Initiatives (WSU-CPHI). Aaron summarized the decade plus history of this work

as part of the broader Medicaid contract between KDHE and WSU. This project sought to identify current gaps and priorities in Medicaid specific to the needs of local health departments through a series of focus groups (13 in total) and collection of data that occurred over the past 4 months. Goal is to raise awareness of issues with rates that may not cover expenses, services that provide or can provide but are not reimbursable, challenges working with MCO's, etc. through the voices of those who work in health departments. From the data collected, four themes were identified 1) Existing services 2) New services 3) MCO processes and value-added benefits 4) Community and Social Determinants. Then on May 10<sup>th</sup>, the Advisory Group reviewed the information and voted on the priorities that are listed on the document that is provided in the packet. Tina also recognized the KALHD members who serve on the Advisory Group: Julie Gibbs Riley County, Renee Hively Lyon County, Kristina Romine NEK, Christine Ebert and Jonathan Smith Douglas County, Theresa Fisher Shawnee County, Stacy Province Johnson County, Tonya Medina Wallace, Eli Caldwell Wyandotte County, Peyton Kessler Cherokee County, Crystal VanHoutan Jefferson County. Staff from KDHE and the MCO's also serve in this group.

Aaron then described that this document was developed to be similar to the KALHD legislative agenda. The current plan is to try this for a few years and track to see where have an impact. He then summarized the priority areas listed on the document while offering to make edits if requested today, no edits were identified.

After a group discussion on the document, Brie asked for a formal Board vote to show our support for the priorities outlined in the 2025 Medicaid System Priorities document. **Kendra Walsh made a motion to adopt the document and Adrienne Byrne seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

### **KDHE Updates**

Cristi Cain, KDHE, provided the following updates.

#### *Kansas Public Health Roadshow*

The dates and locations for the roadshow have been finalized and she projected a copy of the save the date document on the video screen and advised that it will be emailed to administrators after this meeting. Three topics will be covered at each location including 1) Value of Public Health 2) How funding and grants work 3) Requirements of members of a Board of Health.

In response to questions, she advised that the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) is under contract with KDHE and will send invitations to County Commissioners. Local Health Department Administrators are also encouraged to send the flyer to other stakeholders in their community. The attendees discussed strategies for inviting others, benefits of also inviting your Commissioners along with the KAC invitation, and that KDHE can help by extending additional invitations if that is beneficial. A suggestion was offered that KDHE record the final meeting and post it to YouTube or another location where it can be shared in the future. KDHE has not planned for that but will explore doing so. The question was also asked if attendance is mandatory for Administrators and Cristi confirmed that attendance is not mandatory. Attendees can choose to

attend any date/location that fits their schedule and the address of each location will be provided after completing registration.

### *New Links for Weekly Meetings*

With the retirement of Karen Kelley, the links to the Wednesday Webinar and the Public Health Power Hour had to be updated. Those have been distributed, but if you do not have them, please contact your Regional Specialist. Attendance has been down and think this transition may be a factor so wanted to remind everyone of the new links.

### **WSU Updates**

#### *Local Public Health Leadership Series*

Launching the next series. An alumni event will be held the last week of August for two days in Wichita. Then the next cohort series will then kick-off with four sessions.

#### *Kansas Public Health Collaborative*

A joint effort between WSU, KDHE, KALHD and KHI first launched a number of years ago to try and reach system employees to help them connect to resources. Have a newsletter, post trainings, including the ASPIRE series to explore roll of health departments in addressing social determinants of health. Maps have recently been updated and please check out <https://kphcollaborative.org> for more information.

#### *Informatics*

After the presentation by Taylor yesterday, have two additional KALHD members who have asked to join the group. Will be having discussions with KONZA about their dashboard of medical record information which may provide an opportunity to explore a past interest in access to real time health data based on EHR information.

#### *Public Health New Employee Orientation*

Exploring the idea of new employee orientation to public health and Aaron asked if this would be beneficial to explore as a supplement to current orientations that might be done by the county and/or individual health departments. During the discussion, Jason Tiller shared that they started this in the last couple of weeks and have done two sessions so far and seeing the benefits. Multiple attendees expressed support for Aaron's idea and would welcome development of this type of training that their employees could receive virtually within the first few months of employment. Next, WSU will explore creating a small group to explore this further to help develop the content, schedule, etc. In the discussion, an interest in a similar orientation for Commissioners was discussed and it was shared that have been some conversations about this but no path forward for Commissioners has yet been identified.

### **KAC Updates**

Reminded attendees of the resources available to them on the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) website <https://www.kansascounties.org/> and the Kansas Connections list serve. And that

they are the public health voice for their county, so please make sure you are sharing with other county employees the activities happening in your department.

### **Special Session update/HB2754 Implementation Guide**

Randy provided update that the special session was held last week and concluded with action on taxes and sports teams, but no other bills were considered. Committees met on Monday, with the full legislature meeting and adjourning on Tuesday.

Next will be interim committees that may meet in the summer and fall which will be monitored for any topics that may benefit from our voice. But nothing is currently expected.

With the announcement of some legislators who decided not to run for another term, we will see changes in members and in some cases changes in committee leadership. In the House, a key change was the announcement that Rep. Landwehr who chaired the health committee decided to retire. Legislative leadership will be selected, and then committee assignments done by the new leaders, near the end of calendar year 2024.

Randy also referenced the HB2754 implementation materials that were distributed June 5<sup>th</sup> and a copy included in the packet today. He has heard from some members who are working to implement this bill, but is a process that is not easy. In discussion, some members shared their experience working with school superintendents, commissioners and others to consider implementing the opt out provisions allowed by this bill.

### **Executive Director Report**

Randy reported out highlights from the written report that is included with the Board materials.

At the end of May, KALHD did receive and sign the extension offered by KDHE for current KIP funds in state fiscal year 2025. Funds can only be used on currently approved projects, not new projects, and the projected funding of approximately \$91,000 will not be sufficient to sustain all current projects for the year. Randy described that two primary choices exist, continue the member benefits, which could include a 2<sup>nd</sup> Immunization Symposium, or fill the Assistant Director position. As there is not an identified long term funding stream for the AD position, he shared that he recommends sustaining the member benefits and that he has had a preliminary conversation with KDHE about making the necessary budget adjustments to support those activities.

From the group discussion, the number of conferences this year and their impact on health department operations, particularly small departments, was discussed. Several members expressed their desire for changes as is difficult to sustain this level of activity due to costs, staff time, and some members who hear concerns from Commissioners over the amount of travel. KDHE staff offered that they have been discussing these events also and are encouraging other divisions of KDHE to utilize the public health calendar to help space conferences throughout the year instead of being scheduled multiple in a short period of time. Others offered that some conferences could be combined, some may not need to be held annually, some might only need

to be attended by newer staff, and that frequency of virtual meetings should also be reviewed. From this discussion, establishment of a taskforce to look at how to best utilize time of health department staff was identified as a helpful next step. Based on the discussion today, Brie and Randy will work together to form a group to begin working on recommendations to KDHE in this area.

Working to finalize the NACCHO dues invoice with them, and have identified nine local health departments that are current members who did not submit dues for the next year. Those have been notified by email and Randy asked that anyone who has that email to please let him know if they intended to let NACCHO membership expire or not, as need to finalize the invoice in early July.

The payroll vendor, Paychex, made errors again this month resulting in additional fines from the Kansas Department of Revenue. This time, the company has agreed to credit KALHD for that expense.

No word on our bid for a new PHEP contract. Also submitted articles to the Kansas Comment this month to complete requirements of the current contract.

Continued to work with the auditor this month who has indicated that now have all information they need. However, no response was received from the auditor prior to this meeting to indicate if they are on schedule to present that report at our July Board meeting or if that may need to be delayed until September.

### **Open Discussion**

Peyton Kessler asked about the possibility of working with the Legislature to amend K.S.A. 65-201a regarding the medical consultant. She shared that nurse practitioners can now practice stand alone, and in SE Kansas cannot find licensed practitioners who meet the current statute, but do have nurse practitioners who could fill the obligation if allowed under the law. Others commented that this is a challenge in their parts of the state also. Randy offered to include this in the discussions this fall of the legislative committee for consideration as part of our 2025 legislative agenda.

Kendra Walsh shared that the Immunization Symposium was very well put together and thanked those who planned that event.

### **Adjournment**

Brie adjourned the meeting at 11:51 a.m.