

MINUTES
Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board
June 19, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board was held Monday, June 19, 2017. Chair Shaun Musick called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Doug Dechairo made a motion to approve the Agenda for June 19, 2017. Vern Norwood provided the second and the motion passed.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 15, 2017

Sandy Praeger made a motion that the Minutes of May 15, 2017, be approved. Doug Dechairo provided the second and the motion passed.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MAY MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Jennie Henault, director of administrative services, reviewed the May Monthly Financial Report. After discussion, Sandy Praeger moved that the May Monthly Financial Report be approved. Vern Norwood provided the second and the motion passed.

Receive Partnership to Improve Community Health (PICH) Subcontractor Reports

Douglas County Food Policy Council

Helen Schnoes, Douglas County food system coordinator, stated the Lawrence School District is working with local farmers to supply food to schools and educate children in the classrooms on nutrition and working in the school gardens. The Lawrence school district also received a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to assist in the development of Farm 2 School programs in conjunction with Baldwin City and Eudora schools. Denise Johnson, curriculum coordinator health and wellness, stated they also received a grant from the Douglas County Community Foundation and LiveWell Lawrence to support opening more gardens and purchasing of tools. Helen and Denise reported schools are increasing field trips to local farms.

Safe Routes to School

Michael Showalter, health promotion specialist, presented on the partnerships and progress on Safe Routes to School in Lawrence. Michael explained the importance of safety for children walking and biking to school and the concerns of parents with the safety of crosswalks. Michael stated we are working with the cities to develop safe routes to school and making it easier for residents to walk, bike and wheel to everyday destinations. Michael stated the “7E’s” of Lawrence-Douglas County are: education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation, engineering, equity and engagement. Michael stated we are also educating children on how to ride bikes and that we depend on community volunteers to help. Maps, crosswalks and biking tips for children and parents to learn are available in the schools and online.

Vicki Collie-Akers, associate director of health promotion research work group for community health and development at the University of Kansas, described the comprehensive approach for evaluation being used. Vicki explained that the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is working to affect several outcomes including increasing daily physical activity among children, youth, and families, increasing the proportion of children walking or biking to and from schools, improving driver behavior, and addressing parents’ perceptions to barriers. Student travel tallies, parent surveys, and direct observations of driver behavior were used to gather data. Vicki stated that the evaluation results indicated that the schools with the largest increases in the number of children biking or walking to and from school are the same schools where multiple activities such as a bike rodeo, bike safety classes and installation of speed bumps were implemented. These schools also saw the greatest improvements in parents’ perception to barriers.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter of Recognition for Linda

The Board signed a Letter of Recognition congratulating Linda Rippetoe for 20 years of service.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Model Practice and Promising Practice Awards

Dee Vernberg, analyst, stated each year the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) accepts applications for model practice awards that recognize outstanding local public health practices from across the nation and shares and promotes these practices among local health departments. Dee reported that she submitted an application describing the Health Department's innovative practices related to our participation on the Million Hearts program, which has as its goal to prevent one million heart attacks and strokes by 2017. This project focuses on intervention to get uncontrolled hypertension in control by treating tobacco dependence, healthy eating, increasing physical activity and monitoring blood pressure. Dee stated the Health Department used our electronic health records to develop metrics specific to public health for screening for possible hypertension and tracking tobacco treatment interventions. With these metrics the Health Department is using quality improvement methods to improve identification of tobacco users, assure that current smokers receive counseling to quit, and identify rate of referring smokers to cessation supports.

Charlotte Marthaler, assistant director, also submitted an application to NACCHO which received a promising practice award. The topic of her application was an evaluation of the Health Department's performance appraisal system (PAS). The PAS is based on employee strengths, organizational values, and skills development through employee-directed personal growth plans supported by supervisors as coaches. After changing to a coaching model of employee development the Health Department was interested in knowing whether this model led to real and identifiable employee growth. The Health Department teamed up with a graduate student earning a Master's in Health Services Administration who planned and carried out the evaluation. In general, staff reported being more satisfied with the PAS than their supervisors. Based on the evaluation we have put in place improved forms and timelines as well as plans for more communication about goal-setting process.

Sanitary Code Final Hearing July 12, 2017

Dan Partridge, director, stated there will be a final hearing to the amendments to the Douglas County Sanitary Code on July 12, 2017. Dan reported the notice of public hearing will be published in the Lawrence Journal World for three weeks prior to the final hearing. Dan stated that in addition to some minor wording changes, the Sanitary Code is being amended to include a setback of 500 feet between neighboring residential homes and sites for land application of septage. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has already approved these changes. The Board of County Commissioners will consider resolution to adopt the Sanitary Code as amended at their meeting on July 12, 2017.

Electronic Health Records (EHR) Vendor Request for Information (RFI)

Dan Partridge, director, stated we are exploring purchasing a new cloud based Electronic Health Record (EHR) system jointly with four other counties. As one of the initial steps a Vendor Request for Information (RFI) was issued and 13 responses were received. After joint review of the proposals, Dan reported that product demonstrations will be scheduled with four vendors; two additional vendors have already provided demonstrations.

Kansas Health Foundation Healthy Communities Initiative Grant Award

Chris Tilden, director of community health, stated that while the Kansas Health Foundation Healthy Communities Initiative Grant wrapped up at the end of May, a new initiative is just beginning. We were one of 20 communities selected for a new grant which will run from July of 2017 through December of 2020 to identify health inequities in Douglas County. A new staff member will be hired related to the grant deliverables.

Strategic Planning

Dan Partridge, director, presented a potential strategic planning process work flow and timeline.

Other New Business

1. The next scheduled Health Board meeting will be Monday, July 17, 2017, at 5 p.m. in the first floor meeting room.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m. on a motion by Doug Dechairo and a second by Vern Norwood.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Partridge
Secretary

Present:	Judy Brynds
	Doug Dechairo
	Shaun Musick
	Vern Norwood
	Sandy Praeger
Other:	Dan Partridge
	Mary Beverly
	Karrey Britt
	Vicki Collie-Akers
	Tammy Franchuk
	Jennie Henault
	Denise Johnson
	Charlotte Marthaler
	Paula Murrish
	Helen Schnoes
	Michael Showalter
	Dee Vernberg