

## MEETING MINUTES

**Tulsa City-County Board of Health**  
**December 2, 2020 at 6:00pm**  
James Goodwin Health Center  
5051 S. 129 East Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74134

### **Board Members Present:**

Ann Paul, DrPH; Chair  
Mike Jones, DVM; Chair  
Heath Evans, DDS  
Krystal Reyes, MPA  
Regina Lewis, DO  
Emily Odom  
Sarah-Anne Schumann, MD, MPH  
Mike Stout, PhD  
Aimee Boyer, J.D., CFP

### **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  
Bernard Dindy, Environmental Health  
Jenna Grant, Resource Development Manager  
Ellen Niemitalo, Manager of Clinic Services  
Stephanie Cruz, Administrative Assistant

### **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 November 30, 2020.

### Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Dr. Ann Paul entertained a motion to approve the September 16, 2020 minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Mike Stout, and seconded by Dr. Regina Lewis. *The September 16, 2020 minutes were approved:*

Ms. Reyes	aye
Dr. Evans	aye
Dr. Jones	aye
Ms. Boyer	aye
Dr. Lewis	aye
Mrs. Odom	aye
Dr. Paul	aye
Dr. Schumann	aye
Dr. Stout	aye

## II. Chair's Report

Hard to believe it's the last meeting of 2020. Normally I would ask, "Where did this year go?" But we know. And we recognize the hardships experienced by those around us and our community. We WILL get through this and the end is in sight. It will still take time to get our feet back on the ground, to recover. Things will never be the same. We know that (or, I hope we all know that). But that also means we have opportunity to shape a new future for THD and for our community.

- We have had greater engagement in discussions about health equity and health disparities within organizations and across our community.
  - Let's determine to resolve as many disparities as possible.
- We have new relationships in the community.
  - Let's maintain those relationships so that they can be easily activated should we be faced with a new crisis.
- We have strong collaboration with the City of Tulsa and Tulsa County to help the most vulnerable.
  - Let's actively seek funding opportunities and support initiatives as a board with our voice, connections, and resources.
- We have experienced advancements in technology out of necessity.
  - Let's support deployment of additional technology solutions so we can better track and report community protection and outcomes and measure strategic plan success.
- We have recognized compelling reasons for shared advocacy efforts with our sister health department in Oklahoma County.
  - Let's promote that shared advocacy approach with our legislature and governor's administration so that we can continue to advance initiatives that support health improvement in our state.

As a board, we have also engaged with each other more often through the pandemic. I look forward to seeing what impact we can have promoting a healthy community in 2021 and beyond.

### **III. THD Reports/Action Items**

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

Kelly VanBuskirk talked about seeing an increase in gatherings again. There was a decline in August, September, and October but the numbers increased in November. From November 1 to November 30 there were 10,944 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Tulsa, County. During the holiday season, the Tulsa Health Department has been trying to deter people from gathering. There was messaging that went out through the Tulsa Health Department that emphasized the importance of social distancing, wearing a mask, and washing your hands.

The Tulsa Health department POD operations continue to do three days a week. The COVID-19 testing has increased so instead of adding more days to the POD operations the Tulsa Health department decided to use the other two days to expand their hours to add 120 more appointments per each of those days. In October there were thirteen POD operations and 1,758 samples were collected and sent to the labs for testing. In November the Tulsa Health Department had nine POD operations and collected 1,877 samples which shows the increased testing need within the community.

#### **B. Community/Health Improvement I COVID-19 Vaccination Plan**

Ellen Niemitalo talked about the COVID-19 vaccination. The Pfizer vaccine did apply for the emergency use authorization the FDA scheduled to meet on December 10, 2020, to approve it. The FDA has an independent group looking at all of the studies for this vaccine and they're just validating and verifying what the results were and based on the data provided. She stated that the Pfizer vaccine needs to be in ultra-cold storage. The THD does not have a freezer that would be able to store the vaccine; several partners have been identified to assist with that. The vaccine will go to some of the surrounding counties Health departments to help with the distribution of the vaccine.

During the vaccination plans the Tulsa Health Department will use the Closed POD" Drive through format and vaccines will be given by appointment only. From 12/10-12/14 30,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine will arrive in Oklahoma. On December 14, 2020, the vaccine administration begins. The priority groups have been identified by the CDC and the State Health departments. The front line health care workers caring for COVID patients, Long term care facilities, Public health workers, and front line responders will be the first to receive the vaccine.

#### **C. Programming I Pathways to Health Update and Rockefeller Grant**

Jenna Grant talked about Pathways to Health Board, financial accounting and reporting system, the social media platforms, and the new website that Pathways to Health launched. Last year there were only about \$78,031.21 dollars, this year is \$1,312,904.21 dollars with another 150,000 dollars

expected in the next three months. She thanked Krystal Reyes and Reggie Ivey for securing the first donation from the Rockefeller Foundation that will help administer COVID testing in the vulnerable populations. The Pathways to Health also received a \$20,000 dollars grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a statewide training program for community health workers. Pathways to Health implemented the training this year and it was a huge success.

She also talked about CHIP and how there will be a free seminar offered on grant writing on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. The 2021 Tour de Tulsa has been postponed to Saturday, October 2, 2021.

#### **D. Extension of current Board of Health Officers Terms**

Dr. Ann Paul entertained a motion to vote on the extension of current Board of Health officers. The motion was made by Dr. Mike Jones and seconded by Aimee Boyer. **The extension of the current Board of Health officers terms was approved:**

Ms. Reyes	aye
Dr. Evans	aye
Dr. Jones	aye
Ms. Boyer	aye
Dr. Lewis	aye
Mrs. Odom	aye
Dr. Paul	aye
Dr. Schumann	aye
Dr. Stout	aye


#### **IV. Announcements**

Next Board Meeting Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 6:00pm I JGHC

#### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

APPROVED:



**Ann Paul, DrPH, MPH, Board of Health Chair**

ATTESTED:



**Makeda Thompson, Tulsa Health Department Assistant**