

# Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board

Meeting Summary – Approved

Thursday, September 5, 2019

Meeting: 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust,

St. Paul, MN | Vidyo (remote option)

## Members Present and Absent:

Name	Organization	Present	Absent
Dawn Beck (co-chair)	Olmsted County	X	
Lisa Brodsky	Scott County	X	
Amanda Buell	Hennepin County	X	
Ruth Greenslade	Goodhue County	X (remote)	
Bill Groskreutz	Faribault County Commissioner	X (remote)	
Sarah Grosshuesch	Wright County	X (remote)	
Tom Hogan (co-chair)	Minnesota Department of Health	X	
Angel Korynta	Polk County	X	
Kristine Lee	Countryside Public Health	X (remote)	
John Weinand	City of Minnetonka	X	

## Other Meeting Participants:

*Jim Kelly, Denise Schumacher, Sophia Walsh and Kim Carlton, Minnesota Department of Health, Environmental Health Division; Jesse Harmon, Brown-Nicollet Counties; Dan Huff, MDH Assistant Commissioner, Ryan Krick, City of Minneapolis; John Levy and colleague Jess, MN Food Truck Association, Chelsie Huntley Minnesota Department of Health, Center for Public Health Practice (PHP)*

## Facilitators/Staff:

*Michelle Ambrose, Minnesota Department of Health, Environmental Health Division; Becky Buhler, Kim Gearin and Beth Gyllstrom, Minnesota Department of Health, Center for Public Health Practice (PHP)*

## Welcome and Introductions

The Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board's (EHCIB) co-chairs, Tom Hogan, MDH, and Dawn Beck, Olmsted County, welcomed everyone to the September meeting. Newly appointed MDH Assistant

Commissioner Daniel Huff addressed the EHCIB. He previously served on the EHCIB as a local representative and now oversees the Health Protection Bureau at the Minnesota Department of Health.

The co-chairs reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives.

**Meeting Objectives:**

1. Make progress on the strengthening public health work.
2. Approve Mobile Food Units workgroup charter.
3. Examine member recruitment and co-chair elect.
4. Develop plan to create EHCIB's next work plan.

## **Strengthening Public Health in MN and the EPH Framework**

Chelsie Huntley and Kim Gearin, MDH PHP, updated meeting participants on the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee's (SCHSAC) efforts to [Strengthen Public Health in Minnesota](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/practice/schsac/workgroups/strengtheninglph.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/practice/schsac/workgroups/strengtheninglph.html>).

Kim Gearin, MDH PHP, explained that the plan developed at the July EHCIB meeting was revised to align the environmental health framework with the work of the Infectious Disease Continuous Improvement Board by creating a crosscutting look at what Environmental Public Health is about. She shared a one-page outline of the framework that provides a mid-level look at the foundational responsibilities and what they include. Categories were added to organize the details in the tables EHCIB has been working on.

Meeting participants shared their reactions to the new format and suggested revisions. More clarity around nuisances was needed for local jurisdictions. Kim Gearin, Center for Public Health Practice, will work with MDH content experts to complete the tables for all activities. The Board will review this work at the November meeting.

Chelsie Huntley, MDH PHP, spoke with the EHCIB about the new leadership council Commissioner Jan Malcolm is convening in October. She asked members to think about what the leadership council needs to know about environmental health as they look at how public health should be addressed across the state.

## **Mobile Food Units Workgroup**

Dawn Beck introduced the work of the EHCIB Mobile Food Unit Workgroup since co-chair Jeff Travis, Washington County, was unable to attend. John Levy and his colleague Jess from the Mobile Food Truck Association participated in the discussion. The EHCIB workgroup met in August with representatives from the Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Food Truck Association, and local health departments to look at jurisdictional issues related to food truck licensing. The workgroup defined its purpose and vision. Mr. Levy brought up the idea of creating a standard set of regulations and fees. Dawn Beck noted that developing

standards is not in the workgroup's scope. EHCIB attendees discussed the possibility of using quality improvement tools. They agreed to seek resources going forward. The EHCIB approved the team charter presented by the EHCIB Mobile Food Unit Workgroup.

## **FPLS Program Evaluation – Pilots**

The FPLS Program Evaluation Workgroup was represented by Denise Schumacher and Sophia Walsh. They reviewed the piloting plan for Standards 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Washington County and Minnetonka agreed to pilot the frequency options for Standard 4 along with SWHHS (who is piloting all of Standard 4). The Workgroup will report at the November meeting. In December, the Workgroup will hold a feedback session with the pilot agencies. The full report on Pilot 3.0 will be presented to EHCIB on January 9, 2020.

## **New Member Recruitment/Co-Chair Elect**

EHCIB co-chair Dawn Beck accepted a new position with Olmsted County and will leave the EHCIB in February. Amanda Buell, Hennepin County, will transition into the co-chair role for 2020. Amanda's term will be extended to 2021. Terms for several members expire in February. Becky Buhler will work with Kari Oldfield, LPHA, on recruitment. John Weinand will contact the other cities and see if they want him to continue to serve.

## **EHCIB Future Goals**

The Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EHCIB) briefly discussed work plan ideas for 2020. The strengthening public health work will continue. The new FPLS Evaluation will be rolled out in 2020. EHCIB supports the Mobile Food Units Workgroup.

## **2019 FPLS Statewide Performance Measures Report**

Beth Gyllstrom, MDH PHP, reviewed the continuous improvement plans in the 2019 FPLS Statewide Performance Measures and solicited feedback. The group agreed to explore ways to measure the value of FPLS inspections. Dawn Beck and Ryan Krick will share customer service templates used in their jurisdictions. Beth will make revisions as suggested, attach local data as an appendix and post the report on the website.

## **Business Items**

### Member Updates

Tom Hogan, MDH EH, stated that in addition to Daniel Huff, there are many new faces in the Walz administration. Tom met with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture on the relationship of local jurisdictions, MDH and MDA. Tom noted that agencies are preparing for the 2020 legislative session. EH

items being discussed include a water operator advisory council, lead service line replacement, changing lead poisoning measure from 10 mcg to 5mcg, well construction and radioactive materials licensing. The governor has asked state agencies to look at the issue of recreational cannabis. MDH is working on its agency strategic plan.

#### Approve July 2019 Meeting Summary

Mr. Weinand made the motion to approve the July 2019 meeting summary. Ms. Buell seconded the motion. No changes were made and summary was approved.

#### Constituent Engagement/SCHSAC

Earlier in the agenda, the members discussed Tom Hogan and Dawn Beck speaking to SCHSAC at the October quarterly meeting.

### **Take-home Points, Action Items, and Adjournment**

Meeting participants agreed on the following take-home points and action items.

#### Take-home points:

- Amanda Buell, Hennepin County, will transition into the co-chair role currently held by Dawn Beck.
- EHCIB continues work on foundational responsibilities within the environmental health area of the governmental public health framework.
- FPLS Program Evaluation Workgroup and Mobile Food Units Workgroup updates.

#### Action Items

- Tom Hogan and Dawn Beck will transition Amanda Buell in the co-chair role over the next few months and seek MDH co-chair for Mobile Food Units Workgroup
- EHCIB co-chairs will present a brief overview at the October 2 SCHSAC meeting
- MDH PHP staff will do the following:
  - Explore resources for the new Mobile Food Units Workgroup
  - Seek MDH EH content experts to complete the Strengthening PH in MN and EPH Framework document
  - Revise the EHCIB's recommendations and prepare the FPLS Statewide Performance Measure report for publication
  - Work with Local Public Health Association to recruit EHCIB members for terms expiring in 2020
  - Work with SCHSAC to recruit someone to share the SCHSAC representative role
- EHCIB members will:
  - Share the take-home points with constituents

The next EHCIB meeting is Thursday, November 7, 2019. Join in-person at MCIT in St. Paul (free parking available) or remotely using Vidyo. More details are available on the [EHCIB website:](https://www.health.state.mn.us/ehcib/#materials)  
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