

**MINUTES**  
**Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board**  
**February 15, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The monthly meeting of the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board was held Monday, February 15, 2010. Chair Alan Cowles called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Gerald Pees moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Health Board Minutes of January 25, 2010, and the January 2010 monthly Financial Reports be approved. Paul Liechti provided the second and the motion passed.

**WELLCOMMONS PRESENTATION – JANE STEVENS, LAWRENCE JOURNAL WORLD**

Jane Stevens, Online Strategies Director of the Lawrence Journal-World, presented the Board with a summary of the website “WellCommons,” which focuses on health. Jane said there are four main areas to the site and they are: wellness, trauma, “nosurance,” and “localvores.” Jane invited everyone to get involved and post events on WellCommons for their organization. She said any information an agency posts on Facebook and Twitter can automatically post on WellCommons.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Joint Resolution and Board composition

Dan Partridge provided an update to the Board on changes to the Joint Resolution and the Health Board’s composition. Craig Weinaug, Douglas County Administrator and Dan Partridge, will work with the county counselor to draft a Joint Resolution expanding the Board to 7 members. Commissioner Mike Gaughan’s motion that KU be represented as a

permanent ex-officio member was approved by the commission. The commissioner's also recommended adding additional language to allow for the appointment of future ex-officio members at the discretion of the Health Board.

#### Board appointment recommendations to City and County

Dan Partridge shared three resumes that were sent to the Douglas County commissioners for consideration to serve on the Health Board. Dan stated that the Health Department has not forwarded the city any names for consideration at this time and asked the Board for their direction. The Board discussed what type of expertise and qualifications are desired in new Board members. No formal action was taken.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

1. Dan Partridge reported that Barbara Schnitker, Director of Clinic Services, is retiring effective July 1, 2010. Barbara has been with the Health Department for over 25 years. Dan reviewed with the Board the job description for this position as well as a salary comparison with other health departments and the organizational chart. Karen Shumate stated that people skills are important and that experience could be substituted for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree.
2. Dan Partridge updated the Board on the Air Quality Advisory Committee. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now considering lowering the ozone standard from 75 to 65 parts per billion (ppb). The most recent Douglas County data indicates an ozone level of 73 ppb, which means we will be out of attainment once this new standard goes into effect. The Air Quality Advisory Committee also learned that it is likely that the State of Kansas will be required to install monitoring stations in all cities with a population greater than 50,000. Given these developments several members of the committee feel that the structure of the committee should change to provide for greater flexibility in responding to potential new mandates. A report to the county commission will be made in the near future. Shirley Martin-Smith agreed that an evaluation of the committee change and organization is appropriate.
3. Dan Partridge provided the Board with an update on the LiveWell Lawrence grant application.

4. Dan Partridge reported that the Kansas Immunization Program has been awarded American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding in the amount of \$279,450 to be distributed among the local health departments for varicella vaccination. Douglas County will be receiving \$6,818.00. Dan stated our plan will be to increase routine and catch-up vaccination coverage levels of adolescents. The Health Department plans to do educational outreach with the Douglas County school nurses.
5. Dan Partridge reported that on February 17, 2010, the County Health Rankings will be released by the University of Wisconsin. This report will take the place of a similar Kansas Health Institute report and based upon the differences in measures used will likely rank Douglas County higher.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Alan Cowles requested that the “Director’s Evaluation in January” be added to the Health Board Calendar of Events.
2. Alan Cowles stated that 69% of American adults are overweight or obese.
3. Alan Cowles distributed an article from the American Family Physician titled *Vaccinations in Pregnancy*.

#### **Executive Session – Director’s Annual Performance Review**

This was deferred to the March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Health Board meeting.

#### **Other New Business**

1. The next scheduled Health Board meeting will be held on March 15, 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm on a motion by Karen Shumate and a second by Gerald Pees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Partridge,  
Secretary

Present:        Alan Cowles  
                  Paul Liechti  
                  Gerald Pees  
                  Shirley Martin-Smith  
                  Karen Shumate  
Ex Officio:    Dan Partridge  
Other:         Jeanette Anderson  
                  Karrey Britt  
                  Colleen Hill  
                  Lisa Horn  
                  Charlotte Marthaler  
                  Jane Stevens