

DEHS Directors Call: 7/9/15

Next meeting will be held on October 1, 2015 from 1:00-2:30 EST

Alaska:	Denman Ondelacy, Jeff Smith	Nashville:	Not on Call
Albuquerque:	Debra Grabowski	Navajo:	Wayne Hall
Bemidji:	Tim Duffy	Oklahoma:	Not on Call
Billings:	Greg Ault	Phoenix:	Kenny Hicks
California:	Gordon Tsatoke	Portland:	Celeste Davis
Great Plains:	Chris Allen	Tucson:	Not on Call

Environmental Health Support Center: Richard Turner, Angela Hodge

Rockville: Kelly Taylor, Darren Buchanan, Nancy Bill, David McMahon

1. Headquarters Announcements: David McMahon, Kelly Taylor, Darren Buchanan

- a. Reviewed the Record of Decision from the April DEHS Meeting in Oklahoma City.
 Comments:
 - i. David McMahon to add the Safety Officer healthcare planning RRM documents as an attachment to these minutes.
 - ii. Richard Turner indicated he would send HQ a summary of Webinars available via EHSC as well as a summary of recommended Webinars that Angela Hodge collected at the meeting.
 - iii. Kenny Hicks put forth a plan for a workgroup to revise or at least provide recommendations for revision of the Environmental Health Specialist of the Year criteria.
- b. Performance Measures – 2016-2020
 - i. Darren Buchanan presented on the baseline number of establishments we are using in the performance measure are direct service, non-residential childcare centers and Head Starts. Darren has provided information on how to make changes in WebEHRS to ensure establishments are correctly coded. Several Areas have not completed the updates.
 - ii. Clarification for Alaska, though all establishments are not direct service, the Area can still participate in performance measure reporting.

- c. Tribal Food Code Update Request
 - i. Alaska providing a list to help structure which food codes are used in the various villages. Billings Area has not reported.
 - ii. In WebEHRS, the 2013 FDA food code goes live on July 13, 2015. Recommend staff review the marking instructions PDF file on the WEBEHRS help screen.
- d. COSTEP Narrative Reminder – Follow-up from email. Deadline – have the student complete their narratives before they leave.
- e. Injury Prevention Program Update
 - i. Cooperative Agreement selections underway – should be announced in September. A panel selects the awardees.
 - ii. IP Fellowship symposium and TIPCAP workshop in Rockville in June. Excellent meeting and workshop.
- f. Institutional Environmental Health Update
 - i. David McMahon expressed appreciation for the help that others have done to help the national IEH program during the IEH vacancy.
 - ii. IEH position has been re-advertised. Encourage the Directors to recruit for the IEH Program Manager.
 - iii. John Hansen, the IEH Residency Student, has arrived at USUHS this month. John will emailing a request to the IEH program for research ideas for his MSPH program.

2. Area Reports:

a. AK: Denman Ondelacy/Jeff Smith

- i. Jeff Smith asked about reimbursement requests, Kelly indicated that the OEHE Directors have been notified but she did not know the deadline.
- ii. NEHA award recipients:
 - 1. Keith Cook – Tom Crow Mentor Award
 - 2. Jeff Smith – American Academy of Sanitarians' Wagner Award
 - 3. Healthy homes project– HUD Secretary's Award
- iii. Brian Berube moving from Bethel to Anchorage.
- iv. Troy Ritter – leaving ANTHC and will be detailed through an interagency agreement to the CDC NCEH and IHS SFC Program in Atlanta.
- v. Jeff is retiring February1, 2016.

b. AQ: Debra Grabowski

- i. State data sharing initiative - progressing on developing an agreement with New Mexico.
- ii. Native American Passenger Safety program underway, CPS Technician and SNAP Class planned
- iii. IEH – Accreditation mock-surveys underway, tool-box talks, safety officer development
- iv. National Head Start program moving forward implementing the injury and illness database. Head Start will be managing the data system.

- c. **BE: Tim Duffy**
 - i. Advertised a GS 7/9/11 for the Minnesota District.
 - ii. Integrated Pest Management Focus Surveys still underway. Some discussion with EPA about an IAA.
 - iii. COSTEPs are doing a great job. COSTEP symposium in July.
 - iv. IEH Program doing AAAHC reviews, really helped develop relationship with Facilities Management Program and has helped market the value of IEH services.
 - v. Medical Physicist on contract. Will help shape the protocol used in the Bemidji Area.
 - vi. Injury Prevention – should have a few tribes apply for Cooperative Agreements (CA). One tribe with previous CA has decided to fund IP coordinator.
- d. **BI: Joe Amiotte**
 - i. No comments from Greg Ault.
- e. **CA: Gordon Tsatoke**
 - i. FDA Pacific Region Seminar being held this September in Helena, Montana. Sarah Snyder will represent California Area and will be presenting on IHS food safety initiatives.
 - ii. COSTEP will be reporting this month.
- f. **GP: Chris Allen**
 - i. Area worked a lot on assisting Tribes in developing Cooperative Agreements.
 - ii. 5 Year IP Strategic Planning meeting in August.
 - iii. COSTEP Presentation meeting in August.
- g. **NS: Kit Grosch**
 - i. Not on call.
- h. **NV : Wayne Hall**
 - i. COSTEP doing a good job.
- i. **OK: Danny Walters**
 - i. Not on call.
- j. **PH: Kenny Hicks**
 - i. Pathways positions for new graduates at GS 7/9 have closed. 123 applications received for 7 different positions.
 - ii. District EHO position coming soon – Pinetop/Lakeside
 - iii. COSTEP symposium, July 24.
 - iv. Vector activities:
 - 1. West Nile Virus surveillance
 - 2. Aedes aegypti surveillance for dengue fever
 - 3. RMSF tick collaring in conjunction with rabies clinics
 - v. TIPCAP - 2 part I and 5 part II applications
 - vi. 3 IP Fellows heading to Michigan
 - vii. IEH Program heavily involved with transition to the new San Carlos hospital.
- k. **PO: Matthew Ellis reporting for Celeste Davis**
 - i. Planning to advertise for an entry level, term employee to do community environmental health assessments and a capacity building project.

- ii. TIPCAP – assisted the local health board in developing an elder fall project application.

I. TU: Martin Smith

- i. Not on call.

m. EHSC: Richard Turner

- i. EHSC website under total revision.
- ii. Webinar series under development:
 - 1. leadership,
 - 2. environmental health,
 - 3. sustainability,
 - 4. safety and accreditation,
- iii. Online modules under development– examples: hantavirus, global harmonization, RMSF, West Nile Virus, dental amalgam, disinfection/sterilization, NEPA
- iv. Course Development
 - 1. Institutional Environmental Health Course
 - 2. Emergency Preparedness and Security Course
- v. Competency model being developed – workforce development model – Kelly asked Richard to present to the group at the next call.

3. David McMahon and Kelly Taylor provided a briefing on the end of the Mirion, INC. radiation dosimeter contract.

4. Next Call – October 1, 2015