

## 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

<b>Alaska:</b>	Denman Ondelacy	<b>Nashville:</b>	<i>Not on call</i>
<b>ANTHC:</b>	Mike Brubaker	<b>Navajo:</b>	Gordon Tsatoke
<b>Albuquerque:</b>	Brian Hroch	<b>Oklahoma:</b>	<i>Not on call</i>
<b>Bemidji:</b>	<i>Not on call</i>	<b>Phoenix:</b>	Kenny Hicks
<b>Billings:</b>	Darcy Merchant	<b>Portland:</b>	Carol Dean
<b>California:</b>	<i>Not on call</i>	<b>Tucson:</b>	<i>Not on call</i>
<b>Great Plains:</b>	Chris Allen		
<b>Environmental Health Support Center:</b> Jeff Dickson, Angela Hodge			
<b>Rockville:</b> 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





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## 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. Its 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 is 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/pdxdwxyxhwvg/>)
  - 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)



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- 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)
- xi. 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



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- 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](#)
  - v. These have been successful discussions, that modestly enhance users' WebEHRS capabilities, and led to WebEHRS improvements
- 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



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- 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/pdxdwxyxhwvg/>)

## 12. Area Reports

- a. Alaska
  - i. ANTHC (Mike Brubaker)
    - 1. Tribal EH Coalition Quarterly meetings; next one in June
    - 2. 1<sup>st</sup> 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
    - 4. [Impact of home remediation and household education on indoor air quality, respiratory visits and symptoms in Alaska Native children](#), International Journal of Circumpolar Health, February 2018
    - 5. Bed Bug toolkits distributed to communities



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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 increase 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*



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- 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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