DEHS Directors’ Meeting: 04/05/18
Meeting recording available; https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/pdxdwxyxhwvg/

Next conference call June 07, 2018 1:00-2:30PM ET

Alaska: Denman Ondelacy
ANTHC: Mike Brubaker
Albuquerque: Brian Hroch
Bemidji: Not on call
Billings: Darcy Merchant
California: Not on call
Great Plains: Chris Allen
Environmental Health Support Center: Jeff Dickson, Angela Hodge
Rockville: David McMahon, Nancy Bill, Charles Woodlee, Mike Reed, Stephen Piontkowski

1. Welcome (David McMahon)
   a. DEHS HQ staffing
      i. RADM Kelly Taylor, Acting Chief of Staff, IHS
      ii. David McMahon, Acting Director, DEHS, IHS
      iii. Martin Smith selected as Deputy Director DEHS, IHS (effective 25 May 2018)

2. DEHS Awards 2017 (David McMahon/Charles Woodlee)
   a. Environmental Health Specialist of 2017 – Kate Pink, Phoenix Area
      i. Congratulations to all Area EHS of 2017
      ii. LT Pink will complete Commissioned Corps Officer Basic Course in April 2018 and will be presented with the award at IHS HQ after that training
   b. IP Award
      i. New for CY18
      ii. Individual or group eligibility
      iii. Details and nomination criteria TBA
   c. Gary J Gefroh Safety & Health Award 2017 – Chris Kates, Oklahoma City Area
      i. See forthcoming email announcements on DEHS listserv for details
3. **2018 and 2019 Budgets Update (David McMahon)**
   a. **FY18**
      i. Facilities appropriation was $322M above FY17 appropriation
      ii. Gary Hartz working on allocation and distribution to Areas
   b. **FY19**
      i. President’s proposed budget did not fund CHR or Health Ed programs
         1. It’s assumed this will eliminate CHR programs but we’re unsure how that lack of funding would impact 638 CHR programs
         2. We’re unsure why the funding was eliminated, but it states in FY19 proposed budget
            a. In order to maintain direct clinical services they are prioritizing those services to be clinical care within facilities and CHR would be considered such services
      ii. IHS Congressional Affairs office asked DEHS to briefly describe CHR/DEHS collaborations; this is an effort to support the need for funding CHR
      iii. See draft description in this call’s Outlook meeting invitation or attached to this Adobe Connect meeting (Docx file available at [https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/pdxdwyxhwvg/](https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/pdxdwyxhwvg/))
      iv. Submit comments on document to David by 06 April
      v. RADM Weahkee preparing for FY19 appropriations hearings occurring in April

4. **Performance Measures Update (David McMahon)**
   a. **2016-2020 Measures**
      i. **FY18**
         Environmental Surveillance Performance Measure – conduct an interim assessment of poor employee health and hygiene foodborne illness risk factors to determine effectiveness of interventions and adjust interventions based on interim findings; see Environmental Surveillance Performance Measure reports (3a, 3b, 3c, 3d) in WebEHRS ‘reports’ menu to track status
      ii. **FY18**
         Injury Surveillance Performance Measure – measure interim seat belt use to determine effectiveness of interventions. Propose adjustments to interventions based on interim driver seat belt use findings

5. **COSTEPs (Stephen Piontkowski)**
   a. **2018**
      i. Open application window closed October 13, 2017
      ii. 29 applications received by DCCPR
      iii. 25 COSTEPs requested by Areas
      iv. Selections at DCCPR – December 11-15, 2017
      v. COSTEP files to Areas by December 29, 2017
      vi. 1662s from Areas to DCCPR – March 02, 2018 (you do not need to share 1662s with Stephen)
vii. See COSTEP Application Timeline 2017-2018 for details
viii. 10 successfully placed to date
  1. Clearances still pending
  2. Areas encouraged to communicate with their students there are
     still no guarantees
ix. IHS HQ will continue to share info as received
x. Thank you for sharing your COSTEPs’ details (e.g. CADs)
xii. 2018 is a rough COSTEP season
  1. Discussed issues, frustrations, concerns
     a. What is DCCPR’s response to disqualifying so many
        students? They are following the policies and guidelines
        they are expected to operate within
     b. Agency working with students trying to explain DCCPR’s
        position on why students were disqualified when DCCPR
        should be explaining and establishing their reasons to
        students
     c. All parties involved outside DCCPR frustrated and
        concerned
     d. IHS HQ EHOs and ENGs met w DCCPR personnel the
        hardships caused to students, professors, and agency
  2. 2019 extern options is on the DEHS National Directors’ Meeting
     agenda

6. DEHS National Directors’ Meeting Follow-up (David McMahon)
   a. Record of Decision and Action Items (see updated handout titled
      Record of Decision - Follow-up Items); all items closed

7. DEHS Directors’ Meeting 2018
   a. Date: June 12-14, 2018
   b. Location: Albuquerque, NM
   c. Venue: Drury Inn & Suites Albuquerque North
      i. Room block info TBA
   d. Protégées and mid-level managers invited (1-3 reps per Area)
   e. Planning committee (David, Danny, Kenny, Stephen) meeting regularly
   f. Draft agenda likely distributed in early May
      i. Meeting will not focus on
         1. Strategic planning due to instability of several leadership
            positions throughout DEHS and recognizing the need for some
            foundational programmatic work that is best done face-to-face
         2. No Area reports; but group did agree during this call for Areas to
            provide a 1-pager update
ii. Meeting will focus on
   1. Agency/DEHS-wide matters
   2. Working sessions with a focus on management planning (e.g. data quality, updating establishment type definitions, concept of operational guide)
   3. Ensuring outcomes achieved (i.e. walk away with sense of accomplishment and a deliverable)

iii. Succession planning and OEHE Leadership and Personal Development program suggested as agenda items

8. Injury Prevention Program Update (Nancy Bill)
   a. 2018 TIPCAP Workshop
      i. April 18-19, 2017
      ii. Rockville, MD
      iii. Project Officer training: April 17, 2017; Rockville, MD
   b. TIPCAP FY 2015-2020
      i. Part II 3rd Quarter progress report due April 30, 2018
      ii. Part I & II non-competing continuation applications due May 01, 2018

9. IEH Program Update (David McMahon)
   a. 2017 Gary J. Gefroh Safety and Health Award
      i. CAPT Chris Kates
   b. WebCident Replacement
      i. RFP for Commercial off the Shelf system to be announced soon
   c. IHS Annual Safety report submitted to HHS
      i. Thanks to IEH staff who helped with report content
   d. Residency
      i. Dusty Joplin planning thesis related site visits to selected Areas this summer
      ii. His thesis work will expand on John Hansen’s work re: nitrous oxide in dental clinics

10. WebEHRS Update (Stephen Piontkowski/Mike Reed)
    a. WebEHRS Virtual Training Session
       i. Frequency (FY18): Quarterly, 2nd Wednesday of month, 1:00 p.m. ET
       ii. March 14, 2018 had about 9 participants
       iii. July 18, 2018 (date adjusted due to July holiday)
       iv. Register here with EHSC
    b. eSurvey WKGP
       i. New Child Care Center survey to go live this spring
       ii. Head Start survey being finalized this month by Head Start Region XI
       iii. 2017 Food Code update ongoing
c. Change Control Board
   i. Monthly calls
   ii. New Board members start April 26th
   iii. 64 items to resolve
   iv. Since last Change Request Modification (CRM)
      1. 9 items to be put forward in April CRM
      2. 4 items reviewed and changed during CCB session
      3. 9 items reviewed with no change recommended
      4. 13 items resolved or administratively closed
      5. EH related Element and Sub-Element list’s updated

d. Data Quality
   i. Areas completed verification of Title I/IV status in WebEHRS
   ii. Most areas completed updates to establishments noted as "_unk_"
   iii. Several reservation additions based on IHS Standard Code Book
   iv. Draft revision of Establishment type definitions
   v. Correction to the Survey Completion Percentage Report #11

11. Sharing Successes, Tools, and Guidance (David McMahon/Jeff Dickson/Chris Allen)
   a. How can we better share DEHS success, tools developed, and documents that may be beneficial DEHS-wide
   b. EHSC envisions the resources feature on the EHSC website as a clearinghouse for such materials
   c. This concept is founded as an information sharing resource and not DEHS policy or endorsed materials
   d. See Great Plains Area rabies database example attached to this Adobe Connect meeting (GPA Rabies Poster, 3-8-13, PowerPoint file available at https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/pxdwxyxhwvq/)

12. Area Reports
   a. Alaska
      i. ANTHC (Mike Brubaker)
         1. Tribal EH Coalition Quarterly meetings; next one in June
         2. 1st Quarter: 102 community outreach services (trainings, site visits, or consultations) in 68 communities with 25 partner EH tribal organizations
            a. 18 performed by Anchorage SU
         3. Supported Iditarod with vaccination, deworming, and spay/neuter services, in addition to disease surveillance
         5. Bed Bug toolkits distributed to communities
6. Emergency Preparedness staff began doing assessments with Norton Sound Health Corporation

7. Rachel Lee is new Director, Environmental Health, Norton Sound Health Corporation (vice Kevin Zweifel)

8. Surveillance of climate change impacts on community health ongoing (e.g. marine cholera outbreak in March 2018)
   a. *Assessment of the Potential Health Impacts of Climate Change in Alaska*, State of Alaska Epidemiology, January 2018

9. Staffing
   a. EH Manager, Dillingham
   b. Field EH Officer, Bethel

   b. Albuquerque
      i. Open dumpsite mapping project with SFC
      ii. EPA R 6 project to reduce lead in drinking water in schools and child care centers
      iii. Lay vaccinator conference in early May
      iv. Jerry Lee and Travis Bowser participated in car seat clinic and both are CPS Instructors
      v. Ongoing prep for upcoming accreditation surveys at several facilities
      vi. Staffing
         1. Gary Carter transferred from Area to EHSC; this vacancy announcement forthcoming
         2. Vacancy announcements forthcoming
            a. SU EHO, Santa Fe
            b. SU EHO, Albuquerque SU
            c. SU EHO, Durango
            d. SU EHO, Zuni SU
            e. IEH, Albuquerque, Area
            f. *District EHO, Santa Fe* (closes 09 April)

   c. Bemidji – Not on call

   d. Billings
      i. Staffing
         1. Flathead SU: vacancy announcement forthcoming (Compacted Tribe)
         2. EHO, Wind River SU, closed in March
         3. Area IPS: no applicants; plan to increases to GS-12 and re-advertise in April
         4. Hosting 1 COSTEP
         ii. Area EH program evaluation to occur in 2018 to support strategic planning and program planning
         iii. IP Performance measure: 5 of 8 TIPCAP sites participating
         iv. Ricardo Murga, IEHO, helping Blackfeet and Crow prepare for accreditation

   e. California – Not on call
f. Great Plains
   i. Staffing
      1. DEHO, Sioux City (DE/MP), closes April 17
      2. DEHO, Minot (DE/MP), closes April 20
      3. Greg Calvert, IEHO, reporting in April
         a. Charles Woodlee to help with orientation
      4. COSTEP: 1 of 2 remaining
   ii. Area Workshop went well in March 2018
      1. NFPA training
      2. Mike Reed gave NDECI and WebEHRS updates

  g. Nashville – Not on call
  h. Navajo
   i. Staffing
      1. Three SU vacancy announcements forthcoming this month
   i. OEHE Workshop: April 16-18, Gallup, NM (first wkshp since 2006)
  j. Gallup Tsehootsooi Medical Center and Chinle are recipients of the IHS Zero Suicide Initiative Grant
   i. Gallup District Sanitarian and IP Coordinator continue to provide support and guidance as it relates to data collection which will continue
  k. Oklahoma – Not on call
  l. Phoenix
   i. Staffing
      1. Vacancy announcements closed 02 April; SU EHOs, Hopi/Reno/Ft. Duchesne
      2. COSTEPs: 2 remaining [pending medical clearance]
      3. Kate Pink and Sam Aboagye complete OBC this month
   ii. OEHE Workshop: May 08-11; RADM Taylor presenting at DEHS session
  m. Portland – No report
  n. Tucson – Not on call
  o. EHSC – No report

13. Other
   a. None

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