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STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
123 Robert S. Kerr
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

I. Call to Order

Dr. Krishna called the meeting to order on Friday, August 11 at 10:01 a.m.

II. Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum

Board members present: Dr. Jenny Alexopoulos, Dr. Murali Krishna, Mr. Mark McCroskey, Mr. Ronald Osterhout, Dr. Bruce Storms, Dr. Kinion Whittington, Dr. Travis Wolff

Board members absent: Dr. Randy Grellner, Dr. Jeffrey Lim

Central staff present: Keith Reed, Commissioner of Health; Jackie Shawnee, Chief of Staff; John Clark, Rulemaking Coordinator; Dr. Gitanjali Pai, Chief Medical Officer; Andy Halko, Chief Medical Officer; Lisa Martinez-Leeper, Chief Administrative Officer; Dr. LaTrina Frazier, Deputy Commissioner of Quality Assurance and Regulatory; and Baylee Williams who served as recording secretary.

III. Review, Discussion and Approval of Minutes for the February 10 2023, Regular Meeting

Mr. Osterhout moved board approval of the February 10 minutes as presented. Second Dr. Whittington. Motion carried.

Aye: Mr. McCroskey, Mr. Osterhout, Dr. Whittington

Absent: Dr. Grellner, Dr. Lim

Abstain: Dr. Alexopoulos, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Storms, Dr. Wolff

IV. Commissioner's Report – Keith Reed, *Commissioner*

Commissioner Reed began with providing updates on the Public Health Lab. The contract with Prairie One is no longer active and the management of the lab has been moved in-house to the Department. Work is being made to bring the lab back to full capacity with testing. The Commissioner also provided an update on TSET. The Department has moved out of a formal contractual relationship and into a peer-to-peer relationship to allow for better collaboration. Contractual relationships only remain in three counties, and the Commissioner assured that this will not negatively impact any existing services. The Department will utilize Federal Grants to maintain these programs.

The Department is working with partners to come up with a solution to the possible loss of Title X funding, which is a result of State law prohibiting Federal compliance for the program. Next, the Commissioner provided information on a recent executive order, requiring all state agencies to create a list of all positions created since March 2020 and provide a list of all employees partially or fully funded through grants. The Agency is working on getting all of that information gathered.

May 11th was the final date of the public health emergency declaration. OSDH has switched all data reporting from an emergency reporting to a respiratory disease update, which is inclusive of

1 COVID, RSV, and Influenza.
2

3 **V. Legislative Update** – Jackie Shawnee, *Chief of Staff*

4 Ms. Shawnee and Baylee Williams both provided updates on Legislative Session. Beginning
5 session, the Department put forward 11 request bills. Currently, 5 of those have completed the
6 legislative process and have been signed into law by the Governor. 2 bills are in Conference
7 Committee, 1 bill is awaiting a final floor hearing in Chamber of Origin, 2 bills are dormant.
8 Finally, 1 bill had been vetoed by the Governor.
9

10 **VI. ARPA Update** – Buffy Heater, *Chief Strategy Officer*

11 Mr. Halko provided the update on behalf of Ms. Heater. The Department had requested \$26
12 million for an Electronic Health Record (EHR), which was awarded in full. In addition, the
13 Department was put in charge of managing 5 additional projects. The EHR project is moving
14 forward, and the Department is contracting with Patagonia. They are currently in the final stages
15 of finalizing that contract. There is a steering committee to ensure these stay on track.
16

17 The additional project being managed by OSDH are: \$300,000 Redlands Community College;
18 \$10 million for Hearts for Hearing; \$9 million for Potts Family Foundation; \$50 million for the
19 Oklahoma Primary Care Association on behalf of Federally Qualified Health Centers; and \$25
20 million for rural hospitals who have experienced shutdowns.
21

22 **VII. Transformation Updates**

23 **a. Financial Department Reorganization** – Andy Halko, *Chief Financial Officer*

24 Mr. Halko has implemented a grants management office to work to strategically apply
25 for and manage grants. Historically, there was no centralized grants department, and
26 they were all handled in individual program areas. The goal is to ensure that the
27 Agency takes advantage of all possible funding sources and handles them
28 appropriately. They will also focus on sustainability and be strategic to the mission of
29 the Agency. Mr. Halko has also brought in a financial planning and analysis role to
30 focus on cash flow forecasting due to the complexity of the funding streams of the
31 Agency. There is also now a centralized role for billing and collections.
32

33 **b. Communications Department Reorganization** – Rachel Klein, *Director of*
34 *Communications*

35 Ms. Shawnee provided update on behalf of Ms. Klein. The Communications
36 department has grown over the past couple of years. Historically, the Agency was
37 reliant on external agencies in regards to communications. Due to this tactic, there was
38 no focus on the Agency's mission and no strategic plan to ensure the vision and values
39 of the agency were being communicated effectively. Centralizing and building this
40 team has allowed for much more impactful messaging, as well as building
41 relationships withing the Agency as well as with external partners. Centralizing
42 communications has also been a cost savings to the Agency.
43

44 **VIII. Regulatory Overview** – Dr. LaTrina Frazier, *Deputy Commissioner of Quality Assurance &*
45 *Regulatory*

46 Dr. Frazier gave the Board an outline of all the departments and programs within her scope of

1 the Agency. There are 4 departments, within those are 19 program areas. Those program areas
2 house 54 different divisions. These include everything from inspecting jails, restaurants, long-
3 term care facilities, and much more. Dr. Frazier went through each of those areas and gave the
4 Board information on each program area.
5

6 **IX. New Business**

7 The Board congratulated Dr. Alexopulos for her final Board of Health meeting and presented her
8 with a plaque celebrating her 18 years of service to the Board.
9

10 **X. Adjournment**

11 Mr. Osterhout moved board approval to adjourn. Dr. Storms provided a second. Motion carried.
12

13 Aye: Dr. Alexopulos, Dr. Krishna, Mr. McCroskey, Mr. Osterhout, Dr. Storms, Dr.
14 Whittington, Dr. Wolff

15 Absent: Dr. Grellner, Dr. Lim
16

17 The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.