

DEHS Directors' Meeting: 06/01/17

Meeting recording and attachments available; <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/pdh5b9ciepgq/>

Next in-person meeting August 8-10, 2017
Next conference call October 05, 2017 1:00-2:30PM ET

Alaska:	Denman Ondelacy	Nashville:	Kit Grosch
ANTHC:	Mike Brubaker, Brian Berube	Navajo:	Gordon Tsatoke
Albuquerque:	Debra Grabowski	Oklahoma:	<i>Not on call</i>
Bemidji:	Tim Duffy	Phoenix:	Kenny Hicks
Billings:	Darcy Merchant	Portland:	<i>Not on call</i>
California:	Carolyn Garcia	Tucson:	Martin Smith
Great Plains:	Chris Allen		
Environmental Health Support Center: <i>Not on call</i>			
Rockville: David McMahon, Nancy Bill, Charles Woodlee, Mike Reed, Stephen Piontkowski			

1. Welcome (David McMahon)

- a. No changes to DEHS HQ staffing
 - i. RADM Kelly Taylor, Acting Chief of Staff, IHS
 - ii. David McMahon, Acting Director, DEHS, IHS

2. Awards

- a. LCDR Matthew Ellis, Gary J. Gefroh Safety & Health Awardee; [IHS blog post](#)



3. Performance Measures Update (David McMahon)

- a. 2016-2020 Measures
 - i. *Environmental Surveillance and Injury Intervention Performance Measures* – FY17 implementing and reporting interventions
 - ii. Reminder of PM reporting guideline (Docx file available at <https://ihs.adobeconnect.com/p4cdsv1qol8/>)
 - iii. Two Areas reported environmental interventions and one Area reported injury interventions to date
 - iv. FY17 reporting deadline August 31, 2017

4. Operational Model – Operational Plan Concept (David McMahon)

- a. The Model was selected as a DEHS vision element in 2014 to identify core services all IHS EH programs should provide and is in its final stages
- b. Next step: [McMahon] discuss with each of the Division Directors' at HQ
- c. *Operational Plan*
 - i. McMahon described it to new staff at OEHE Orientation course & the idea was well received
 - ii. Will be discussed more in depth at August DEHS Directors' meeting

5. DEHS National Directors' Meeting (David McMahon)

- a. When: August 08-10, 2017
- b. Where: IHS, HQ, Rockville, MD
- c. What: planning committee working on agenda; DEHS Directors' will be asked to moderate some sessions & provide 10-15 minute Area report
- d. Briefly reviewed agenda
- e. Lodging: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/I/IADMRHF-ADE-20170807/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

6. Head Start References (David McMahon/Angela Hodge)

- a. This item was discussed during December 01, 2016 DEHS Directors' call
 - i. Head Start Model Code does not align with 2016 Head Start Performance Standards
 - ii. DEHS Directors' requested a crosswalk of Head Start Model Code and the 2016 Head Start Performance Standards
 - iii. DEHS HQ submitted a scope of work to EHSC & crosswalk was submitted to HQ
 - iv. HQ reviewing crosswalk & considering DEHS approach/philosophy to Head Start surveys prior to distribution
- b. Albuquerque Area volunteered to develop crosswalk
 - i. Workgroup: Jeff Dickson, Angela Hodge, Donna Gilbert
 - ii. Plan to submit to David on April 14

7. WebEHRS Update (Stephen Piontkowski/Mike Reed)

- a. Contract modification with CDP
 - i. Currently revising manuals (e.g. Admin, User) & deploying them as they become available (~ weekly)



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- ii. Adding a new ES PM and IP PM canned reports that Darren created in Oracle to the WebEHRS Reports menu for easier access by WebEHRS users and DEHS managers
- b. eSurvey WKGP
 - i. Pool assessment eSurvey aligned with the Model Aquatic Health Code and piloting; should be live by summer 2017
- c. Change control board
 - i. Mike leading board of four members
 - ii. Conducting bi-weekly calls
 - iii. Will have list of changes to make in WebEHRS with a second contract modification this summer

8. Injury Prevention Program Update (Nancy Bill)

- a. Area Specialists meeting
 - i. When: March 15-17, 2017
 - ii. Where: Atlanta, GA (CDC)
 - iii. Who: Hosted by Holly Billie
 - iv. Notes forthcoming
- b. IP Funding Announcement
 - i. FY17 IPP Part II awardees TBA soon
- c. TIPCAP
 - i. June Newsletter forthcoming; feel free to submit articles
 - ii. Fall prevention webinar: June 29, 2017 by Dr. Bruce Fink
 - iii. Part II awardees announced May 31, 2017
 - 1. There were nine recipients
 - 2. Nancy will contact Area's for designated Project Officer
- d. IP Program Manager vacancy (to overlap with Nancy in the last few months prior to her retirement) announced and closes June 26, 2017
 - i. Announcement will be shared with Area IP Specialist and Area DEHS Directors via email from McMahon

9. IEH Program Update (Charles Woodlee)

- a. Policy revisions
 - i. Occupational Safety & Health: should go out for national review soon
- b. Residency update
 - i. LCDR Hansen: completed thesis; will present poster at American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA); poster nominated for awards at the University & at AIHA; first IEH Resident to earn MSPH
 - ii. LT Dustin Joplin: will begin classes early July 2017
 - iii. Hansen & Joplin are first two residents to earn MSPH in this "pilot" phase of students earning a MSPH instead of MPH; evaluation of pilot to occur as Joplin finishes residency
 - iv. 2018-2020 Residency announcement expected in September 2017



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- v. Field-based Residency: a concept for individuals who already have Master's degree to receive advanced training and build IEH competencies; proposal of this option ongoing
- c. IEH National meeting
 - i. June 08-09, 2017; Seattle; following the AIHA conference
 - ii. Agenda to include IEH role in accreditation, nitrous oxide, future of the residency, other national initiatives

10. Area Reports

- a. Alaska
 - i. Final negotiations for the Alaska Tribal Health Compact occurred last week
 - 1. ANTHC expressed intent to take back tribal shares for HQ Facilities shares & possibly EHS & SFC programs
 - 2. Denman wishes to discuss potential impacts with HQ & Mr. Brubaker
 - ii. RADM Buchanan expected to conduct site visits in conjunction with his attendance at National Indian Health Board meeting next week; he has an interest in discussing SFC projects
 - 1. Note: EH Programs work very closely with sanitation projects (e.g. YKHC)
 - iii. ANTHC: Fully staffed (3 field staff + Brian Berube)
 - 1. Currently 38 staff receiving IHS funds
 - iv. ANTHC and other tribal regional programs concerned with future of federal funding (e.g. possible reduction of U.S. EPA funds)
- b. Albuquerque
 - i. Zika: nothing new
 - ii. Staffing: current vacancies at Albuquerque, Zuni, Southern Colorado Service Unit may be advertised in 601 job series
 - iii. Training/standardization
 - 1. Received/receiving
 - a. Lay-vaccinator (40 attendees; undergoing OIG review)
 - iv. Continuous Accreditation Readiness Program refinements ongoing
 - 1. Area Directors' Award winners
 - v. Staffing: Vacancy announcements for Durango, Zuni, and 2 in Albuquerque forthcoming
- c. Bemidji
 - i. Staffing
 - 1. OEHE Director transferring to Director, Cass Lake Hospital
 - a. Unsure if OEHE Director position will be advertised or appointed an Acting
 - 2. Healthy Homes Coordinator position filled
 - 3. Hosting two COSTEPs and 1 Civil Service extern
 - 4. Selected three pathway applicants (two accepted offers; interviewing for the third)



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- ii. Zika: Some mosquito surveillance to occur but scope of services TBD
- d. Billings
 - i. Staffing: EHO, Wind River SU; vacancy announcement forthcoming
 - ii. COSTEPs – hosting two; one for EH/IP and one for IEH
- e. California
 - i. Staffing
 - 1. Sandra Mastandrea to report to Sacramento on June 12
 - 2. Civil Service Externs (2) reporting June 5 and 12
 - ii. Division Operating Guidelines (first set) finalized
 - 1. Environmental health surveys
 - 2. Reporting, investigating communicable diseases
 - 3. Nitrous oxide assessments
 - 4. Staff training
 - 5. Guidelines from the Bemidji Area and Oklahoma Area were used as models
 - iii. DEHS Portal on California Area website updated
 - 1. Provides overview of the program and services available.
 - 2. Intended to market program as well as provide tribal partners easy access to resources we developed and/or collected to address common environmental issues such as responding to vomit/diarrheal events in a food service establishment, food worker health policy, cleaning up after a flood, emergency planning for child care, etc.
 - iv. Child Care Standards developed by Tribal Child Care Association of California
 - 1. Pilot of standards to being soon
 - 2. Checklist development ongoing; six child care centers will serve as pilot sites
 - v. Beginning to arrange nitrous oxide assessments at clinics in California after program reviews performed jointly with CAO OPH found that many programs lacked adequate policies and procedures to ensure the safe administration of this anesthetic gas
- f. Great Plains
 - i. One tribe exploring taking District & Area shares
 - ii. Introduction to IP course, Pickstown, June 2017 (16 participants registered)
 - iii. Staffing: Area IP Specialist and Sioux City DEHO vacancies to be announced soon
 - iv. Increased focus on food safety at mass gatherings after 2016 FBI outbreak in Wagner
 - v. Chis Helgeson, Spirit Lake, passed on recently
 - vi. Diabetes program purchased ionized water system and SU called DEHS to determine it was a cure-all as it sounded & DEHS determined it was not
 - vii. RS/REHS: six staff currently preparing to take exam



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1. A few staff took NEHA prep course and it was not as interactive as it should be
- g. Nashville
 - i. Unity Healing Center had Joint Commission survey in May
 1. Surveyor very thorough
 - ii. Food service training in Coshatta Casino forthcoming (40-50 participants expected)
 - iii. TIPCAP Part II awardee: Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe [New York]
- h. Navajo
 - i. Staffing
 1. District IP Specialist, Ft. Defiance District (GS-11), announcement pending
 2. Director, Division of Occupational Health & Safety Management (DOHSM) (GS-13), announcement forthcoming in June
 3. Jeff Conner selected as Deputy Director IEH Program and will report on April 14
 4. Jeff's previous position will be announced soon
 5. Twyla Zoe Benally, IP Specialist reported
- i. Oklahoma – *Not on call*
- j. Phoenix
 - i. Staffing
 1. Institutional Environmental Control Officer, Phoenix, AZ: John Hansen selected and project to report around July 1
 2. Pending: Area IPS (Phoenix), EH Specialist (Polacca), EH Specialist (Phoenix)
 3. COSTEPs: four of five reported; DCCPR is asking them to complete online training courses and APFT
 4. Andrea Tsatoke and Stephanie Bridges to attend OBC in June/July
 - ii. Intermediate IP course: May 02-04, 2017; Scottsdale, AZ; co-hosted with Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community; ~ 24 participants
 - iii. Orphan Facility Types: Working on an interpretation memo to provide guidance to staff on our service role and RRM creditable facility assignment for facilities that are not clearly defined in current Facility Establishment Type definitions (e.g. amusement parks, aquarium, water park, golf courses, sports complex, museum, movie theater, charter schools, concert halls, wellness center/gymnasium); This ties-in to ongoing discussion regarding economic development impact on DEHS
 - iv. Current Investigations: *Shigella* at White Mountain Apache Tribe (~36 cases with three hospitalizations); RMSF at San Carlos Apache Tribe (n=3, non-fatal); plague at Hopi (n=2, non-fatal)
 - v. Zika: Partnered with Yuma County Pest Abatement District who is applying for a competitive grant to explore innovative control measures for *Aedes aegypti*; no news yet on the award



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- k. Portland – *Not on call* – below update emailed to HQ
 - i. Dashboard for Environment of Care
 - 1. Developed as part of comprehensive approach to risk management
 - 2. Led by LCDR Ellis led with participation by CAPT Jason Lovett, Acting Director, Division of Health Facilities Engineering, and Beth Finnsen, Western Oregon Service Unit
 - 3. Piloted by Portland OEHE and Western Oregon Service Unit
 - 4. Utilized at all 6 federal sites as part of Governing Board oversight and preparation for AAAHC accreditation reviews
 - 5. Dashboard may have direct applicability to Quality Improvement efforts for ambulatory facilities at the agency level
 - l. Tucson
 - i. Zika: Mosquito trapping occurring; RAMP testing for WNV; Pascua Yaqui incorporating two FTEs to work on pest control (these are tribal employees and DEHS provided support to the tribe to help them develop these positions)
 - ii. COSTEP: hosting one
 - iii. Spay Neuter Clinics: Partnering with Midwestern University and U.S. Army
 - iv. Updating WebEHRS for 4F Tables
 - v. Partnering with Davis Monthan AFB on IH equipment sharing program
 - m. EHSC – *Not on call*

11. Other

- a. RADMs promotion ceremony on IHS FaceBook
 - <https://www.facebook.com/IndianHealthService/posts/1345199838907861>
- b. Submit feedback on new DCCPR training requirements for COSTEPs to Stephen

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