MEETING MINUTES
Tulsa City-County Board of Health
February 17, 2021 at 6:00pm
Teleconference
Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1(650)2424929
+1(720)9027700 (US Central)

Board Members Present:
Ann Paul, DrPH; Chair
Mike Jones, DVM; Chair
Regina Lewis, DO
Krystal Reyes, MPA
Sarah-Anne Schumann, MD, MPH
Mike Stout, PhD

Staff Present:
Bruce Dart, PhD, Executive Director
Reggie Ivey, Chief Operating Officer
Chanteau Orr, Legal Counsel
Scott Buffington, Employee Resources & Development
Priscilla Haynes, Preventative Health
Leanne Stephens, Marketing & Communication
Kelly VanBuskirk, Health Data & Policy
Jumao Wang, Finance Department
Monica Rogers, Information Systems
Makeda Thompson, Executive Assistant

Others Present:
Craig Legener, Stanfield & O'Dell
Paul Wolfenberger, Stanfield & O'Dell
Scott Adkins, Legislative Consultant
I. Call to Order and Welcome

Ann Paul called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

The meeting notice and agenda were posted at the James Goodwin Health Center, the North Regional Health and Wellness Center, and the Tulsa City-County Health Department (THD) website, and emailed to the Tulsa County Clerk, the Tulsa City Clerk, and the Tulsa City-County Library on February 12, 2021.

 Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Ann Paul entertained a motion to approve the January 20, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Sarah-Anne Schumann and seconded by Dr. Mike Stout. The January 20, 2021 minutes were approved:

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<td>Ms. Reyes</td>
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<td>Dr. Evans</td>
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<td>Dr. Jones</td>
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<td>Ms. Boyer</td>
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<td>Mrs. Odom</td>
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<td>Dr. Schumann</td>
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II. Chair’s Report

"We have all known the long loneliness, and we have found that the answer is community."

Dorothy Day, journalist, NYNY, 1897-1980

While “surfing” my phone last week, I came across a photo I’d taken of the Tulsa World front page headline on Saturday, March 7, “COVID-19 IN TULSA: Tulsa man tests positive after returning from Italy; Virus has infected more than 100,000 worldwide.” The 1-year anniversary of the first Tulsa case will occur before our next board meeting. In Tulsa County we are now at nearly 70% of the worldwide cases a year ago. Oklahoma statewide cases as of today are 4 times that worldwide count (415,858). It has been a “long loneliness.”

The evolution and scale of the pandemic is mind-boggling. It’s important that we retain our local governance and influence to respond to public health crises. Our community’s perception of the responsiveness of the Tulsa City County Health Department was made manifest in the “Tulsa of the Year” recognition of Dr. Bruce Dart by the Tulsa World on December 5, 2020, and not
surprisingly Dr. Dart recognized his team as a "critical part of the equation." In the US, A health crisis of this magnitude has never been experienced in our lifetime, so it is disingenuous for people to say they could have done better, or that we would be better off with a state-controlled political appointee to the executive director post, as proposed by Oklahoma House Bill 2804.

And now, the challenge is coordinating vaccine administration within the allocations designated by the state that do not account for our service to the region. With such restrictions, it becomes particularly challenging to address our vulnerable populations. I ask our board members to help carry forward in our community the message that our supply is still restricted, and that we need resolution soon to help those most in need.

Thank you Dr. Dart and our THD associates for your unwavering dedication to returning health to Tulsa County residents so that we can once again engage in a personal way in our community, recover from the "long loneliness," and continue our work as a locally governed and funded entity building bridges in our community to help the most vulnerable, acting based on what the data show and without deference for political pressure.

III. CURRENT BUSINESS - Information Items:

FY20 Audit Report - Paul Wolfenberger & Craig Legener from Stanfield & O' Dell

Paul Wolfenberger explained the Audit covered the time period from June 30, 2020, and 2019. They concluded THD had a clean audit and full compliance with federal regulations. The Audit did not relieve THD management of its responsibility to provide accurate statements and maintain internal controls. The auditors were glad to report they had no disagreements with THD management.

As part of the Audit, they reviewed and tested internal financial controls. They tested the processes for handling cash, purchase orders, payroll, and management of federally funded programs.

Highlights in the financial statement

- The Department's government functions are reported in the general and capital project funds. The general fund, the chief operating fund of the Department, reported a balance of $22,592,171, which was $1,634,297 and $4,218,332 more than the fiscal year 2019 and 2018 respectively.

- The most significant change was in pension accounts. The Department reported total assets and deferred outflows of resources of $53,679,819, $46,731,686, and $41,443,806 for the years ended June 30, 2020, 2019 and 2018, respectively. Of that total, $14,597,462, $13,710,030, and $14,048,914, respectively, or approximately 27.2 percent, 29.3 percent, and 33.9 percent, respectively, is in the form of capital assets, comprised primarily of the agency's investment in its three regional health centers.

- Paul Wolfenberger stated that the Tulsa Health Department is very healthy financially.
Dr. Ann Paul thanked Reggie Ivey, Chief Operating Officer, and Jumbo Wang, Finance Director. Paul Wolfenberger thanked Jumbo Wang for her stewardship of THD resources and for being thorough and responsive during the auditing process.

Dr. Ann Paul entertained a motion to accept the FY20 Audit. A motion was made by Dr. Mike Jones and seconded by Dr. Regina Lewis. The FY20 Audit was approved:

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IV. THD Reports/Action Items

A. Public Health Threats and/or Opportunities: COVID-19 Update

Kelly VanBuskirk talked about how the different operations were occurring, which is the communications that Leanne Stephens and her team have been doing a fantastic job since the pandemic started. On January 29, 2020, was the first time that the word coronavirus appeared on the Tulsa Health Department website. There have been 2,097,710 website visits; 1,753,291 visits were from unique individuals across the globe. It’s an average of 5,000 visits a day. She also talked about the total number of calls received at the Tulsa Health Department in February, which was significantly lower than in January. It seems that people are calling because they have questions about the vaccine or to get signed up for a vaccine.

The number of COVID-19 tests and positives has declined in February compared to January. Kelly stated that she hopes it’s because fewer people are getting infected, and so they’re not seeking testing. The Tulsa Health Department will only be operating one day a week at the Swab Pod, which will be on Tuesdays. Because of the decline in the numbers, we are seeing less than 100 people when the Swab Pod is open for a 4 to 5 hour period. There are other locations throughout the community that is doing testing, and they continue to do testing. The average monthly positivity rate has been declining in February.

Kelly showed the Tulsa Health Department Interactive Data Dashboard and thanked Monica Rogers and her team. Kelly spoke briefly on the fact that Oklahoma is in Phase 2. Phase 2 consist of
the first responders, healthcare workers providing direct COVID Outpatient Care and Services, Adults age 65 and older, and adults of any age with comorbidities, teachers, and Staff in Pre-K-12 schools and educational settings, Staff and residents in Congregate locations, and Worksites, and public health staff supporting front line efforts. The Tulsa Health Department is using the COVID-19 Vaccine Scheduler portal. Kelly also thanked Reggie Ivey and Carrie Suns for making sure the Swab Pods, COVAX Pod, and Phone Bank are fully staffed.

B. Community/Health Improvement: COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution

Ellen talked about the immunity across the community would be the number of people or the percentage of people who are fully protected. In Tulsa County there are over 500,000 individuals who are over the age of 16 and 6.1% of those individuals completed the vaccinated series. There are 96,463 individuals over the age of 65 in Tulsa County and of those 14.6% have a completed series of the vaccine. The vaccine is effective it’s about 95% effective after both doses. The Tulsa Health Department has been really working hard to reschedule a lot of the clinics wanting to make a priority for the second doses in Tulsa, County and for those that had their original appointments scheduled. Ellen also stated that the Tulsa Health Department has been relying on their community partners Passport Health has been reaching out. They’re also doing some clinics with Asbury Methodist United Church. The Caring Van went to four North Tulsa churches and provided the initial vaccine.

The Tulsa Health Department will be relying on some of their community partners to vaccinate the teachers. For the teachers that were over 65 the county was divided up St. Francis covered some, Total Wellness, the Caring van, and the Tulsa Health Department covered some schools based off of where they were located.

C. Emerging Issues: Ad Hoc Equity Committee

Dr. Mike Stout talked about Adverse Childhood experience (ACEs). He spoke of a study on Adverse Childhood Experiences. (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9635069/) that looked at how childhood adversity affects adults’ health outcomes, mortality, and early death. The reason that the Ad Hoc Equity Committee chose to start their series of conversations about Health Equity, ACE’s, and childhood trauma. It is a significant contributor to a lot of the health disparities and a lot of the economic and social disparities which we see in Oklahoma.

Dr. Stout also talked about the 10 ACE’s: Verbal abuse, Physical Abuse, Sexual, Abuse, Physical Neglect, Emotional Neglect, Witness IPV, and Substance Abuse in Home, Separated/Divorced Parents, Family Member Incarcerated, Family Member Mentally Ill or Suicidal. There are three categories Abuse, Neglect, and Household Dysfunction. A questionnaire is usually given to an adult to answer. (https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/03/02/387007941/take-the-ace-quiz-and-learn-what-it-does-and-doesnt-mean)
Dr. Stout also talks about Nadine Burke Harris's video called "How childhood trauma affects health across a lifetime." Dr. Stout expounds on how ACE's, childhood toxic stress, and childhood trauma affect people physiologically and neurologically. Oklahoma is a high ACEs state, and we live in a high ACEs country. It's essential to understand the effect of trauma and adversity that kids in Oklahoma experience as they grow up. Mitigating or preventing those events can help close the gap in life expectancy, dealing with other health disparities such as chronic illnesses and suicide rates. Oklahoma parents were surveyed about ACEs in 2019 32% of children in Oklahoma experience economic hardship, which ranks Oklahoma 48th out of the 50 states. 31% of children have parents who got divorced, and Oklahoma is ranked 50th out of the 50 states. 13% of children live in a household with a parent that abused alcohol or drugs, which ranks Oklahoma 49th out of the 50 states. 9% experienced interpersonal violence or violence in the home. Oklahoma is ranked 50th out of the 50 states. 15% of children had an incarcerated parent, which ranks Oklahoma 45th out of the 50 states. Oklahoma's highest incarceration is women, and 80% of the women in Oklahoma that are in prison have at least one child. 29% experience two or more ACEs.

Dr. Stout talked about significant events in Tulsa's history that potentially contributed to intergenerational trauma throughout the community, such as the 1921 race massacre. Dr. Regina Lewis talked about segregation in Tulsa not only from North to South but East to West. She also spoke about the lack of resources readily available to people in North Tulsa. Dr. Lewis talked about food deserts in North Tulsa compared to the different areas in Tulsa. She also expounded on the lack of resources, information, and how long it might take someone in North Tulsa to get to the grocery store or hospital versus someone who may live in an area where all of those things are in close proximity to where they live. Lastly, Dr. Stout talked about a strategy that could bring the ACEs down by dealing with those disparities caused by social determinants, and hopefully, those changes will come along with that.

V. Announcements
   Next Board Meeting Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 6:00pm | TBA

VI. Adjournment
   The meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

APPROVED:

[Signature]

Ann Paul, DrPH, MPH, Board of Health Chair

ATTESTED:

[Signature]

Makeda Thompson, Tulsa Health Department Assistant