



Board of Health Minutes
South Heartland District Health Department
Meeting Location: Zoom Conference (Virtual Meeting)
March 3, 2021

Topic, Lead Person	Comments/Actions	Roll Call / Vote
	Staff Present: Michele Bever, Kelly Derby	
	Guest: Dr. Curtis Reimer, Family Medical Center, Hastings Guest: Judy Reimer, Hastings Guest: Teri Clark, NALHD (Zoom moderator)	
	COVID-19 modifications: Zoom conference meeting	
Welcome & Public Comment - Chair	The March 2021 Board of Health meeting was called to order by Board President Nanette Shackelford at 8:30 am	
	Open Meeting Statement read aloud by Board President Nanette Shackelford: Prior to this meeting a notice was posted in the newspapers in Adams, Clay, Nuckolls, and Webster counties. Each member of the Board received a copy of the proposed agenda. The agenda for this meeting was kept continuously current and was available for public inspection at South Heartland District Health Department, 606 N Minnesota Suite 2, Hastings NE. This meeting is being held in open session. A link to the Nebraska Open Meeting Law was posted with Board Agenda on the SHDHD website.	
Determine Quorum	Introductions / Roll Call <i>Quorum met</i>	Present: Fegler-Daiss, Harrington, Kohmetscher, Meyer, Nejezchleb, Neumann, Shackelford, Shaw, Waechter-Mead Absent: Hallock, Keifer, Kleppinger, Stihka, Vance
Approve or Amend Agenda	Board approval of March 3, 2021 Agenda: Motion made by Nejezchleb, Seconded by Fegler-Daiss. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i>	Ayes: All Nays: None
Declare Conflicts of Interest	None declared.	
Public Comments	None declared.	
Approve Minutes	Board approval of January 6, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Kohmetscher, Seconded by Neumann. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i>	Ayes: All Nays: None
Local Community Leaders – Dr. Curtis Reimer, Family Medical Center, Hastings	Dr. Reimer updated the board on his experiences practicing family medicine during the pandemic. He discussed process changes implemented for staff and patient safety, including maintaining a separate entrance for those with symptoms and screening people at the main entrance before allowing entry, and implementing a separate respiratory clinic to preserve PPE. They also implemented more telehealth visits, which is reimbursed by insurance. Dr. Reimer serves as HPS and HC sports medicine advisor; he worked closely with the health department to establish COVID best practices to reduce exposures and partnered on promoting mask policies as schools reopened in the fall. He feels the sports programs in Hastings are an example of how sports can be practiced safely during COVID. He remarked that it is hard to deny how well it is working, including for influenza (flu test use is way down). He mentioned the importance of COVID testing, which was limited at first, but their office utilized the rapid tests, once they were available and never ran out of test kits, though they are now using ones they purchased after the government-offered kits were no longer available. They help extend N-95 mask lifetime with reuse and double masking. FMC is currently in the process of vaccinating their patients, approximately 400 so far, using reverse age approach (at the age 69 now) and patients are excited about the vaccine. They are educating on vaccine safety. Communication with the health department has been helpful in establishing an effective vaccination process. Required documentation for vaccine administration is an issue, but they are managing.	Present: Hallock and Vance arrived during Dr. Reimer's presentation
Bi-Monthly Report on 10	Michele Bever presented highlights of the report, including photos of the vaccine clinics at the Adams County Fairgrounds. She also highlighted the department's accomplishments per each	



<p>Essential Services from Staff – M. Bever</p>	<p>of the 10 Essential Services, which have recently been updated to align with PHAB accreditation requirements. Essential Service #10 has changed most.</p> <p>Board acceptance of Bi-Monthly Report: Motion made by Meyer, Seconded by Harrington. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>
<p>COVID-19 Update – M. Bever</p>	<p>Michele Bever noted that the curve is flattening again, but also that it has plateaued above the target levels. Of further concern are the variants that have just been detected in the state at the same time as restrictions have been lessened. Finally, she wanted to alert the board to an issue of timely reporting of positive test results from long term care facilities and also death confirmations, which are delayed when positive test results are not reported. When ultimately reported, there will be a sudden jump in the numbers of cases and the numbers of deaths on the SHDHD dashboard.</p>	
<p>Finances – K. Derby/M. Bever</p>	<p>Kelly Derby reported that the department is currently cash-heavy due largely to the receipt of COVID funding from the state and federal sources, as well as additional grant funding, specifically designated for COVID vaccinations. The department is actually operating in the black! As a result, the Line of Credit is still untouched. She has created an invoicing process within QuickBooks that has reduced errors in tracking outstanding invoices. There is only one aged outstanding invoice that should clear within the next few days. She would like to investigate best practices for reporting indirect costs, which are not currently visible on standard reports. The department is monitoring the overall budget carefully to determine if another budget hearing might be necessary due to the increased expenses and revenue for COVID response, but we are below that target so far.</p> <p>Board acceptance of the Financial Report: Motion made by Nejezchleb, Seconded by Meyer. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>
<p>Five-Minute Break</p>		<p>Donna Fegler-Daiss left the meeting.</p>
<p>Annual Meeting Business – Chair</p>	<p>Reviewed the County Board reappointments to the Board of Health: Nuckolls: Jean Stichka (public-spirited), Webster: Mirya Hallock (public-spirited); Clay: Dick Shaw (supervisor); Adams: Chuck Neumann (commissioner).</p> <p>Dr. Bever announced willingness of Dr. Timothy Blecha, Superior Family Medical Center, to serve as Physician representative to the Board.</p> <p>Board appointment of Dr. Blecha: Motion made by Meyer, Seconded by Kohmetscher. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p> <p>Committee appointments and terms were presented and reviewed.</p> <p>Board approval of committee assignments: Motion made by Meyer, Seconded by Neumann. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p> <p>Board member attendance was reviewed. The standard is minimum of four meetings per year. Members were also asked to complete the board’s annual paperwork. Dr. Bever will provide electronic access for all annual meeting paperwork (Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality Policy, Board Commitment, and Board performance evaluation survey).</p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p> <p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>
<p>Committee Reports Policy Committee – P. Meyer Finance Committee – C. Neumann</p>	<p>Peggy Meyer summarized the minutes of the February 24, 2021 Policy Committee meeting. The committee plans to present additional updated policies and procedures for approval to the board at the May meeting. She mentioned an increased awareness and focus on the department’s tax-exempt status and the efforts made to comply. She presented Resolution #2021-2 Exempt Employee Compensation, a renewal of last year’s #2020-3 of the same name.</p> <p>Board approval of Resolution #2021-2: Recommendation from Policy Committee, Seconded by Kohmetscher. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p> <p>Peggy asked the board for suggestions regarding how best to support the department when legislative activity requires action. Charles Neumann made a motion to send one letter from the entire board per the Executive Director’s direction, giving time for member opposition to be made known before the letter is sent. Board members stated the importance of letters from</p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>

