

District 4 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

Monday, November 8th, 2021 Zoom Online Meeting

6:00 p.m. Virtually

**Board members in attendance:** Maggie Ballard, Adam Bosworth, Jamie Buster, Sara Dixon, Nalini Fraser, Philip Fraser, Deb Gruver, Robert Simon

**County representatives and speakers:** Commissioner Lacey Cruse, Adrienne Byrne

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Nalini Fraser called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

No quorum was present until 7:00 p.m.

**2. Meeting Minutes from September 13th (2 minutes)**

Review of minutes tabled until quorum was present at 7:00 pm.

Jamie Buster made a motion to approve the September 13th minutes. Philip Fraser seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. COVID / Booster Update (57 minutes)**

Health Department Director Adrienne Byrne provided an update on COVID-19 and boosters within Sedgwick County. Pediatric Pfizer was approved for ages 5 to 11. 804 children have been vaccinated so far. The initial vaccine order was 5,300 doses.

Adrienne Byrne explained that the Health Department is working with schools on mobile clinics. There will be a kid friendly event with privacy screens at the Vaccine Clinic.

Adrienne Byrne explained that the Health Department has provided approximately 253,000 doses of the vaccine. Around 120,000 people are fully vaccinated.

Adrienne Byrne explained the testing site has moved to 4115 East Harry. There are about 110 people tested a day. There are about 100 to 180 new positive cases a day.

Adrienne Byrne explained that 849 people have died. The age group most affected is 85 and up. However, there have been deaths for individuals under 40.

Adrienne Byrne explained that booster appointments were full at first but are tapering off. They have given over 10,000 Pfizer and 1,400 Moderna boosters.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks about citizen concerns on getting vaccinated.

Adrienne Byrne answers that typically children aren’t vaccinated if their parents aren’t. Family pressure and employers have been stated reasons for people to get vaccinated.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks about messages to combat citizen concerns.

Adrienne Byrne answers that County Communications has created commercials. There also is the Community Ambassador program.

Philip Fraser asks if there any demographic groups more reluctant to get vaccinated.

Adrienne Byrne answers that there is a map on the website that has testing and vaccine rates in each zip code. One goal of mobile clinics is to look at data and go into areas with lower rates. Incentives may be successful for increasing vaccination and testing rates. Under 50% of the total population is fully vaccinated. 55% of the eligible population is fully vaccinated.

Lonny Wrights asks if there has been an update on KDHE and MDL testing.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse answers that there has not been an update yet, but a letter has been sent.

Adrienne Byrne responds that the Health Department is putting together information from phone calls with KDHE and partners. They want to be prepared to provide information on what tests people and businesses will have available to them. KDHE spends on average $500,000 to $700,000 a month paying for WSU services.

Maggie Ballard wonders what the best way may be to cover people of all areas.

Adrienne Byrne responds that SCHD had originally planned to go door to door with incentives but were afraid after threatening Facebook comments.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks if vaccine clinics can go in schools.

Adrienne Byrne answers that there have been about 60 vaccine mobile clinics and that they are also focusing on other Sedgwick County schools outside of Wichita.

Rob Simon asks if mobile clinics can give shots to people in their homes.

Adrienne Byrne and Commissioner Lacey Cruse answer that mobile clinics don’t go into homes. People with mobility issues are connected to home health agencies that will go into their home.

Rob Simon asks if well known community members have done PSA’s.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse responds that the Ambassador Program could be expanded.

Maggie Ballard asks if the Health Department would go into middle schools.

Adrienne Byrne responds that they have gone into middle schools. School nurses take care of student consent.

Deb Gruver asks if the County has ever done billboards.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse responds that the County has done billboards.

Phillip Fraser question asks if there is an educational piece for going into schools.

Adrienne Byrne answers that yes, there was an educational piece in schools during the beginning.

Sara Dixon mentions maybe incentivizing businesses.

Adrienne Byrne responds that there are some business that have done that. Some have given their employees days off.

**7. Other Business (17 minutes)**

Commissioner Lacey Cruse mentions there will be a Redistricting Town Hall on 11/15/2021 at the NCAT Lecture Hall. Proposed redistricting maps will be displayed. Maps are also displayed on the County website.

Deb Gruver thanks Commissioner Lacey Cruse for her push of $125,000 for unhoused peoples.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse responds that unhoused people may show up in jails or ER’s for a warm place to sleep. We should step up and do what we can to address this.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser asks for topics from other CAB members.

Lonny Wright asks if there will be a County Resource Center.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse answers that a plan been developing. There will be a $15 Million COMCARE expansion.

Sara Dixon asks if the plan includes libraries that will service unhoused peoples.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse responds that it is a great idea, but we do not have enough people to provide these services.

Lonny Wright asks a question on COMCARE pay.

Commissioner Lacey Cruse answers that there has been a reclassification for all County employees. The county needs to incrementally increase wages.

Chairperson Nalini Fraser made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Jamie Buster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting**

Monday December 13th, 2021 - Will be held over zoom at 6:00 pm.