



Monday, August 15, 2016 - 9:00 a.m.

A. Call To Order

B. Pledge Of Allegiance

C. Public Comment

Citizens are encouraged to speak to items on the agenda when recognized by the Chairman. Citizen desiring to speak to matters not on the agenda may do so at this time. Comments are limited to five (5) minutes and the Commission will take no action on items not on the agenda. Items introduced under Public Comment may be come agenda items at a later date.

D. Approval Of Minutes

E. Payment Of Vouchers

F. Items Of Business

1. Ruth Elliott And Linda Langley - 9:15 A.m.

- Transfer Listing
- CID report

2. Lori Reedy - Appraiser - 9:30 A.m.

- Monthly Department Update

3. Todd Pettegrew - Dispatch/EM - 9:45 A.m.

- Monthly Department Update

4. Mildred Metzger - Treasurer - 10:00 A.m.

- Monthly Department Update

5. Kristie Clark - HR - 10:15 Am

- department update

6. Sherry Vierthaler - Health - 10:30 A.m.

- Monthly Department Meeting

Documents:

7. Tracy Chance - Sheriff - 11:30 Am

- 2017 Budget

8. Lunch Break - 12:00 Pm To 1:00 Pm

9. Joanna Kenney - EMS - 1:00 P.m.

- 2017 Budget

G. Correspondence

H. Adjourn

HARPER COUNTY



REQUEST FOR COUNTY BOARD ACTION

Items must be received in the Administrator's Office by 12:00 Noon on the Thursday prior to the scheduled meeting to be considered.

Item #: _____
(Assigned by Administrator)

Meeting Date: August 15, 2016

Department: Public Health/Home Health

Item Requested: No action items

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- Agency 50 year anniversary in September – agency history attached.
 - Program updates
 - Staffing updates

History of the Harper County Health Department/Harper County Home Health Agency

On September 6, 1966, the Harper County Commissioners, A. A. Fisher, C. A. Watkins, and H. C. Grant met with Grace Gates to establish the Harper County Health Department/Home Health Agency. The agency was established with a 100% reimbursement grant, which ran through July 1967. Grace Gates, RN, was appointed as the Administrator with a starting salary of \$395.00 per month. Betty Carmichael was hired as the clerk for the agency with a salary of \$200.00 per month. It was decided that the rooms in the southwest corner of the Courthouse basement would house the new agency. There was no running water for cleaning instruments or hand washing in this area, so the south end of the ladies' restroom was partitioned off to provide room for a sink. Since there were no funds available to purchase supplies or equipment, the employees were told they could obtain furniture that was not being utilized from other offices. Desks, a typewriter, and mimeograph were obtained from the vacant Superintendent of School's office. The Commissioners gave the Administrator permission to buy a used refrigerator for \$20.00. The agency was now ready for business. Dr. Bellar had a patient in the hospital that was ready for discharge, but the patient needed assistance in the home to manage his care due to a recent amputation. This became the first home health patient for the agency. There were thirty home visits made in the first month the Harper County Home Health Agency was open. The Harper County Home Health agency now provides skilled in-home care services through Medicare, Medicaid, and third party insurance. Non-skilled in-home services are provided through the Harper County Health Department under HCBS, Senior Care Act, Private Insurance and Private Pay funding sources. In 2015, a total of 1,380 home health visits were made. In addition to these visits 8,625 hours of homemaker and personal care hours and 220 public health in-home service visits were provided through the Harper County Health Department In-Home Service Programs.

On July 1, 1967, Grace Gates wrote a grant to develop the Public Health Department and hired Virginia Downing to organize and record all of the immunization records onto yellow index cards. The Harper County Health Department still provides immunizations, in addition to a number of other programs developed for Public Health since 1967. Most of the public health program information is now maintained through the use of computer technology. The Harper County Health Department staff provided 8,163 public health services to individuals in the community in 2015. This number does not include blood pressure clinics we provide at friendship meal sites, and miscellaneous health and safety checks. The Women, Infant and Children nutrition program (WIC) also continues to be an important community service administered through the Harper County Health Department. In 2015 the agency served an average of 176 individuals a month through the WIC program. \$110,501.71 of WIC funds spent in local grocery stores during 2015.

Grace Gates served in the capacity of the Administrator until 1974. Through the years, both Grace Gates and Virginia Downing have continued to provide support to the agency in a variety of ways, providing nursing services and serving as interim administrators for the agency. Grace Gates still served the Harper County Health Department as a member

of the Advisory Board until her death in March of 2011. Virginia Downing currently provides consulting services for the agency. Former administrators for the agency include: Grace Gates, Barbara Morisse, Freida Schmidt, Rosie Walker, and Rita Bonetti. The agency has employed a number of individuals over the years, many of these employees providing quality services to the community for a number of years. The nature of the work provided by the agency staff involves a level of caring, commitment, and dedication to the community that goes far beyond regular work hours and formal compensation. During the year 2016, we have a number of employees that will have reached milestones in the number of years they have provided quality service to the community:

Heather Struble	Home Health Assistant Admin./Coordinator	24 years
Teresa Goetz	Home Health RN	14 years
Sherry Vierthaler	LBSW/Administrator	12 years
Mary Helen McKaig	Attendant Care	11 years
Laina Berry	Home Health Aide	9 years
Jonna Gaffney	Public Health Program Clerk	8 years
Kim Bauer	Public Health RN/Asst. Admin PH	7 years
Venita Bogdanovecz	Home Health RN	6 years
Renee Gerber	Home Health Aide	6 years
Dora Shelton	Home Health Aide	6 years
Jennilee Wedman	Public Health RN	5 years
Susan Ricke	Home Health RN	5 years

Current employees with less than five years of service include:

Michelle Campbell	In- Home Service Coordinator/Billing Clerk
Mary Lozoya	Public Health Program Clerk
Shirley Moore	Public Health/Home Health RN
Christina Becker	Home Health Aide
Ellen McDonald	APRN, FP Practitioner
Carolyn Vahle	Attendant Care
Carrie Sauer	Public Health Program Clerk
Vacant	Attendant Care (FT)
Vacant	Attendant Care (FT)
Vacant	Attendant Care (PT)

The Harper County Health Department/Harper County Home Health Agency has continued to grow and change over the years to meet the health needs of the community, to promote prevention and wellness, and to protect the community and the environment. The office of the Harper County Health Department/Harper County Home Health Agency moved across the street from the courthouse in 1993 to a new building at 123 N. Jennings, Anthony, KS 67003-0066. Staff members continue to provide services in the Harper County community through Home Health Services and Public Health services, including Public Health Clinics on scheduled dates at Harper and Attica, as well as

participation in community health events. A community reception was held on September 18, 2006 to recognize the initial employees who started the agency and to celebrate 40 years of community services. Heather Struble received the Kansas Home Care Association (KHCA) award for the Kansas Home Care Administrator Honoree of the year during the annual meeting on September 2006. Linda Patrick received the KHCA Home Care Paraprofessional of the Year at the annual meeting on September 17, 2008. Grace Gates was more recently honored with the KHCA Home Care Hero Honoree of the Year at the KHCA annual meeting on September 23, 2010. On May 1, 2010, the agency absorbed additional staff and in-home service clients due to the closure of the Harper Hospital Home Health Agency. This consolidation resulted in the addition of six new full time positions with our agency. During 2012, the agency received a much needed update with fresh paint and new carpet throughout the building. We welcome you to visit our offices to check out our new look and to take advantage of the services we provide.