

**NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**MINUTES – June 17, 2019**

**ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION.** A regular meeting of the State Board of Health was called to order by the Vice Chair, Dr. Wayne Stuberger, at 1:00 PM on June 17, 2019 in Conference Room Lower Level C of the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln. Copies of the agenda were mailed to board members, news media, and other interested parties prior to the meeting, and posted on the Health and Human Services website. The following members were present: Joel Bessmer, MD; Kevin Borchert, PharmD, RP; Shane Fleming, MSN, RN; Michael Hansen, FACHE; Russell Hopp, DO; Diane Jackson, APRN; Debra Parsow; Wayne Stuberger, PhD, PT; Doug Vander Broek, DC; and Joshua Vest, DPM. Quorum met.

Members not in attendance: Kevin Low, DD; Travis Teeter, MD; Jeromy Warner, PsyD, LP (attended morning committee meetings).

Staff and others attending: Ron Briel, Matt Gelvin, Monica Gissler, Marla Scheer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA.** Dr. Stuberger asked if there were any changes to the agenda for the meeting today. Dr. Hopp made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Hansen; voting yes: 10 (Bessmer, Borchert, Fleming, Hansen, Hopp, Jackson, Parsow, Stuberger, Vander Broek, Vest); voting no: 0; not voting: 0. Motion carried.

Dr. Stuberger then asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the April 29, 2019 meeting. Dr. Vander Broek made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Borchert; voting yes: 10 (Bessmer, Borchert, Fleming, Hansen, Hopp, Jackson, Parsow, Stuberger, Vander Broek, Vest); voting no: 0; not voting: 0. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE** – Darrell Klein, Deputy Director.

Mr. Klein was unable to attend due to a meeting with Federal representatives from Region VII, so other Deputy Directors reported on his behalf.

Mark Pyle is the Deputy Director for Community Health and his areas include Health Promotion, Life Span, and Emergency Preparedness.

Ashley Newmyer is the Deputy Director for Health Data and her areas include Vital Records, and Informatics.

**LEGISLATIVE LIAISON UPDATE** – Bryson Bartels was unable to attend, but provided a written summary of DHHS bills this session.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT.** Dr. Stuberger, Vice Chair, reported the following:

1. No members had recently attended any professional board meetings.

It is important that you let Monica know in advance when you plan to attend a meeting, and if you plan to attend the entire meeting or just a portion. If the meeting includes a working lunch, a lunch will not be ordered for you, unless specific arrangements are made. When you arrive at the meeting, please make a point of introducing yourself to the Board staff.

2. There is hope that a new Chief Medical Officer will be appointed soon. Hopefully with this person in place, the Governor will be ready to make some appointments to the Board of Health. For those members with terms expiring this August, if you are eligible for reappointment and intend to seek it, now is the time to get your Application for Executive Appointment submitted.
3. We will hold our September 16<sup>th</sup> Board of Health meeting in Columbus. Professional Board interviews will be conducted the day before. Monica will send an email inquiring about hotel reservations.
4. DHHS has requested that we schedule special meetings in October and December in order to manage the anticipated Rules and Regulations workload. If we don't need them, we can cancel the meetings. We might also need the October meeting to conduct some Professional Board interviews. Monica will send out a Doodle poll to see which dates work best. It is important that we have at least a quorum of nine members at each meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

**Rules and Regulations Committee** – Mr. Hansen, Committee Chair, reported.

- The Licensure Unit Regulation Status Report was shared. Kris Chiles attended to address questions. Special Board of Health meetings will be scheduled in October and December to accommodate the high volume of regulations expected. Staff have been hard at work

**Credentialing Review (407) Committee** – Ms. Parsow, Committee Chair, presented. The EMS review had a public hearing on June 5, 2019.

- # Recommendations on the EMS Community Paramedicine Proposal and the EMS Critical Care Paramedic Proposal.

The full text of the applicants' proposal can be found under the EMS subject area on the credentialing review program link at

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review.aspx>

The members of the technical review committee recommended approval of the EMS Community Para-medicine Proposal by a vote of four to two. The committee members recommended approval of the EMS Critical Care Paramedic Proposal by a vote of six to zero.

The Board of Health Credentialing Review Committee met on June 5<sup>th</sup> and the morning of June 17<sup>th</sup>. They did not have enough members present to form recommendations. This item will carry over to September.

- Art Therapy. No action has been taken yet.

- Physician Assistant. The first meeting was held on May 30, 2019. Next meeting is scheduled for June 24. Dr. Stuberg is Chair of the Technical Review Committee.

Credentialing Review new website: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review.aspx>

**Professional Boards Committee.** Dr. Warner, Committee Chair, reported.

There are 54 planned professional board interviews for 2019; some were held on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Professional Board interviews will be held on September 15, 2019 in Columbus, and in Lincoln in November. As always, we are in need of public members.

More information is available on the Vacancy website, for current and upcoming vacancies: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Board-Requirements-and-Vacancies.aspx>

**Public Health, Education and Legislation Committee:** Mr. Fleming, Committee Chair, reported. They discussed the status of legislative bills.

- Legislative Bills introduced in the 2019 session were reviewed.
- Legislative Luncheon. The Committee proposed we skip the January 2020 Legislative Luncheon, and try to get on the DHHS Presentation agenda to the HHS Legislative Committee. Dr. Stuberg will reach out.
- Emergency Voting and Ratification. If an emergency situation exists and warrants us taking an emergency vote via electronic means, we have to ratify that vote at our next regular meeting. It is important for board members to remember how they voted, and why, and be consistent.
- Education. We will request Dr. Van Patten to attend our November meeting to discuss Medicaid expansion that will be effective October 1, 2020.
- Professional Boards. This last session, the Board of Health took a position on a bill that conflicted with a professional board. We will send out an email in November to all of the professional board chairs asking them to communicate their legislative priorities to us. We also need our own professional board liaisons to talk with the boards when they attend meetings and see what, if any, legislative plans and positions they might have.

**Approval of Committee Reports.** Dr. Hopp made a motion to approve the Committee Reports, with a second by Ms. Jackson. Call for vote on motion to approve - voting yes: 10 (Bessmer, Borchert, Fleming, Hansen, Hopp, Jackson, Parsow, Stuberg, Vander Broek, Vest); voting no: 0; not voting: 0. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS.** None.

**NEW BUSINESS.** Board of Health By-Laws. Ms. Gissler discussed the Super Majority vote required in the By-Laws when the Board takes a position on legislation. According to

the By-Laws, they will be reviewed every five years. The current version was passed in June 2014. A Committee consisting of Dr. Bessmer, Dr. Borchert, Dr. Vander Broek, Dr. Teetor and Dr. Stuberger was formed to review the current By-Laws and present them at the September 16, 2019 meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.** None.

**TOPICS AND PREPARATION FOR NEXT MEETING.** The next regular Board of Health meeting will be September 16, 2019 at the Columbus Community Hospital in Columbus.

**ADJOURN.** There being no further business, Dr. Borchert made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Dr. Vest, all in favor by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:26 PM. Minutes were taken by Monica Gissler. These minutes were approved by the State Board of Health on September 16, 2019.

- Board of Health remaining meeting dates for 2019:  
September 16 in Columbus  
November 18  
Special meetings to be scheduled for October 28 and December 16, 2019
- At our September 16, 2019 meeting we will schedule our 2020 meeting dates.

***NOTE:*** If you would like to receive these minutes electronically instead of receiving a hard copy, please send a request to the email address below. Please also inform staff if you would like to be removed from this distribution list altogether.

*If you would like any attachments mentioned in these minutes, or have other questions, please contact Monica Gissler, 402/471-6515, Fax 402/471-0383, or email at: [monica.gissler@nebraska.gov](mailto:monica.gissler@nebraska.gov).*

Board of Health: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Board-of-Health.aspx>

9/16/19, mcg