



Board of Health Minutes
South Heartland District Health Department
Meeting Location: Adams County Fairgrounds
September 2, 2020

Topic, Lead Person	Comments/Actions	Roll Call / Vote
	Staff Present: Michele Bever, Joe Streufert, Kelly Derby, Janis Johnson	
	Guest: Drew Harris, Director of ESU9 Guest: Senator Dave Murman, District 38 Guest: Senator Steve Halloran, District 33	
	COVID-19 modifications: Board members sat 2 each at 8-foot tables and tables were spaced at least 6 feet apart in the Community Service Building. The board president and executive director sat at separate 8 foot tables facing the other members. Hand sanitizer was available at the entrance. All board members and staff present were wearing masks or cloth face coverings.	
Welcome & Public Comment - Chair	The September Board of Health meeting was called to order by Board President Nanette Shackelford at 8:32 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 & Webster Counties, and that 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 copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Law is available for public's review.	
Determine Quorum	Introductions / Roll Call <i>Quorum met</i>	Present: Brailita, Fegler-Daiss, Hallock, Harrington, Kleppinger, Kohmetscher, Meyer, Nejezchleb, Neumann, Shackelford, Shaw, Stichka, Vance Absent: Keifer, Wachter-Mead
Approve or Amend Agenda	Motion by Kleppinger, Seconded by Meyer to approve Agenda. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i>	Ayes: All Nays: None
Declare Conflicts of Interest	None declared.	
Public Comments	Drew Harris stated that ESU-9 includes all of the schools in the South Heartland Health District plus 4 schools in Central District. He shared with the Board how much assistance SHDHD had provided to schools as they developed and implemented policies and plans for COVID-19 and in guiding the schools through COVID-19 phases. Harris stated that SHDHD exec director was present at weekly meetings with superintendents since March to answer questions and provide guidance. SHDHD helped ESU9 get new masks to replace the poor-quality foam masks previously received from the State. He stated appreciation for the work of Michele and staff.	
Approve Minutes	Board Approval of July 1, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Kohmetscher, Seconded by Nejezchleb. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i>	Ayes: All Nays: None
Local Community Leaders – Senator Dave Murman, District 38, and Senator Steve Halloran, District 33	Senator Murman spoke about the pandemic and the State's response. He talked about the importance of schools being opened as well as long term care facilities and businesses. Education Committee: He helped pass legislation regarding scholarships and initiatives for early career training in middle/high school. His priority bill was a school discipline act, which did not pass, but it would have provided training for Boys Town, de-escalation procedures, guidelines for discipline. HHS Committee: Nursing, Telehealth – disabilities, prescription drugs, Medicaid expansion. Discussed YRTC and disagreement with DHHS moving chemical dependency program from Hastings to Lincoln and bringing the girls program to Hastings. LB 1107 – the "Grand Compromise": Provided some limited property tax relief and narrowly focused and performance-based business incentives. Senator Halloran complemented SHDHD. He spoke against CDC guidance regarding death certificates and an "assumption of COVID." He stated a failed efficacy of masks, citing a research project in South Wales showing that cloth masks were ineffective, N95 masks protect	



	<p>the wearer, and surgical masks need to be changed 3-4 times per day. He spoke about his editorial with Senator Erdmann in April regarding herd immunity which he said was widely criticized. People should live with the virus, and only protect the vulnerable. He says we are weakening our immune response by masking and social distancing. Stated disagreement with state policy on nursing homes, suggesting instead that COVID-infected residents should be moved out, potentially to hospitals. He agreed with Senator Murman that YRTC changes are putting 3 programs at risk with the proposed program moves.</p>	
<p>COVID-19 Status Update – M. Bever</p>	<p>Exec Director Michele Bever reviewed the SHDHD COVID-19 Data Dashboard and provided an overview of the department’s response activities: including PPE/Supplies, Event safety plan review, work with schools (policies/communications protocols), long term care facilities (testing, phased reopening) cases/contact investigations, quarantine/isolation, monitoring, Data management/Analysis/presentation (timeliness, accuracy, completeness, confidentiality), Vulnerable populations and disparities with respect to access to health care, testing and information, Risk Communications/Media, DHM and enforcement activities, providing guidance for implementation of and compliance to DHM, access and barriers to testing (TestNebraska, etc.), surge planning with hospitals, meat processing facilities, mass vaccination strategies, local health department capacity, staffing and surge planning, Communications with DHHS/Governor’s office, Call volumes and request for information, reopening schools and colleges – balancing health protection and education, COVID-19 Risk Dial, health interests vs. social emotional needs vs. economic/Financial/Educational interests.</p>	
<p>Bi-Monthly Report – M. Bever</p>	<p>Dr. Bever reviewed the non-COVID activities that the department is continuing to maintain (following the hiatus in nearly all other activities during the stay home recommendations in the spring). In addition to COVID response, the SHDHD is implementing the following: Immunization clinics/Vaccine for Children, Tai Chi Falls Prevention classes, diabetes prevention classes (virtual), QPR Suicide Prevention training (virtual), School Wellness/Health Kids project, Rural Ag project – 7 individuals completed a virtual UNMC AgriMedicine course, Behavioral Health Network strategic planning, Walkable Communities project, Cancer prevention (colorectal cancer screening), accreditation activities, child lead poisoning prevention, radon awareness/testing, mosquito/arboviral surveillance (West Nile), outreach to veteran’s and their families (VetSet program). She also highlighted the 10 essential services of public health and how COVID-19 response and mitigation activities could be found in all 10 of the essential services. She shared a success story – how the department made a difference working with schools.</p> <p>Board Approval of the Bi-Monthly Report: Motion made by Meyer, Seconded by Brailita. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>
<p>Accreditation Report – J. Johnson</p>	<p>Janis Johnson provided an update on SHDHD’s accreditation status, which was official March 17, 2020. Renewal of accreditation happens every five years, with reports due annually. She reviewed requirements for the annual reports and what the process entails, shared the plaque from PHAB indicating that SHDHD is an Accredited Public Health Department, and presented some statements on the value of accreditation (from the June 2020 “The Value and Impact of Public Health Department Initial Accreditation: A review of quantitative and qualitative data.”). She also indicated the ways that accreditation had assisted the department with the COVID-19 response and thanked the Board for their support through the entire accreditation process.</p>	
<p>Ten-Minute Break</p>	<p><i>Dr. Brailita left, Drew Harris left</i></p>	
<p>Financial Report – J. Streufert</p>	<p>Joe Streufert gave an update to the board on the outstanding invoices and noted that there was no balance on the Line of Credit. He also gave a breakdown of the COVID-19 funding requests and spending from March 1st through August. Joe noted that the department had received \$417,271.95 in funds from the state and had so far spend \$340,185.83. This leaves \$74,086.12 that had not been spent yet. He also reminded the board that any funds left over when the COVID-19 funds run out would need to be paid back the State. If SHDHD is short at the end of the funding, they should be able to submit requests for reimbursement of those expenses. Joe stated that the Accounts Payable, Payroll Summary and bank statements were provided to the board via the board packet.</p> <p>Board Approval of Financial Statements: Motion made by Neumann, Seconded by Hallock. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>
<p>Audit Update – Finance Committee</p>	<p>Joe Streufert reviewed the final audit report from the State Auditor of Public Accounts (APA). He pointed out the strides SHDHD had made from the first audit with the State APA’s office in</p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>



	<p>2018. Joe then went through the findings as well as SHDHD's action plan for rectifying the audit issues.</p> <p>Board Acceptance of the Audit Report: Motion made by Shaw, Seconded by Fegler-Dais. Voice vote. <i>Motion Passed</i></p>	
Communication from Executive Director	<p>Executive Director's report was included in the Board packet. 1) Dr. Bever reviewed the Foundational Capabilities of public health and commented on how responding to the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for sustained support of these foundational capabilities. She referred the white paper from the Public Health Leadership Forum: <i>Developing a Financing System to Support Public Health Infrastructure</i>, which was included in the Board packet. 2) Brief legislative update 3) Financial/Operational/Personnel – Dr. Bever briefed the Board on staffing needs, transitions and shortages; on COVID-19 emergency funding and CARES Act funding; 4) Training opportunities for the Board (Public Health Conference – virtual), her role as moderator for keynote speaker at opening session; 5) Other Work/Life Balance notes.</p>	
Communication from Board Members - Chair	<p>-Nanette Shackelford mentioned the events on the calendar on the back of the Agenda. -Mirya Hallock said there have been no SALBOH meetings to report on.</p>	
Adjournment	<p><i>Motion to adjourn by Fegler-Daiss, Seconded by Kleppinger.</i> <i>Adjourned at 10:27 am.</i> Voice Vote. <i>Motion passed.</i> Next meeting: November 4, 2020 in Clay County</p>	<p>Ayes: All Nays: None</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Signature: Charles F. Neumann Date: Sept. 2, 2020

Charles Neumann, Secretary/Treasurer
Board of Health
South Heartland District Health Department