

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tulsa City-County Board of Health**

**August 18, 2021 at 6:00pm**

Teleconference

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1(720)9027700 (US Central)

**Board Members Present:**

Ann Paul, DrPH; Chair  
Mike Jones, DVM; Vice-Chair  
Regina Lewis, DO  
Heath Evans, DDS  
Krystal Reyes, MPA  
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  
Adam Austin, Environmental Health  
Priscilla Haynes, Preventative Health  
Leanne Stephens, Marketing & Communication  
Kelly VanBuskirk, Health Data & Policy  
Jumao Wang, Finance Department  
Monica Rogers, Information Systems  
Jenna Grant, Resource & Development Manager  
Makeda Thompson, Executive Assistant

**Others Present:**

Pay McFerron, President of Cole Hargrove Snodgrass & Associates

## I. Call to Order and Welcome

Ann Paul called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

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 August 13, 2021.

## Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Ann Paul entertained a motion to approve the June 16, 2021 minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Mike Jones and seconded by Dr. Regina Lewis. ***The June 16, 2021 minutes were approved:***

Dr. Paul	aye
Dr. Jones	aye
Dr. Stout	aye
Ms. Boyer	not present
Dr. Lewis	aye
Dr. Evans	not present
Dr. Schumann	aye
Dr. Stout	aye

## II. Chair's Report

Dr. Ann Paul expressed her gratitude to everyone at the Tulsa Health Department for their hard work during the pandemic. She wanted to let the Tulsa Health Department know that everyone is aware of all the work they do every day through her recent conversations with the Board of Health members, and she just wanted to let the staff know that. Dr. Ann also wanted the board to know how much she appreciates their engagement over this past year and how everyone stepped up amid a pandemic. She applauded Dr. Dart for his leadership and guidance during the pandemic.

## III. THD Reports/Action Items

#### **A. Quant Study: Pat McFerron. President of Cole Hargrove Snodgrass & Associates**

Pat McFerron talked about COVID-19 Vaccine Status and how people with a child under 12 in the home are significantly less likely to be interested in being vaccinated. We also see a correlation with contact with the Tulsa Health Department. He talked about the difference in the way people feel about the vaccine based on age and income. Pat also showed a chart talking about the most critical issues concerning Public Health. The problems that were in the chart were insurance/cost, drugs/alcohol, healthcare cost, prevention/awareness of issues, healthcare and elderly, lack of healthcare/services, specific healthcare issues, childhood immunizations, COVID-29, environmental health, miscellaneous, and don't know. The significant change from 2017 is the dominance of COVID as a top concern.

He asked if the Tulsa Health Department was doing a great job as a community resource, and 70% said yes. He also asked if THD was an excellent resource for families, and 43% said yes, 49% said No, and 8% were undecided. COVID-19 is redefining the health department to an extent. The rating of the Tulsa Health Department, while some of the metrics show a decline, this question is stable at worst. We see the highest "poor" rating and the highest "excellent" we have recorded. Given the intense politicization of COVID, to see only this slight increase in the polarities is a little surprising. One significant positive is that we continue to see those with personal contact being more favorable than those without interaction. He discusses the rating of THD vaccine status, which he states, "THD is not immune from the debate over COVID and the vaccine. Among those already vaccinated, THD is 63% positive and 5% poor. This drops to 35% positive and 20% poor among those who say they will not get a vaccination.

THD critical part of Tulsa Community 68% says. Yes, 22% No, and 9% undecided. When asked if THD cares about the community, 70% of people under 45 agreed, 71% agreed who were 45-64 yrs. Old, 80% agreed that was 65 and older, 75% of the people who made under 50k agreed, 70% of the people who make between 50k -100k agreed, and 79% of people who make over 100k agreed THD cares about the community. THD primary focus should be 25% of healthcare services, 5% of physical activity, 6% of immunization, 8% stop the spread of COVID-19, 12% spread of disease, 9% long-term health, 8% of emergency preparedness, 7% of restaurant inspections, 3% of environmental services, 10% of providing/promoting COVID vaccine and 8% undecided. The impression of THD from initiatives indicates a positive impact, especially among seniors citizens.

He concluded his presentation by stating that only 29% can even name one of the 3W's of COVID-19. And that the projects that enhance the view of THD the most are tobacco use prevention, physical activity, flu shots, restaurant inspections, community health plans, disease investigation, teen pregnancy prevention, mother and child education, environmental services, emergency planning, and COVID-19 Vaccines.

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

Kelly VanBuskirk talked about the number of cases of COVID-19 globally which are (Case No.'s) 176,721,173; (Deaths) 3,824,424, United States- (C ) 33,611,037; (D) 605,915, Oklahoma- (C) 454,884; (D) 7,354 and Tulsa County- (C) 75,784; (D) 1,118. We will continue to see numbers increasing, but they're increasing at a slower rate. On February 7, 2020, the Tulsa Health Department began traveler monitoring, and on March 6, the Tulsa Health Department was notified of their first case. ICS was in place by March 9, 2020, but there was a briefing on March 6 to

discuss setting up ICS on March 9, 2020. On Monday, June 21, 2021, the Tulsa Health Department is demobilizing and stand down their Instant Command Structure. Kelly Stated that she worked for the Tulsa Health Department for twenty years, which is the longest response she's been involved in. Kelly showed a graph that stated the number of COVID-19 tests and positives at the Tulsa Health department from March 2020 until June of 2021. The highest number of specimens was in July 2020. The Tulsa Health Department collected 24,628 specimens at their SWAB locations.

The lowest positivity rate was the month of June 2021, followed by May 2021.

As the sample collection decreased, testing was moved to one day a week at the Tulsa Health Department North location. The Tulsa Health Department will no longer be collecting samples at their North Regional location as of Wednesday, June 23, 2021, and the health department is transitioning that thru referral access to medical clinics utilizing the Rockefeller Grant. Phone bank operations number has continued to decline as well. As of yesterday, June 15, 2021, the phone bank received 103,000 phone calls. AS the Tulsa Health Department continues to transition, they will keep the Phone Bank up and running to help answer questions about vaccinations, back-to-school immunizations, Influenza vaccines, COVID related calls in the Fall as needed. Kelly showed a graph indicating what percentage of 12 yrs. Old and over had been fully vaccinated in Tulsa, 41.1%. She then showed a chart with the percentage of Tulsa residents 65 and over-vaccinated, and the percentage is 71.5%. She stated that Tulsa is doing well with administering vaccinations. The Tulsa Health Department CoVax operations have administered over one hundred twenty-nine thousand vaccines since December 2020.

The number of vaccines distributed was over 8,000 at the Tulsa Community College NE Community Vaccination Center. On December 15, 2020, the Expo POD opened to administer the Vaccine. On April 5-the Tulsa Health Department location was utilized / 2nd dose Expo, April 2-Expo POD closed. On April 20, the CVC opened, and on June 13, the CVC closed. Currently at the Tulsa Health Department locations under Tulsa Health Department clinic locations are administering vaccines. Kelly stated that she would provide the board with a debrief report at a later time.

### C. New Initiatives/Programming: Overview For Future Board Work

Jenna Grant talked about the Center for Disease Control Grant. The CDC Grant is a national Initiative to address COVID-19 health disparities among populations at high-risk and underserved, including racial and ethnic minority populations and rural communities. The Tulsa Health Department will receive \$7,975,146 to be spent in two years, starting July 2021-June 2023. \$2 million OSDH Pass-through for two vans for mobile health clinics, two nurses for each mobile clinic, one driver for each mobile clinic, one clerk, and supplies. \$5,975,146 to Tulsa County for COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing resources at THD locations, pop-up clinics, Health Equity office with community health workers & grant writer, YWCA Translation and Interpretation Services (20 languages, Crossover Community Impact Health Clinic at THD North Regional Health & Wellness Center, North Tulsa Community Coalition Infrastructure, Marketing Campaign, IT Upgrades (Qualtrics, laptops, etc.), Strategic Planning Consultant.

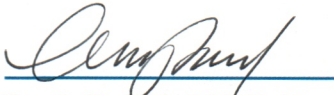
## Announcements

Next Board Meeting Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 6:00pm | TBA

### IV. Adjournment


The meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

APPROVED:



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

ATTESTED:



**Makeda Thompson, Tulsa Health Department Assistant**