

Sedgwick County District 3

Citizens Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2019

Goddard School's Conference Center

7:00 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order – Meeting called to Order by Lamont Anderson

Approval of April Minutes – Pat Gaughan moved to accept the minutes. Seconded by Sharon Ailsieger. Passed unanimously.

PUBLIC AGENDA

None

NEW BUSINESS

Overview of the Health Department – Adrienne Byrne, Director

Director Byrne briefed the Board on the Health Department's mission and services. Copies of the presentation were distributed. Primary topics included Children and Family Health, Health Protection, Preventative Health Clinic, and Budget. More information can be found at <https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/health/>.

Ailsieger asked how we know if children are being immunized if the children are homeschooled. They still have to be registered.

Sherry Livingston asked about the infant mortality rate in Sedgwick County. The African American rate is 2 times that of other groups. Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) under the Health Babies program works with the hospitals and OBs to review the cases to look for commonalities and trends.

Ailsieger asked how we define infant mortality. All deaths under 12 months of age.

Wright asked for an explanation of smoking cessation and if the Dependency Clinic still exists. Smoking cessation consists of a variety of evidence-based curriculum, strategies, and support. It is not known at this time if the Dependency Clinic still exists.

Wright asked if 23 volunteer dentists are adequate to meet demand. We have enough now, but we are aware that some of them are retired and may become less available in the near future. We have a new dental manager and she is actively recruiting.

Gaughan noted that the racial disparity in the infant mortality rate in Sedgwick County, being higher than the state disparity, may be larger than 2 to 1 and asked what the Health Department's plans were regarding how to address the issue. We are one piece of the larger community effort to address infant mortality. The Health Department is only touching a fraction of the pregnancies in the county. KU School of Medicine has a program called Baby Talk, a maternal and child health coalition that is bringing all the health partners across the county together to determine what actions need to be taken and refer mom's to resources like Comcare and WIC.

Gaughan stated that the issue involves a lot of moving pieces and asked who had overall responsibility for community health in the county. In the last several years the Health Department has been restricted in terms of funding and activities allowed so the system has become more siloed.

Gaughan asked who was responsible for evaluating public health performance. We have a post-doctoral student and two grant-funded, temporary, part-time workers gathering the relevant data. We are looking to add an epidemiologist that will know how to analyze that data.

Gaughan asked which programs are grant-funded. WIC and Healthy Babies are entirely grant-funded and make up a large portion of all grant funding.

Gaughan noted that the County Commissioners also act as the Board of County Health and that is relatively unusual in national terms. He asked if the Deputy County Manager, County Manager, or any of the County Commissioners have any "direct, physical healthcare training or education." That is not known for certain but they do get formal orientation on the department on the issues and engage the health department regularly.

Anderson thanked Director Byrne for her work and asked if she would send some information to him to disseminate further among the community.

Ailsieger asked if the Health Department was allowed to offer family planning. We offer birth control at a sliding scale price.

Wright asked about preparations for the next flu epidemic. The Health Department has an Incident Command System in place.

BOARD AGENDA

Gaughan stated that he favors the County Board of Health being separated from the BOCC to address his concerns about the Health Department becoming less visible and less active over the years.

Chairman Dennis stated that since he was elected the BOCC has moved to restore the prioritization of public health and that the BOCC retains responsibility for the budget regardless.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONER DENNIS

1. The last zoning issue that was discussed by this board made it to the BOCC.
 - a. Chairman Dennis was able to work with MABCD to ensure part of their final inspection includes cleanup. This broader issue came as a result of the complaints of residents concerned with this zoning case.
 - b. A motion was carried by the MAPC that any impact on cutting out terraces cannot adversely affect neighboring properties.
2. Chairman Dennis is a board member of the Exploited and Missing Child Unit. He recently raised the issue of children being killed by their parents. DCF has a database of homes they have been involved with. Commissioner Dennis would like that database linked to our 911 dispatch so that officer know to do a health and welfare check on the child if they are called out to their home.
3. Reno County's Planning Commission voted 4-3 to deny wind energy development. It will now go to their BOCC. Our planning department has been reviewing development plans and zoning codes to address wind and solar energy development. They have drafted recommended changes. The MAPC subcommittee on advanced plans will take it up on Thursday the 9th; it will then go to the full MAPC and from there to the City Council and BOCC.
4. The legislative session has ended.
 - a. Both items on our agenda concerning elections passed. We are waiting on the Secretary of State to publish guidelines. We hope to have vote centers available for the 2020 election.
 - b. None of our behavioral health agenda items were passed.
5. County budget hearings have begun. We have approximately 40 decision packages to consider. Compensation for our employees is a top priority; we are out of alignment with the market.

Ailslieger asked if the BOCC had received request from departments to add more staff. Yes, but the details are not yet known.
6. Chairman Dennis gave an interview on KPTS that will be aired May 21st at 7pm.
7. Chairman Dennis attended Fire Ops 101 training, participating in CPR, firefighting, and rescue exercises.
8. East bank development discussions are underway with community leaders.

Other

ADJOURNMENT