

MINUTES
Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board
October 18, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board was held Monday, October 18, 2010. Chair Gerald Pees called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

David Ambler moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Health Board Minutes of September 20, 2010 and the September 2010 monthly Financial Reports be approved. Maley Wilkins provided the second and the motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Lisa Horn, Communications Coordinator, stated the Health Department had their first drive through flu clinic on Saturday, October 16th from 9:00 am to 10:30 am at the University of Kansas Park and Ride lots at the corner of 23rd and Iowa. This was also a public health emergency training exercise for the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department staff, the Douglas County Medical Reserve Corps and community volunteers. Lisa reviewed with the Board a map showing the set-up for the clinic. Lisa reported there were 402 people vaccinated and 55 percent of clients filled out their consent forms before arriving at the clinic. The average time to move through the clinic was 24 minutes with an average of 3 minutes at the vaccination station. Lisa reported there were 70 staff and volunteers working the clinic.

2. Dan Partridge updated the Board on the Community Health Assessment. Dan stated the Health Department signed a contract with the Kansas Health Institute (KHI) for \$7,450 for KHI to complete the data elements of this assessment. The delivery date is for the end of November, 2010.
3. Letters of Recognition acknowledging Richard Ziesenis for 20 years of service and Maria Ana Garza for 5 years of service were distributed and signed by the Board.
4. Dan Partridge distributed a letter addressed to Gerald Pees, Health Board Chair, from the Department of Health and Human Services thanking him for his recent letter regarding the Board's interest in the Prevention and Public Health Fund to strengthen public health infrastructure.
5. Jennie Henault, Director of Administrative Services, stated that with the change in banks to People's Bank the Health Department needs new authorization signature cards signed by Gerald Pees, Chair and Paul Liechti, Treasurer. Gerald Pees signed the bank signature card. Staff will follow-up with Paul Liechti to receive his signature.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Current and Projected Roles and Responsibilities for the Department

Dan Partridge reviewed the Health Department's organization chart from April of 2009. This organizational chart shows how the Health Department responded to budget cuts and that some positions were left vacant to cut costs. In July of 2009, the Health Department lost the Teen Pregnancy Case Management (TPCM) grant and the Maternal and Child Health Coordinator position was eliminated. This staff person was reassigned to a nursing clinic vacancy. Environmental Health had a reduction in force by two when they lost the food service contract. The Director of Clinic Services has the responsibility of supervising many staff. In order to free up time for the Director of Clinic Services, the Clinic Coordinator position was created and hired from within. That person resigned and the Clinic Coordinator position was not filled. From State Fiscal Year 2007 to State Fiscal Year 2011, the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) grant has been reduced from \$170,000 to \$65,000. The Tobacco Program Manager resigned and this position was left vacant. Other changes in 2010 were the integration of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH)

program with Kansas Children Service League (KCSL) Healthy Families America program. The Health Department also added 0.1 FTE to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutritionist position to support LiveWell Lawrence. Dan reported we are currently recruiting for the Project LIVELY Coordinator position.

Dan Partridge reviewed a one page summary of the driving forces of change on the local, state and federal levels. On the local level, **Healthy Families of Douglas County:** the integration of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) staff and Kansas Children Service League (KCSL) staff to become Healthy Families of Douglas County. The program goal is 100 families in Douglas County and a caseload for 1 FTE is 15 families. **CHIP:** The Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) is developing a new business plan. The Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) grant will become the responsibility of the Health Department. Lawrence Memorial Hospital will assume full responsibility for funding the CHIP executive director. The Tobacco Prevention Specialist position will be integrated into the Health Department. **Accreditation Preparation:** the minimum requirements that must be in place prior to applying for accreditation are community health assessment, community health plan, strategic plan and a quality improvement plan. Documentation, work force development and redefining staff responsibilities are some of the key issues to be addressed. **LiveWell Lawrence:** the Douglas County Community Foundation is working on their strategy for sustainability and is seeking a lead agency. The Health Department is trying to determine our role in the LiveWell Lawrence coalition. **Future City and County Funding Allocations:** the general trend in funding has been to provide level funding for operations with any changes up or down being driven by insurance costs. Dan Partridge stated in the past he has met with commission candidates during the election cycle. Dan asked the Board what is the best way to advocate for public health with policymakers. Maley Wilkins proposed that the Board consider taking a more active role in advocating for public health. **Community Projects:** the Health Department needs to continue to reach out to and engage the community as issues arise.

On the state level, **Future State Budget Allocation:** state revenue collections were up slightly for the first quarter, but revenue projections were modest to begin with. We should be realistic on what to expect from the state. There are many other interests competing for state dollars. State grants considered at-risk are Aid to Local and the Local Environmental Protection Plan (LEPP). **Future State Leadership:** with a new governor and potentially a new Secretary of Health and Environment their vision of public health will likely drive public health initiatives over the next four years. **New Child Care Licensing Law:** Kansas

passed a new law eliminating registered day cares effectively increasing the number of required inspections by approximately 40 percent. State licensing fees increased but the funding increase may not be sufficient to offset the increased workload. If the Health Department were to add staff we would need to either increase local fees or increase local tax support. Our ability to generate local fee revenue is hampered by the lack of local authority to mandate payment. **Family Planning:** the 2010 budget for Family Planning is \$346,392. Of this amount, \$156,560 is grant, \$102,413 is city/county, and \$87,419 are from fees. Pharmaceutical and labor costs continue to rise and efforts to increase state and federal funding for family planning programs have been unsuccessful. Many local health departments have dropped Family Planning due to the challenges experienced in collecting sufficient fee revenue. **Cost Shifting from State to Local Health Departments:** over the past few years, lab and shipping costs have been passed on to local health departments. We should expect that under the current state financial environment that other costs might also be shifted.

On the national level, **Health Information Exchange:** there is a major federal push to move the health care industry to electronic medical records. A committee to develop a health information exchange for Kansas has been appointed by the Governor with one public health member. With access to new data, the capacity to analyze data sets and identify links between provider practices/public behaviors and health outcomes will need to be strengthened. **Accreditation:** the timeline for rolling out a national accreditation program remains spring of 2011. Applications for accreditation will likely exceed the Public Health Accreditation Board's (PHAB) ability to process them and it will take several years for the process to mature. The cost is yet to be determined and final standards have not been published yet. The Board's goal for accreditation should be part of our strategic plan. **Health Care Reform:** the new law provides for significant new funding for public health, however, most of this money appears to be allocated to community based initiatives. Most new money will likely flow down through community impact grants requiring community partnerships and mobilization. A solid community health plan will enhance our ability to successfully bring in new funding. The Health Department needs to determine what role public health data plays in how accountable care organizations distribute future Medicaid/Medicare payments. **The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Operational Definition of a Functional Local Health Department:** this serves as a guiding force for accreditation and is based upon the Institute of Medicine's essential public health services model. Our challenge is that many parts of the framework are not funded. Dan attached a copy of the Community Health Forum Open Ended Questions

Responses. These results were the community's thoughts on which of the essential services they felt were most important for the Health Department to provide.

Other New Business

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm on a motion by Maley Wilkins and a second by David Ambler.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Partridge,
Secretary

Present: David Ambler
Amy Biel
Gerald Pees
Carol Seager
Maley Wilkins
Ex Officio: Dan Partridge
Other: Karrey Britt
Charlie Bryan
Jennie Henault
Colleen Hill
Lisa Horn
Charlotte Marthaler