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**STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
**123 Robert S. Kerr**  
**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102**

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**I. Call to Order**

Dr. Krishna called the meeting to order on Friday, August 11 at 10:01 a.m.

**II. Roll Call and Confirmation of a Quorum**

Board members present: Dr. Randy Grellner, Dr. Murali Krishna, Dr. Jeffrey Lim, Mr. Ronald Osterhout, Dr. Bruce Storms, Dr. Christopher Sudduth, Dr. Kinion Whittington, Dr. Travis Wolff

Board members absent: Mr. Mark McCroskey

Central staff present: Keith Reed, Commissioner of Health; Jackie Shawnee, Chief of Staff; John Clark, Rulemaking Coordinator; Dr. LaTrina Frazier, Deputy Commissioner of Quality Assurance and Regulatory; Juli Montgomery, District 9 Regional Director; and Baylee Williams who served as recording secretary.

**III. Review, Discussion and Approval of Minutes for the May 12, Regular Meeting**

Dr. Storms moved board approval of the May 12 minutes as presented. Second Mr. Osterhout. Motion carried.

Aye: Dr. Krishna, Mr. Osterhout Dr. Storms, Dr. Whittington, Dr. Wolff

Absent: Mr. McCroskey

Abstain: Dr. Grellner, Dr. Lim, Dr. Sudduth

**IV. Legislative Discussion – Jackie Shawnee, *Chief of Staff***

Baylee Williams, Legislative Liaison presented on behalf of Jackie Shawnee and provided updates on the conclusion of the 2023 legislative session. The Governor signed 344 bills, of those, 97 were bills that either directly or indirectly impacted the Agency. 50 bills were vetoed. The Agency was appropriated \$71,487,964 for FY24, which was a \$9,650,000 increase from FY23 appropriations. All past programs were funded, along with \$2,900,000 for pregnancy resource navigators, \$750,000 for Parent Promise, \$4,500,000 for Operations and \$1,500,000 for the School Nurse Pilot Program as directed from SB 225.

Of the 11 Agency request bills, 6 were signed: SB 247, amending the definition for “barracks”; SB 292, increasing syphilis testing for pregnant women; SB 571, restructuring the Long-Term Care Advisory Board; SB 230, revocation of the Catastrophic Health Emergency Planning Act Task Force; HB 2788, bunk bed rule revocation; and SB 225, decreasing frequency of the diabetes report. 4 bills are dormant and will be brought back up next session; HB 2787, stem cell annual report elimination; SB 536, EMS language cleanup; HB 1960, removal of psychiatric facilities from certificate of need; and SB 538, choosing childbirth amendments. One bill was vetoed by the Governor, SB 538, community health worker certification. The Agency is in the process of preparing for the next session but plans on having a smaller legislative agenda and spending more time focusing on collaborating with legislators on their legislation.

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2 **V. Request for Board Advisory Participation** – Dr. LaTrina Frazier, *Deputy Commissioner of*  
3 *Quality Assurance and Regulatory* and Juli Montgomery, *Regional Director, District 9*

4 The Agency is requesting for the Board to form two subcommittees to form and advise the Agency  
5 on ways to improve outcomes for maternity desserts and issues occurring for the aged-population  
6 and in the long-term care space.  
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8 Dr. Frazier provided background and information on the aging and LTC issues in the state.  
9 Oklahoma currently ranks 34<sup>th</sup> for 65 and Older. There are a variety of types of LTC facilities;  
10 nursing/skilled nursing, intermediate care, VA centers, assisted living, residential care and adult  
11 day care. Between those, Oklahoma has 651 facilities totaling 46,800 beds. Since 2018, there have  
12 been 78 facility closures, a loss of 1,229 beds. Dr. Frazier addressed possible opportunities for  
13 this population including: access, compliant quality care, healthcare workforce and transitional  
14 care coordination. Following the LTC discussion, Dr. Frazier provided information on medical  
15 facilities. Oklahoma has 147 hospitals, 40 critical access facilities and 2 rural emergency hospitals.  
16 There have been a large number of general medical surgical facilities closing.  
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18 Juli Montgomery presented data on maternity deserts across the state. There are a large number  
19 of counties without access to consistent pre-natal care or birthing hospitals. The Agency has been  
20 looking at various methods to help with this situation. Utilizing LeFlore county, who had 565  
21 births but no delivering hospital, the Agency has been looking at ways to collaborate in solving  
22 the issue. They have been using their mobile units and have been in partnership with several  
23 providers in the area to help connect women to pre-natal care. LeFlore County Health Department  
24 and Baptist hospital have entered into an MOU and have begun a partnership to address these  
25 issues. The Agency has been helping in a variety of ways and has been seeing successes so far.  
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27 Subcommittee assignments were discussed and agreed on. The LTC subcommittee is Mr.  
28 Osterhout, Dr. Wolff, Dr. Lim and Dr. Krishna. The Maternity Desert subcommittee is Dr.  
29 Storms, Dr. Whittington, Dr. Sudduth and Dr. Grellner.  
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31 **VI. Commissioner's Report** – Keith Reed, *State Commissioner of Health*

32 Transformation has continued within the Agency and is still being tracked. As federal funding for  
33 COVID response is coming to an end, the Agency has been looking into FTEs that were hired for  
34 COVID response based on those grants. The Commissioner also provided information on an  
35 ongoing situation with Title X, which is a Federal Grant funding family planning of which the  
36 Agency receives \$4,500,000. Due to Oklahoma state laws, OSDH could no longer remain in  
37 compliance with Title X requirements, which has resulted in a loss of those funds. The legislature  
38 had agreed to provide funding into appropriations for the Agency to supplement those funds. This  
39 program provides services to around 30,000 women per year.  
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42 **VII. New Business**

43 Dr. Krishna has requested for election of officers to be discussed at the next meeting.  
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45 **VIII. Adjournment**

46 Dr. Storms moved board approval to adjourn. Mr. Osterhout provided a second. Motion carried.

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2 Aye: Dr. Grellner, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Lim, Mr. Osterhout, Dr. Storms, Dr. Whittington, Dr.  
3 Wolff

4 Absent: Mr. McCroskey

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6 The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.  
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DRAFT