



**February 2, 2021**  
**Board of Health Minutes**  
**Two Rivers Public Health Department**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	
X		Dan Lynch-Buffalo County Commissioner
X		Sue Hunter – Buffalo County Citizen
X		Dennis Rickertsen – Dawson County Commissioner
X		Nicole Thorell –Dawson County Citizen
X		Scot Grams – Franklin County Supervisor
	X	Mike Dallmann – Franklin County Citizen
	X	Glenn Hofman – Gosper County Supervisor
X		Patty Bader – Gosper County Citizen
X*		Cindy Boehler – Harlan County Supervisor
X		Doris Brandon – Harlan County Citizen
X*		Wayne Anderson – Kearney County Supervisor
X*		Cody Krull – Kearney County Citizen
X*		Barb Malm – Phelps County Commissioner
X*		Lori Reiner – Phelps County Citizen
X*		Dr. Brady Beecham – Physician
	X	Dr. Melissa Drain – Veterinarian
X*		Dr. Katherine Goodwin – Dentist
	X	Cecelia Perales – Minority Representative
	X	Nicole Buettner – Midlevel Practitioner

Also, present: TRPHD representatives: Jeremy Eschliman – Health Director; Misti Raburn-Administrative Assistant, Von Lutz-Health Educator, Haleigh Cunningham-Health Educator; Katie Mulligan\*-Planning Section Supervisor; Jodi Sowl-Community Health Nurse; Chris Fankhauser – Healthcare Coalition Coordinator, Aravind Menon – Epidemiologist; Anne Nau – Community Health Nurse, Jesse Valenti\* – Finance Manager

Recognized members of the public and other guests also present (in person or virtually): Tana Fye Henry\* Legal Counsel, Darrin Lewis\* – Buffalo County EMA, Renae Jacobson\* – nurse with CHI-Good Samaritan.

\*Attended virtually via Zoom

## **CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**

**The Board of Health (BOH) meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM virtually via Zoom with Hunter, Lynch, Rickertsen, Thorell, Grams, Bader, Boehler, Brandon, Anderson, Krull, Malm, Reiner, Goodwin, Beecham, Eschliman, Mulligan, Valenti, Menon, Cunningham, Lutz, and Raburn present in the Kearney office. Meeting was called to order by Hunter.** Hunter acknowledged the Nebraska Open Meeting Law was posted in the room with booklets available.

**Meeting notices:** Hunter noted the meeting notice publication has occurred in newspapers of record within each county of the district, in addition to an agenda being continually current and available at the TRPHD offices and on the TRPHD website.

Roll call completed by Raburn; 14 members present at time of roll call.

## **MATERIAL AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY PRIOR TO THE MEETING & AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING**

- Financials
  - 1.28.21 Finance Meeting Packet
    - 0620 Two Rivers Public Health Dept Final Copy (2019-2020)
    - BOH Financials – November & December 2020
    - Finance Committee Meeting Agenda 1.28.2021
    - Finance Committee Meeting Minutes 12.1.2020
    - Proposal – TRPHD (Dana F. Cole)
    - Proposal – TRPHD (Lutz)
    - TRPHD – Dana F. Cole AU-C 260 Letter
  - Additions to Packet 2.1.21
    - Director evaluation 2020 blank
    - Test site by weekly results with %
- 12.2.1 A (1) PHAN Board of Health handbook to Local Health Department to roles
- 2020 NACO President's Award
- 2021 BOH Meeting Schedule
- BOH 2.2.21\_AM
- BOH 2021-2023 Terms and Committees updated
- BOH 2021-2023 Terms and Committees
- BOH Meeting Minutes December 1, 2020
- ByLaws Updated 2-4-20
- COVID Visuals
- Crossroads Mission Avenue Letter 1.14.21
- Director evaluation 2020 blank
- Effect of Vaccination on preventing influenza associated hospitalizations 2019-2020
- February 2, 2021 BOH agenda
- NebraskaCaNeedsAssesmentAnnouncement

Eschliman introduced new Board Member, noting in person meet | greet postponed due to pandemic: Dan Lynch- having filled BOH Buffalo Commissioner position, attending board meeting and Glenn Hofman having filled BOH Gosper Supervisor position not present today. Lynch said he is excited to be on the board this year.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA.** Motion made by Thorell, seconded by Brandon to approve agenda as presented. **Roll call vote, 14 ayes, 0 nays: Motion carried.**

Discussion was made about the current officers: Sue Hunter – President; Wayne Anderson – Vice President; Cody Krull – Treasurer; Nicole Thorell – Secretary willing to continue service as Board of Health Officers for Two Rivers Public Health Department at the request of the consensus of board

**REORGANIZATION.** Approval of officers, committee members, and board member terms.

**Approval of Officers:** Motion made by Rickertsen, second by Bader to retain current officers Roll call vote, 14 ayes, 2 abstain {Hunter and Anderson) motion carried. [Hunter and Anderson both abstained from voting for themselves, voted aye on the other officer members]

**Board of Directors:** Renewal of terms and appointments. Discussion was made that only Dentist, Physician, Veterinarian, Mid-level Practitioner, Minority Representative need to be voted for renewal as others are appointed by county boards.

Motion made by Lynch, second by Krull to approve current slate of board members for additional 3 years. Roll call vote, 14 ayes, motion carried.

**Review of current committees:** Eschliman discussed adding 2 new members to the Policy Committee. Brandon said she would serve on the policy committee. Committee appointments for 2021:

Executive Committee-Hunter, Anderson, Krull, Thorell;  
Personnel Committee-Hunter, Thorell, Buettner, Lynch;  
Finance Committee-Anderson, Hunter, Krull, Dallmann;  
Policy Committee-Hunter, Bader, Brandon;  
Clinical Services Committee-Beecham, Thorell, Goodwin, Hunter;  
Advocacy Committee-Beecham, Buettner, Krull, Goodwin

**Review and Approval of 2021 Board Meeting Schedule.**

Board member opinion to revisit moving regular meetings across all counties post pandemic.

Motion made by Thorell, second by Rickertsen to approve the 2021 Board Meeting Schedule.

**Roll call vote, 14 Ayes, 0 nays.**

**Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2020 MEETING.** Motion made by Thorell, second by Rickertsen to approve minutes from December 1, 2020 meeting. **Roll call vote, 8 ayes, 0 nays, 6 Abstain (Lynch, Thorell, Grams, Bader, Boehler, Brandon): Motion carried.**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Presentation by staff to board ensued.

Factors that affect health-changing behavior is one of the key things we do such as masking. It is more complicated than going to a doctor and getting a pill. The number of COVID cases is going down. The governor's office sets the priority populations and the timeline on who is to receive the vaccine. In our chart we have no longer symptomatic instead of recovered because there have been some lasting symptoms for many individuals. We will not know the extent until later. 2.94% of the TRPHD area has been vaccinated so far. Majority of vaccines have gone to partners in the districts to vaccinate priority populations. Vaccines: Pfizer and Moderna are said to be highly effective and additional vaccines are waiting for FDA approval.

## **Old Business**

No old business noted from the board

## **New Business**

### **Discussion of annual board member forms and training**

Eschliman discussed history of annual board member forms (dating back to at least 2017). Tana Fye reviewed the forms in detail asking for potential modifications.

Motion by Lynch, second by Thorell instructing Eschliman to request necessary board member forms at orientation and review for changes annually as needed. **Roll call vote, 14 ayes, 0 nays**

### **Recommendation to approve November and December 2020 Financial report.**

Valenti presented 2020-2021 budget key items, monthly financials, and answered questions.

Motion by Thorell, second by Brandon to approve November and December 2020 Financial report. **Roll call vote, 14 ayes, 0 nays.**

### **Recommendation to approve 2019-2020 Financial audit.**

Valenti presented 2019-2020 Financial audit and Krull discussed recommendations by Finance committee to approve.

Motion by Lynch, second by Rickertsen to approve 2019-2020 Financial audit. **Roll call vote, 14 ayes, 0 nays**

## **Discussion of legislative advocacy / potential actions**

**Recommendation to Allow Advocacy Committee to review legislature.**

Eschliman discussed formation of advocacy committee based on previous board discussion with intent to review issues of advocacy as needed. Eschliman discussed previous board legislative priorities and pending bills:

- Local control of Directed Health Measures (LB637 Vargas HHS Committee)
- Open meetings act allowance for perpetual virtual meetings (LB83 Flood Government committee)
- Additional sustainable funding for local health districts (LB585 Vargas Appropriations)
- Telehealth services policy advancement (Congressman Smith's office, Senator William's office).

Motion by Thorell, second by Bader to approve Eschliman to advocate for the board priorities and associated legislative bills. **Roll call vote, 14 ayes, 0 nays.**

Discussion of Health Director evaluation

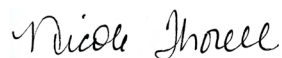
Hunter presented health director evaluation previously used and asked for potential revisions. Consensus of board to utilize current Health Director evaluation tool, with Health Director evaluations due to Hunter by March 1, 2021.

**Public Comment.** The board accepted public comments.

**Adjournment:** Motion made by Beechum and second by Lynch to adjourn. The Two Rivers Public Health Department Board of Health meeting was called to adjourn by consensus at 8:43 PM by Hunter.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: April 6, 2021, 516 W 11<sup>th</sup> St Kearney.**

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Thorell,  
Secretary (MR/JE)