

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tulsa City-County Board of Health**

June 12, 2024 at 6:00 pm

James O. Goodwin Health Center  
5051 S. 129<sup>th</sup> E. Ave.,  
Tulsa, OK 74134

**Board Members Present:**

**Regina Lewis, D.O., Chair**  
**Mousumi Som, D.O.**  
**Aimee Boyer, J.D., CFP**  
**Ann Paul, DrPH, M.P.H.**  
**Mike Jones, D.V.M.**  
**Sarah-Anne Schumann, M.D., M.P.H.**  
**Jeffery Galles, D.O.**

**Staff Present:**

**Bruce Dart, Executive Director**  
**Reggie Ivey, Associate Executive Director**  
**Sara Rodriguez, Executive Assistant**  
**Leslie Carroll, Assoc. Director Office of Community Health & Quality Improvement**  
**Julia Profit-Williams, Assoc. Director Office of Preventive Health Services**  
**Adam Austin, Assoc. Director Office of Environmental Public Health**  
**Joann Peel, Executive Assistant**  
**Kelly VanBuskirk, Assoc. Director Office of Prevention, Preparedness, and Response**  
**Marcus Anderson, Associa. Director Office of Maternal & Child Health**  
**Shelby Fields, Associate Attorney**  
**Ashley Thompson, Manager QI and Customer Service**  
**Leanne Stephens, Senior Director Marketing & Communications**  
**Eileen Sim, Community Relations Coordinator**  
**Scott Adkins, Consultant & Legislative Liaison**  
**Alex Adkins, Consultant & Legislative Liaison**

### 1) Call to Order & Roll Call – Dr. Regina Lewis

Dr. Regina Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:02 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 June 6, 2024.

### 2) Approval of Minutes – Dr. Regina Lewis

Dr. Regina Lewis entertained a motion to approve the May 2024 minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Paul, and seconded by Dr. Som. ***The May 15, 2024 minutes were approved:***

Dr. Stout	not present
Dr. Lewis	aye
Dr. Paul	aye
Ms. Boyer	aye
Dr. Som	aye
Dr. Jones	abstained not present for May’s Meeting
Dr. Schumann	aye
Ms. Reyes	not present
Dr. Galles	aye

### 3) Chair’s Report – Dr. Regina Lewis

Dr. Regina Lewis shared that as the Strategic Plan nears completion, the Board has a role after the plan is implemented. If the Tulsa Health Department (THD) is to meet the challenges of the new millennium its success will depend on capable and dedicated leadership by its governing bodies and its professional staff. The Board members need to be knowledgeable regarding the programs and services of their agency. The strongest role of the Board of Health members is to represent the community in which they serve, advocate for Public Health initiatives, and support agency goals and mandates. The Board Members must know the department and communities it serves for this task to be accomplished. The Board Members must take an active role in ensuring the department develops a good Public Health policy and determining input from communities, supporting the mission of the Health Agency and the fundamentals of Core Public Health functions. The Board members need to know how healthy their community is and where health despise and threats exist. Focus on the long-term impact of the Tulsa Health Department planning through the goals of the Strategic Plan and community health improvement. Expect the Management of the agency and hold their leasership accountable.

### 4) Director’s Report – Bruce Dart

Dr. Dart said his report could be read in the BOH packet and introduced Scott Adkins to provide a legislative report.

Scott Adkins stated that he and Alex like to be involved and show their support in the BOH meeting. They are still a Tulsa-centric organization, and they love Tulsa groups. Scott still lives in Tulsa. Scott stated that it is an opportunity for them to give back to the community and it is special to represent a big part of the community the way they do at the State Capitol. Scott thanked the Board and those present stating that they appreciate what each person does for the community, the business and the relationship for the last 15 years. We are going into an election season, 2024 election session will be in November. Primaries start as soon as next week. We will have an entirely new leadership team a New Speaker of the House and their new team, a

Protean at the Senate and their new team. There will be all new faces at the Capitol which happens during an election year. We are in mid terms in our State, so in two years everyone will be running for Governor or Attorney General. The legislature finally adjourned on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. Oklahoma is mandated by the Constitution to start the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of February and must end by 5 o'clock on the last Friday in May. Oklahoma runs a two-year legislature and we are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature which is coming to an end. The 60<sup>th</sup> Legislature will start on the 1<sup>st</sup> week of February 2025. Alex shared that the sex education bills did not make it through. The State Health Department's priority bill for Pool and Spa passed and it was a good win, cleaning up that legislation. Alex shared and informed the Board on other bills. Scott and Alex are always available if anyone has any questions about bills.

## **5) Tulsa Health Department Reports**

### **A. Zink Dam Discussion – Adam Austin**

Mr. Austin spoke about Zink Lake and Rapids; TCCHD performed many tests on the river, however, the testing stopped in the mid-1990's and the signs were removed in approximately 1997. Adam stated that the discussion does pop up often, as recently as 2019/2020, with photos showing up in the news as recently as a year ago. TCCHD ran many tests. The tests were focused on heavy metals in fish which required the fish to be caught, processed, and tested in the water quality lab for those metals. Mercury was the primary metal being tested and Adam is not if other metals were detected or sought out. TCCHD would also test the surface of the river itself for safety before the Arkansas River Raft races started in the 70's through the 90's. Discussion of current river activities has never stopped including fishing, wading beneath the dam, the boat ramp at River Parks West in Sand Springs and the crew boat dock near the old Amphitheater. The raft race is coming back this year, so mark your calendar for September 2, 2024. Both OWRB and ODEQ will have a part in monitoring the Arkansas River. A little history about these two agencies, OWRB was created in 1957 to enforce the Oklahoma Water Pollution Act. In 1993, when Congress allowed states to create their environmental agency, ODEQ was created and this created a separation of powers from TCCHD, OWRB and TCCHD. OWRB now focuses on protocols and policy, while ODEQ focuses on permitting, monitoring and compliance. TCCHD still does some work with water quality, namely with our water lab but we still play a role, primarily with sewage. Both OWRB and ODEQ have a part in monitoring of the Arkansas River, reviewing upstream, and downstream, at the site itself. There are several standards and recommendations, COT is following best practices outlined by the EPA in Recreational Water Quality Criteria. The Corps of Engineers only tests for a count of E. coli and determines if beaches should be closed from those results.

### **B. Like A Good Neighbor, THD is There – Leanne Stephens and Eileen Sim**

Leanne Stephens and Eileen Sim shared that THD understands the importance of meeting residents where they are. Data collection reflects that in the last 4 years we have increased capacity for community engagement programs. For example, MCH Outreach has 5 community engagement specialists, Epi has 1 full-time team member, Preventive Health has 2 and all of them are dedicated to providing community engagement and access to services. At community partner events we have had community engagement from programs such as Epidemiology, MCH Outreach, Immunization, ParentPRO, Environmental Health Services, PREP, Hand Hygiene, Respiratory and Don't Bug Me by Epidemiology, Food Safety by Food Protection, Landlord and Tenant Education by Environmental Health Services. THD offers over 35 programs. Community partners can request THD's participation at any of their community events, organization or school event from the THD website. THD will need the necessary information (such as who are the attendees, how many attendees, requested topics, etc) to review the request and will contact them in five business days. Requests are filled based on the availability of our programs. Community partners can request immunizations or screenings from the Tulsa Health Department. Our nurses are out in the community

providing immunizations including the Oklahoma Caring Foundation's efforts to provide on-time, age-appropriate immunizations to children and adolescents at no cost to their families. The Caring Van is out at various Tulsa County locations every month. The community engagement specialists give out Immunization Information, Condoms, Narcan and Fentanyl Tests. Our Office of Maternal & Child Health has five community engagement specialists, two are Spanish, one is Burmese/Zomi and one is Hmong. We have community baby showers, health fairs, Food on The Move, Tulsa County Shelter (every Friday), Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma Free Farmers Market (1-3 times a week with CAP Tulsa (Community Action Project of Tulsa County)), Oasis Fresh Market (first two Wednesdays of the month), Youth Services of Tulsa (every other Thursday), Parent Resource Center (every Monday). ChildrenFirst, Child Guidance, Navigation, BEST/Family Advocates, WIC, Healthy Start, ParentPRO, Nutrition and Audiology help clients to enroll/renew their SoonerCare and provide additional resources if needed with the MCH programs. School Health teaches students nutrition and fitness, bullying prevention, action-based learning and training for teachers about providing a positive and supporting learning environment for physical education. PREP goes to Elementary schools (age 7-13) to teach them about teen pregnancy prevention and STD/HIV prevention by promoting safer sex. For Young Adults Hand Hygiene, Respiratory and Don't Bug Me by Epidemiology, Food Safety by Food Protection, Landlord and Tenant Education by Environmental Health Services, School-related presentations by THD School Health and THD's Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP). Educating and equipping the community to help prevent Vector-borne diseases and encourage safer sex practices. Education around safer sex practices and disseminating more information about access to testing and treatment. As we plan for the next quarter (Sept - Nov) we will be ramping up our initiatives around respiratory illness prevention and handwashing promotion. Topics: Hand hygiene, Respiratory illness, vector education, safer sex, STI prevention, student career fairs that are STEM-related. Schools, organizations, and community partners. As the Epi team prepares for the warmer months, we are gearing our education toward vector information and engagement opportunities. You will see us at the Farmer's Market, Turkey Mountain, and many other outdoor spots to educate on prevention measures for vector-borne illnesses. We offer presentations partnering with our Environmental Services program, distribute vector pouches (containing DEET wipes, tweezers for tick removal, and bilingual education), and monitor West Nile Virus via surveillance to proactively protect our community. THD Lactation Support is available at no cost to prenatal and postpartum families who qualify for SoonerCare or WIC and live within Tulsa County. If your program uses Unite Us, referrals can be made through that platform. (You can find Tulsa Health Department Lactation under Specialty Care). Healthy Equity Office - Blood at the Roots Conference. Environmental Health Services hosts a Housing 101 class. Regional Prevention Coordinators (RPC) provide regional prevention services by engaging community members, local organizations, public agencies, youth, and the media to change community conditions that contribute to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) related problems. Currently, our Community-Based Prevention Services (CBPS) grants focus on the prevention of alcohol, opioid, and stimulant use.

- Annual ENDUI Walk in remembrance of the 92 lives lost due to alcohol-related crashes within Tulsa County
- City of Tulsa's Prescription Drug Take-Back Events in April and October. Two locations. Community events for students, older adults, and expecting parents in North Tulsa
- OSU United We Can Summer program for students in 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade at Hale Middle School, East Central Middle School, Monroe Demonstration Academy, and Rogers Middle School
- Back-to-school bash immunizations, free health screenings, free school supplies
- The THD Garden Committee is back hosting their always-popular Senior Brunch. Free food, vendors, speakers and more! This event is open to members of the North Tulsa community that are 50+
- The Prevention Coordinator Program (RPC) and the Stop DUI Task Force are partnering to raise awareness of the devastating impacts of drunk driving in Tulsa County through the annual Tree of Life holiday display
- Annual ENDUI Walk in remembrance of the 92 lives lost due to alcohol-related crashes within Tulsa County

- STI town halls to reduce health disparities in syphilis
- The Unspoken: A Spoken Word event is dedicated to raising awareness of fentanyl, opioid, and stimulant overdoses, especially within African Americans and BIPOC communities
- Engaging various communities in Tulsa County and provide language access in terms of community engagement staff, communications, and marketing materials
- Spanish Facebook page, community events that are catered to the Spanish community. To build our credibility through trusted community partners

Raise awareness. Harness the network of community partners to engage hard-to-reach communities:

- Send out monthly events calendar to all programs
- Survey to assess the priorities of programs and gather feedback
- Process to get more event photos and write-ups from programs for external communication
- More branding/signages at events such as an outdoor tent, flags, and THD merchandise
- Ability for programs to look at all THD marketing materials when Print Shop Pro is implemented
- Print Shop Pro® is a comprehensive print management and web-to-print solution that offers easy online ordering, workflow management, and job tracking tool

Thank you for the opportunities to showcase what THD has done in the community and how we are continuing to improve to meet the community where they are.

### **C. Quality Improvement Plan Review – Ashley Thompson**

Mrs. Thompson is the Manager of Quality Improvement and Customer Service for the Tulsa Health Department. The Quality Improvement (QI) started in the Manufacturing process. The Hospital system and healthcare system has adopted a lot of these Quality Improvement initiatives. Public Health uses them as a deliberate and defined improvement process that focuses on activities responsive to community needs and improving population health. QI is important to THD to improve health and provide equitable health to individuals who live and reside in Tulsa County.

The purpose of this measure is to assess the plan to support quality improvement throughout the department and to follow the standards and measures for reaccreditations. To make and sustain quality improvement gains, a sound quality improvement process and infrastructure for implementing that process must be in place. A quality improvement plan serves as a roadmap to establish shared goals across the health department to foster a culture of quality. The strategic plan, performance management system, QI, and workforce development are interconnected to continually improve the delivery of public health programs and services, working towards a healthier and equitable Tulsa County. The new performance management system will serve as a dashboard/project management tool to document and track QI projects. The QI Plan is managed and maintained by the QI Council. The QI Council provides leadership for ongoing QI activities within THD. The QI Council will convene quarterly or more frequently as the need arises. The QI Learning Opportunities chart is an example of a preliminary training chart designed as a base-level training for QI Council members, the Executive Director, the Accreditation Coordinator, QI project team members, and all THD personnel. Additional QI training opportunities will be developed to align with the current training needs of the QI projects. Examples include prioritization matrix training, aim statement training, advanced QI tool training, etc. The WDP will also incorporate QI training goals and objectives for the agency.

Alignment: Does this align with THD's mission, strategic plan, CHIP, and current PHAB standards and measures? Impact: How many people will be affected? What is the financial burden? Is there a cost savings and time savings in efficiency? Urgency: What are the associated risks without addressing the issue promptly? Longevity: Will the QI project have a lasting impact? Health Equity Lens: Does this project help improve marginalized community's health and well-being? Are we including diverse populations? Monitoring & Evaluation: This project review & analysis will be done to identify gaps and potential solutions to the QI process.

## 6) Proposed Executive Session – Regina Lewis

Dr. Regina Lewis entertained a motion for the Proposed Executive Session to be closed. A motion was made by Dr. Som and seconded by Dr. Paul to close the Proposed Executive Session. Time the Proposed Executive Session Opened: 7:07 pm

Dr. Stout	not present
Dr. Lewis	aye
Dr. Paul	aye
Ms. Boyer	aye
Dr. Som	aye
Dr. Jones	aye
Dr. Schumann	aye
Ms. Reyes	not present
Dr. Galles	aye

Dr. Regina Lewis entertained a motion for the Proposed Executive Session to be open. A motion was made by Dr. Som and seconded by Dr. Schumann to open the Proposed Executive Session. Time the Proposed Executive Session Closed: 7:27 pm

Dr. Stout	not present
Dr. Lewis	aye
Dr. Paul	aye
Ms. Boyer	aye
Dr. Som	aye
Dr. Jones	aye
Dr. Schumann	aye
Ms. Reyes	not present
Dr. Galles	aye

Dr. Regina Lewis asked if anyone would like to entertain a motion regarding the Director Contract. Dr. Schumann made a motion to approve Director Contract with a 2% living increase and Dr. Som seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Dr. Stout	not present
Dr. Lewis	aye
Dr. Paul	aye
Ms. Boyer	aye
Dr. Som	aye
Dr. Jones	aye
Dr. Schumann	aye
Ms. Reyes	not present
Dr. Galles	aye

It was determined by the Board that the Executive Committee review the Director Contract in April, make a recommendation to the full board in May, and in June vote on the recommendation.

## 7) Announcements – Dr. Regina Lewis

**The Next Board Meeting** will be on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 6:00 pm at James O. Goodwin Health

Center in Room 200.

## **8) Adjournment**

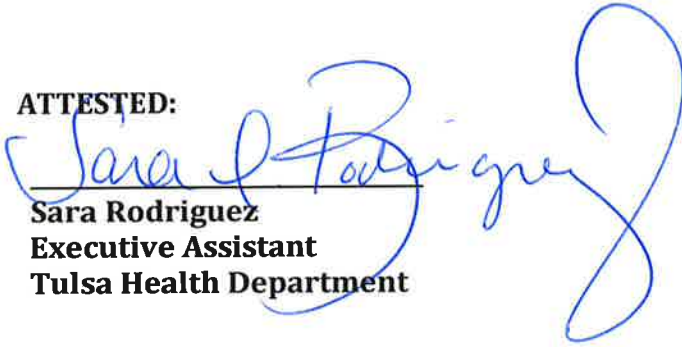
The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

**APPROVED:**



**Regina Lewis, D.O.  
Board of Health Chair**

**ATTESTED:**



**Sara Rodriguez  
Executive Assistant  
Tulsa Health Department**