

# Environmental Health Continuous Improvement Board (EH CIB) Meeting Summary December 2023

Meeting Date: December 18, 2023

Summary prepared by: Linda Kopecky, MDH

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

## Attendance

- Amanda Buell, Co-Chair, Hennepin County
- Tom Hogan, Co-Chair, MDH
- Lisa Brodsky, Scott County
- Andrea Demmer, Ottertail County
- Diana Ditsch, MDH
- Bill Groskreutz, Faribault County
- Sarah Grosshuesch, Wright County
- Jesse Harmon, Nicollet County
- Linda Kopecky, MDH
- Kelly Nagel, MDH
- Jason Newby, Brooklyn Park
- Angie Wheeler, MDH
- Denise Schumacher, MDH
- Daniel Symonik, MDH
- Sodik Adelani, MDH

## Topics

### Consensus Workshops Review

Delegation agreements: group wanted to move forward with better understanding full scope, revisiting reviews, mapping out process for deciding on and developing a delegation agreement, roles, and responsibilities.

Water quality: group wanted to move forward with roles and responsibilities.

Foundational Public Health Responsibilities (FPHR): group wanted to move forward with better understand policy development and support.

**Discussion:** What are the common threads or themes?

- Staying at the systems level: considering updating delegation agreements or opening the system up to new sites, and understanding and mapping the process of developing a delegation agreement, including onboarding and outboarding
- Aligning work with the FPHR: need for all agencies to understand the FPHR elements better to align with EH; need to identify the communications element now the cost and capacity assessment is done; bringing EH into the FPHR lens ensures that EH is at the table when important conversations about the evolution of public health are occurring.

## Delegation Agreement Landscape Analysis

Sodik Adelani, Public Health Corps, share a landscape analysis presentation about delegation agreements, compiled from research and key informant interviews. The presentation is available on the EH CIB SharePoint site.

**Discussion:** What are the takeaways leading into 2024?

1. Many people already know these details, but what is the purpose of EH CIB in relation to delegation agreements? These are a great way to strengthen partnerships, and there is a need for updates with a possible schedule for regular review of the agreement templates.
2. There are opportunities for improving communication, such as better information about the numbers of inspections, making sure communication is two-way, and understanding the shared responsibility related to restaurants.
3. Another opportunity is that local expertise can help make activities happen even without a delegation agreement; the presence or absence of a delegation agreement doesn't necessarily invite partnership or sharing of responsibilities.
4. In the future, consider the opportunity for more cities to have delegation agreements – locals can make the work more consistent and streamline things for their business partners.
5. Dual delegation – interesting to see perspectives from non-delegated counties; more consistency between MDH and MDA will help the consumer, even DHS struggles.
6. Is there a need for a dashboard that shows clearly who is doing what, where, and when? EH used to do dashboards but discovered that the current data system couldn't keep up. Need a better data system to have a better dashboard.

## EH CIB Role Definition

Tom Hogan led a discussion to identify what is in scope and out of scope for the EH CIB.

**Discussion:** what does this mean moving forward?

1. Traditionally this group has had a lot of expertise, in-the-trenches experience primarily with FPL.

2. Delegation agreements + FPHR = opportunity for the group to define how they want the EH system to look at the state level.
3. Is there an opportunity or are there sufficient resources for a better and more unified data system?
4. Important to shift the core EH CIB group to be more of a steering team for workgroups that do some of the heavier lifting.

**Discussion:** refreshing the EH CIB charter

1. Rationale – we had this conversation last summer and now again; the EHCIB started with a strong focus on the FPL delegation agreements and has revamped the evaluation process. The group is at a point where we can step back and look at the system. A refresh of the charter will make sure we are all meeting the FPHR, that there is an equitable system across the board, that the EH CIB continues to address emerging AND ongoing environmental health issues, and it achieves meaningful goals and outcomes.
2. Membership - wondering about the presence is MDA in the EH CIB – they have had some leadership changes, but should their presence be requested for general meetings?

## 2024 Goals and Activities

Create workgroup to review and refresh the EH CIB Charter (Tom Hogan, lead)

- Goals/desired outcomes – Review and possibly refresh charter to ensure meeting FPHR, ensure equitable systems across the board, continue addressing emerging and ongoing environmental health issues, achieve meaningful goals and outcomes.
- Draft by first quarter, discussion in second quarter, bring to SCHSAC by third quarter.
- Responsible parties – Tom, Amanda, Lisa B, Dan S

Create workgroup for Mobile Food Unit (Amanda Buell, lead)

- Goals/desired outcomes – consistent licensing structure and inspection (reach goal).
- Timeline – first meeting, get an outline of tasks; short-term component might connect with legislative component, do something before food truck season.
- Responsible parties Andrea Demmer, Jesse H, Amanda, Matt F, Jason, Jeff Brown, copy Angie W.

Single topics for individual EH CIB meetings

- Review nuisance complaints procedures (being updated by LPHA now).
- Unpack water quality topic to determine if a workgroup is called for.
- Have a more systematic review of the Foundational Public Health Responsibilities, EH area.

Standing agenda items for each EH CIB meeting

- Updates from each active workgroup.

## **Next meeting**

Date: March 18, 2024

Time: 10:30 a.m.to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Teams Platform

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Community Health Division

Center for Public Health Practice

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