I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Bruce Dart called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The meeting notice was posted at the north and south entrances of the James O. Goodwin Health Center and the west entrance of the North Regional Health and Wellness Center and the Tulsa City-County Health Department website on January 12, 2018. The final agenda was emailed to and posted by the Tulsa County Clerk, the Tulsa City Clerk, the Tulsa County Clerk, and the Tulsa City-County Library on January 16, 2018.
Because of illness and last minute issues, some board members could not attend, so Bruce Dart led the meeting. Though there was not a quorum, the meeting continued since there were information items to be shared. Bruce thanked everyone who was able to attend.

II. December 6, 2017 MINUTES
Because there was not a quorum the minutes would be voted on at a future meeting.

III. DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Bruce shared that Leanne Stephens was promoted to be the new Director of Marketing & Communications at the Tulsa Health Department (THD).

Bruce Dart and Reggie Ivey were both serving on the Joint Commission on Public Health and were required to travel to Oklahoma City frequently for meetings, which meant the Tulsa Board of Health Retreat originally set for February 2-3, 2018 would be rescheduled. It was probably better to have the retreat a little later since the environment of public health was in a time of transition with budget and other changes at the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH). Bruce had been meeting with some of the state’s rural health agencies, which are administered through OSDH, and was even more impressed by the work being done in Tulsa.

IV. CURRENT BUSINESS – Information Items
A. Quant Study Results – Pat McFerron
Periodically Cole Hardgrave Snodgrass and Associates were contracted to survey the Tulsa community on their perception of THD. The last surveys (done by a random digit dialing phone screening) were completed in 2009 and 2014.

Pat McFerron shared results of the most recent screening, done in November 2017 after the OSDH scandal had broken. McFerron said because THD had its own branding, it was mostly shielded from the negative OSDH news stories. The sample size of respondents was about 300. The results were not viewed geographically, but provided a random sampling across Tulsa County.

Since the 2014 survey there was an increase in public concern about drug abuse and elder care. THD has a good rating overall; this is meaningful because THD held its status while overall sentiment of government agencies has decreased.

The public identified several areas of service provided by THD: immunizations, low-income healthcare, and food inspections (slide 17). Ann Paul thought the graph was interesting because respondents evenly selected the areas of service, showing different portions of the population have different needs that are being met by THD. Pat McFerron said that was a great point. Bruce Dart stated that public health providers struggle to highlight each of the areas where they serve the community, and the survey results showed THD’s marketing messages were reaching the right people. It was one of the few health departments in the country with a marketing department and that made a big difference in clearly communicating services to the public.
Reggie Ivey reviewed the most recent financial report. The budget was good overall. Ad valorem revenue was higher than expected. Because of decreases in state funding, programs like Children First had been impacted. It was unknown how state and federal funding cuts at OSDH would affect programs at THD.

Specific items of note:
- Expenditures were $484,000 less than originally budgeted, mostly due to personnel changes. In the previous year, 26 employees had taken a retirement buyout and other programs had streamlined and not replaced open positions, which all contributed to the savings.
- The Accountable Health Community grant fund had not expended much since the program was delayed in launching. They would begin hiring staff soon.
- Several approved maintenance and renovation projects would not begin until later in the year, but that money was expected to be expended.
- Medical supplies were also under budget by $90,000, which is typical since more are purchased at the end of the fiscal year to restock. A slight decrease in the number of clients being served may also have contributed.

V. CURRENT BUSINESS - Action Items
A. Resolution to Modify Public Nuisance Rules and Regulation – Chanteau Orr
The current regulations were still useful but had not been updated in 30 years. It was a collaborative effort between THD, the Board of County Commissioners, and the Assistant District Attorney. Updates are below, with notes added by Chanteau Orr:
- Recognition that unsecured (abandoned) structures are a public nuisance that increase crime and lead to hazardous conditions that could affect human health.
- Burning without a permit issued by THD or burning of prohibited materials, including refuse, leaves and building materials, is a public health nuisance. (Note: There is no charge for a permit.)
- Creation of an appeals process for nuisance related enforcement actions taken by THD. (Note: This change allows for an information meeting with THD Environmental Health Safety staff so they can offer advice. Those cited have 30 days to resolve the problem; if they do not act then it is handled through the Tulsa County court system.)
- Amendment of the existing citation process to include a fee structure. (Note: Fees would be used as a recommendation by the courts.)
- Creation of a process to ensure that all fees recovered will be transferred from the Tulsa County General Funds to the THD Nuisance Abatement Account. (Note: Funds will be used for the nuisance property abatement process.)

Because a quorum was not present, the resolution would be considered for a vote at the February 21, 2018 Tulsa Board of Health meeting.
VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Board of Health Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018 at 6pm (NRHC)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

APPROVED:

[Signature]
Kian Kamas, Board of Health Chair

ATTESTED:

Jenna Grant
Jenna Grant, Tulsa Health Department Assistant