



# Kansas Environmental Health Association

Www.keha.us

2016

Fall Newsletter

## 2016 Exec. Board Officers:

### President:

Ann Mayo, RS

[indiangrass1@gmail.com](mailto:indiangrass1@gmail.com)

### 1st Vice President:

Guy Crabill

[gcrabill@franklincoks.org](mailto:gcrabill@franklincoks.org)

### 2nd Vice President:

Shawn Esterl

[shawn.esterl@sschd.org](mailto:shawn.esterl@sschd.org)

### Secretary:

Lisa Davies, RS

[ldavies@gcphd.org](mailto:ldavies@gcphd.org)

### Treasurer:

Beth Rowlands

[browlands@kdheks.gov](mailto:browlands@kdheks.gov)

### Past President:

Bronson Farmer, RS

[farmerduo@hotmail.com](mailto:farmerduo@hotmail.com)

### At Large Member:

Tom Morey

[tom.morey@kda.ks.gov](mailto:tom.morey@kda.ks.gov)

### General Section Chair:

Tim Simons

[tim.simons@snco.us](mailto:tim.simons@snco.us)

### Special Section Chair:

Scott Schwinn, RS

[sschwinn@pottcounty.org](mailto:sschwinn@pottcounty.org)



### Inside this Issue:

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ann Mayo, MS, RS



Dear Members:

I hope your summer has included some time for relaxation during a normally busy season.

Your KEHA Executive Board has been working on a number of projects for the organization. The updates below provide the current status of our projects.

### Financial Accounting

One of our main issues this year has been to upgrade the organization's financial function, tracking, and auditing. In my last letter, I mentioned that the Board purchased new software to assist in financial reporting. I believe the reports being generated with the help of this software are easier to use, understand, and follow than reports we have used in the past.

A current budget has been established and has been useful in the planning of the current conference and other events. A current financial report is available to the board at each meeting. We have changed the reporting time period for the Fall Educational meeting. The financial report you will receive at the 2016 Fall Educational Conference will reflect our current financial status and all financial transactions between July of 2015 and June of 2016. This report period was done in order to give a more complete financial picture through an entire year. In addition, it provides our current financial status. A copy of the annual financial report will be in your meeting packet.

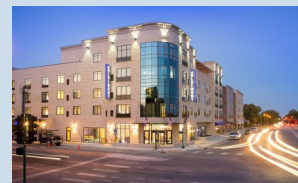
The Board has established a three member auditing committee chaired by Guy Crabill and including Bronson Farmer and Scott Schwinn. The committee will conduct the annual audit at the last board meeting prior to the conference. At that time the committee will also establish procedures to be utilized by future committees conducting an audit. A formal copy of the procedures will be handed down to each subsequent audit committee.

The current treasurers report and budget as well as the audit procedures are subject to updates. Much thanks to Beth Rowlands who has spearheaded these changes. It involved a great deal of work.

## 2016 KEHA FALL CONFERENCE

Wednesday, September 28 to  
Friday, September 30, 2016

Bluemont Hotel  
1212 Bluemont Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66502



## (Continued from Page 1)

The Board has once again reviewed the organization's by-laws and recommends a single update this year. You will receive this information shortly. We look forward to receiving your comments before a vote is taken at our annual educational conference to adopt any changes.

KEHA currently has 55 active members. We continue to explore ways to cut administrative and conference costs. You should expect to see some changes in our Annual Educational Conference this Fall.

Your First Vice-President, Guy Crabill, is in the process of completing plans for the Fall Annual Educational Conference which will be held in Manhattan at the Bluemont Hotel on September 28, 29, and 30, 2016. Registration materials for the Fall Educational Conference may be found in the body of this newsletter.

The KEHA Executive Board has agreed to work with the Kansas Small Flows Association to produce our annual 2017 educational conference. Although the agreement has not been currently formalized, the intent is to move forward with this cooperative effort. We expect to have more information to present to the membership at the conference this fall. This is not a simple nor easy process. Much thanks goes to John Verssue and the KSFA board for the work they have done to date toward this effort. If successful, we believe this could truly benefit both organizations

Future plans include contacting additional colleges and universities to determine if interest exists in cooperating in research related to environmental health issues. We hope this will result in establishing relationships between the faculty and students at our higher learning institutions and KEHA.

Our last meeting prior to the Fall Conference will be held at the Bluemont Hotel in Manhattan, Kansas on September 7<sup>th</sup> between 10 AM and 3:00 PM. Contact any board member for more information.

## Kansas Environmental Health Association





***Kansas Environmental Health Association***  
***2016 Fall Conference Registration***

***September 28<sup>th</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016***

***Bluemont Hotel, Manhattan, KS***

Please return completed form via email ASAP to: [browlands@kdheks.gov](mailto:browlands@kdheks.gov)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Registration:**

KEHA member .....\$130.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

KEHA *non-member* .....\$150.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2017 KEHA Membership Dues .....\$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (January 1 to December 31, 2017)

Bill Spaniol Scholarship Donation ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Jo Funk Memorial Fund Donation ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.....  
 (Money does NOT have to accompany form.)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make sure information is complete and include one form for each person attending the conference.  
 This information will be used to update the KEHA Membership list.

Please send payment along with a copy of the registration form to:

Beth Rowlands, KEHA Treasurer  
 P O Box 1969  
 Lawrence, KS 66044-1969  
 Phone: 785-842-4600

**Administrative Use Only:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Beth Rowlands, KEHA Treasurer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



**2016 KANSAS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
FALL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
BLUEMONT HOTEL  
MANHATTAN, KS  
September 28-30, 2016**

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                    | <b>WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2016</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| 12:00 – 1:00 PM    | <b>Registration</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1:00 – 1:15 PM     | <b>Welcome – Ann Mayo, RS KEHA President</b>                                                                                                                                                |
| 1:15 – 2:45 PM     | <b>Michelle Ponce, KAHL D</b><br><i>Kansas Health Foundation Workforce and the Establishment<br/>Of Minimum Health Standards</i>                                                            |
| 2:45 – 3:00 PM     | <b>BREAK</b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 3:00 – 4:00 PM     | <b>Dr. Kevin Sauer and Dr. Kevin Roberts</b><br><i>The Center for Excellence for Food Safety Research in<br/>Childhood Nutrition Programs<br/>Current Status of School Nutrition Safety</i> |
| 4:00 – 5:00 PM     | <b>Sheri Tubach, MPH, MS</b><br><i>KDHE Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Performance</i>                                                                                            |
|                    | <b>HOSPITALITY SUITE OPENS AT 6 PM</b>                                                                                                                                                      |
|                    | <b>THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2016</b>                                                                                                                                            |
| 8:15 – 8:30 AM     | <b>Opening Remarks</b>                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8:30 – 9:45 AM     | <b>John Webster</b><br><i>Virtual Tour of the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF)</i>                                                                                             |
| 9:45 – 10:00 AM    | <b>BREAK</b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 10:00 – 11:00 AM   | <b>Kansas State University Department of Health and Safety</b>                                                                                                                              |
| 11:00 – 12:00 NOON | <b>Jessica Willard, KDHE</b><br><i>Public Health Tracking</i>                                                                                                                               |
| NOON – 1:15 PM     | <b>Lunch and Awards Ceremony</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1:15 – 2:00 PM     | <b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Michelle Ponce, KAHL D</b>                                                                                                                                             |
| 2:00 – 3:00 PM     | <b>Jack Brown and Dr. Elizabeth Ablah</b><br><i>Progress on the Domestic Water Well Committee</i>                                                                                           |
| 3:00 – 4:00 PM     | <b>Kelly Benton</b><br><i>Kansas State Animal Response Team (KSSART)</i>                                                                                                                    |
| 4:00 – 5:00 PM     | <b>General Business Meeting</b>                                                                                                                                                             |
|                    | <b>HOSPITALITY SUITE OPENS AT 6 PM</b>                                                                                                                                                      |
|                    | <b>FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2016</b>                                                                                                                                              |
| 8:15 – 9:00 AM     | <b>Jennifer Nichols, KDHE</b>                                                                                                                                                               |
| 9:00 – 10:00 AM    | <b>Adam Inman, Kansas Department of Agriculture</b><br><i>Direct to Consumer Food Based Food Sales</i>                                                                                      |
| 10:00 – 10:15 AM   | <b>BREAK</b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 10:15 – 11:15 AM   | <b>Tom Fritts, Residential Sewage Treatment Company Inc.</b><br><i>Missouri Mounds</i>                                                                                                      |
| 11:15 – NOON       | <b>Ed Kalas, Shawnee County Health Agency</b>                                                                                                                                               |
| NOON               | <b>Closing Comments - Adjournment</b>                                                                                                                                                       |



## Health Impact Assessment: A New Way to Look at EH

**Date posted:**

Monday, July 18, 2016 - 11:45

**Blog poster:**

Sandra Whitehead, PhD

**Email of Blog Poster:**

[swhitehead@neha.org](mailto:swhitehead@neha.org)

If you work in a local health department (LHD), it probably comes as no surprise that shrinking budgets have forced cuts to many environmental health programs.

Shrinking budgets, compounded by the limited understanding about the value of the environmental health field and the roles of its practitioners are driving this trend. In fact, recent studies have estimated that approximately 22 percent of state and local environmental health positions were removed since 2008. When faced with difficult funding choices, it is easier for LHDs, to cut a program that is seen as regulatory, like environmental health, rather than direct services like immunizations or diabetes management. Until the environmental health community clearly articulates its mission, return on investment, and the value of their work, this trend will continue.

The first step is reframing the discussion about the role of environmental health professionals and their significance. It starts with expanding the definition of environmental health to include new tasks and frameworks, in other words, creating Environmental Health 2.0. This is a concept put forth by Dr. Dyjack to demonstrate how and why EH professionals need to partner with primary care. I argue that we need to extend our networks and our skills beyond just the health setting and find ways to address the social determinants of health through working with planners, parks and recreation professionals, economic developers and architects.

One powerful tool in particular that can move this process forward is the Health Impact Assessment (HIA). HIA is defined as a systematic process that uses an array of data sources and analytic methods and considers input from stakeholders to determine the potential effects of a proposed policy, plan, program, or project on the health of a population and the distribution of those effects within the population. HIA provides recommendations on monitoring and managing those effects. The knowledge, skills, and

capabilities necessary to carry out an HIA can simultaneously grow the relevance and awareness of the environmental health profession. Not only does HIA foster cross-community collaboration, it also generates data-driven analysis, and the development of evidence based recommendations.

The recent Annual Educational Conference in San Antonio devoted an entire day's worth of sessions highlighting HIA. A total of eight sessions featured diverse speakers representing federal, state and local agencies highlighting HIAs that examined the effects of a proposed light rail extension on community food access, challenges of starting a Built Environment Unit within a local health department, using data to inform an HIA on severe weather events, incorporating HIA into the brownfields redevelopment process, and more.

An important point to recognize in sharing these HIAs is that LHDs cannot, and should not solve community health issues in a vacuum. Instead, public health officials, particularly environmental health staff, should use HIA to inform decision-makers of the evidence-based value related to their efforts. As a result, the likelihood of funding and program cuts will decrease. In the wake of emergencies like Flint's water contamination and the Zika Virus, environmental health capacity needs to grow, rather than disappear. Using HIA will support that growth.

**National Environmental Health Association**

**Early August 2016 E-NEWS Volume 16, Issue 13**

### KEHA FALL CONFERENCE SILENT AUCTION

Guess what! It's that time of year again to clean out your drawers, closets, find those hidden treasures that you just don't know what to do with and bring them to the KEHA Fall Conference Silent Auction. We have always had a good selection of items that have been new, home-made, re-gifted and others that were found in shall we say "unusual locations" and brought in to the auction. The KEHA organization appreciated everyone who has donated something and all of the proceeds go to support the Bill Spaniol Scholarship Fund.

Thank you for your support!

Keena Privat, Silent Auction Chair

**KDHE Announces Extreme Weather Shelter Project**  
**by Jessica Willard, Program Manager, KSEPHT, KDHE**

The Kansas Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (KSEPHT) invites you to learn more about the Extreme Weather Shelter Project sponsored by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The goal of the project is to reduce the number of illnesses, injuries and deaths associated with extreme heat and extreme cold temperatures. This project provides information about cooling and warming centers available to vulnerable Kansans during extreme weather events. Some of the information gathered from participating facilities and shared with the general public includes center locations, hours of operation, phone numbers and other relevant information. The types of facilities vary by location and include local libraries, community centers, Salvation Army locations, YMCA's, recreation centers and city hall lobbies. This project not only connects people with center resources, but provides extreme weather related data, information and additional resources in one convenient place.

It doesn't take much to participate, and every location added could save a life. If you want to make a difference in your community by offering your business, public or private institution to be managed as a shelter location during extreme weather events, please fill out the registration form. You can submit the form by email or mail to the Kansas Environmental Public Health Tracking Program. Someone will contact you promptly to provide details and instructions about the project.

To access complete details on the project go to the KDEPHT website and visit the Extreme Weather Shelter Project page under the Environmental Exposures menu, weather and public health. Questions about the project can be directed to [ksepht@kdheks.gov](mailto:ksepht@kdheks.gov).

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**2015-2016 John Snow Awardees Announced**  
**by the Local Public Health Program and BEDPHI**

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment would like to congratulate the local health departments who received the John Snow Disease Investigation Award at the 2016 Governor's Public Health Conference. The local health departments recognized were: Barton, Bourbon, Butler, Lawrence-Douglas, Ellis, Flint Hills Community Health Center, Ford, Geary, Gove, Graham, Greeley, Greenwood, Harper, Haskell, Johnson, Leavenworth, McPherson, Mitchell, Neosho, Norton, Pottawatomie, Reno, Riley, Rush, Saline, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Sherman, Smith, Stafford, Trego, Wilson and Unified Government of Wyandotte. This Kansas award recognizes local public work in disease outbreak management which includes disease surveillance, investigation and reporting as emulated by John Snow who is considered one of the fathers of modern epidemiology.

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## Irrigation Water Issues Potentially Related to Multistate *E. coli* Outbreak on Spinach

In 2006, a CDC investigation linked a multistate outbreak of *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) O157:H7 to fresh bagged spinach from California. Effects were widespread: people became ill, the spinach was recalled, and farmers were unable to sell some of their crops. This outbreak endangered consumers, cost farmers money, and concerned farm conglomerates, oversight authorities and regulators.

In disease outbreaks, CDC's epidemiologists are usually the primary "disease detectives" dispatched to investigate and find the source of the illness. In 2006, along with the State of California and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), CDC epidemiologists investigated this outbreak of *E. coli* O157:H7. The epi team found the source of the illness was spinach grown on a farm in California. Investigators tied the contaminated spinach to this particular farm by matching the type of *E. coli* in sick patients with environmental samples taken from the spinach field.

### Environmental Investigation

This CDC investigation was unique and important because it did not end when epidemiologists found the source of *E. coli* on the spinach in fields. To determine how the bacteria entered the fields, CDC sent another type of disease detective: environmental health specialists. These specialists added expertise to conduct a watershed scale, systems-based environmental assessment to investigate the potential effects of irrigation water quality on the spinach. The environmental investigation examined overall watershed characteristics, irrigation wells and their use, and how water moved above and below ground in the area. The environmental health team evaluated the following factors that could have affected the outbreak:

- Surface water runoff from hillside grazing areas onto cultivated fields,
- Construction of irrigation wells,
- Use of surface water for irrigation, and
- Groundwater and surface water interaction.

The contaminated fields lay near the San Benito River, a tributary of the coastal Pajaro River near Monterey Bay. To investigate potential water issues related to the outbreak, investigators examined various data including

- Drillers' logs for wells,
- Location of irrigation wells relative to both contamination sources and surface water,
- Historical records of depth from the surface to groundwater,
- Data on percolation (how water moves through the ground) from surface waters into groundwater, and records of farm irrigation using surface water.

### Possible Sources

The environmental health team considered heavy rainfall runoff from hillside cattle pastures onto crop fields as a possible source of the *E. coli* bacteria. Cattle pasture grazing areas lay on

hillsides around the agricultural areas, making them a prime concern for surface runoff to move onto crop fields, especially during heavy rainfall. However, the outbreak occurred in the dry season from June through September. Therefore, the surface water runoff did not appear to have caused the contamination.

Another possible source of contamination was agricultural wells. The quality of well construction can affect whether water from the ground surface (for example, rainwater flowing atop the ground) reaches the well water through the well bore (the hole to drill the well). Grouting, or placing a cement-type substance on well walls, helps to keep this water out. Records indicated that most agricultural wells in the area were not grouted. However, as rain and surface runoff were practically nonexistent during the dry summer-fall time period of the outbreak, the non-grouted wells were unlikely sources of spinach contamination.

During the investigation, the environmental health team found the same strain of *E. coli* in environmental samples from the farm in the surrounding San Benito River watershed as was on the spinach. The samples matched water and sediment samples from the river as well as samples from cattle and wild pig feces found on and near the farm. The environmental health team also found that winter runoff was stored in reservoirs (lakes) and then released during the dry summer season to recharge groundwater used for irrigation. Pumping from irrigation wells during the wet winter season likely pulls from the stored groundwater in the basin. However, as the growing season progresses, high rates of groundwater pumping decrease water levels. When the groundwater level is below the river, water from the river can recharge into the groundwater basin, potentially carrying with it contaminants from the river water.

### Conclusion

After environmental health assessors analyzed land use, water movement, irrigation and interaction between ground and surface water, they concluded that the most likely contamination risk to the spinach crops during irrigation appeared to be potential contamination arising from interaction between groundwater and surface water.

Gelting RJ, Baloch MA, Zarate-Bermudez MA, Selman C. [Irrigation water issues potentially related to the 2006 multistate \*E. coli\* O157:H7 outbreak associated with spinach](#). Agric Wat Manag. 2011;98(9):1395-1402. doi:10.1016/j.agwat.2011.04.004.

## Years of budget cuts have left some cities and states ill-prepared to stop Zika spread

By [Steven Ross Johnson](#) | July 3, 2016 [Modern Healthcare](#)

Efforts to stop the spread of the [Zika virus](#) within the U.S. have been largely focused on minimizing the risk of sexual transmission of the disease by infected travelers. But the unseasonably warm weather and the expected onslaught of mosquitos are redirecting the spotlight on the perpetrators: the *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitos.

Reducing the number of the virus' primary carriers, however, will require new and costly strategies. And years of budget cuts to local and state mosquito abatement programs, [some in the country's most vulnerable areas](#), could lead to uneven or ineffective surveillance and abatement.

The nature of the *Aedes* mosquito makes aerial spraying of pesticides and eliminating large breeding sites – both strategies that have successfully controlled populations of the West Nile-carrying *Culex* mosquito – less effective. “The *Aedes* mosquito is a profoundly local mosquito that doesn't travel very far,” said David Dyjack, executive director for the National Environmental Association. “The solution is profoundly local.” Normal control programs focus on spraying insecticides in areas such as wetlands and sewers, places with standing water that make ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. But the *Aedes* mosquito only requires about the equivalent of a bottle cap full of water in order to breed, making it harder to find.

*Aedes* has become highly adaptable to areas where humans reside, settling in beds or underneath lawn furniture. They tend to bite on lower extremities, and can bite as many as 15 people before they have had a full meal.

Dyjack said public health officials need a door-to-door outreach strategy to educate people how to prevent the mosquito's chances of breeding and feeding. But many local and state public health departments aren't fully staffed.

A report by the [Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists](#) found between 2004 and 2012 there was 41% decline in the number of staff working at least half time on mosquito surveillance to track West Nile across 48 states.

During the same period, 58% of U.S. states reduced their mosquito trapping activities and 68% reduced their mosquito testing, according to the report, which described the country's capacity to conduct mosquito surveillance as “patchy”, with few states having robust programs and many having few to no resources. Joe Conlon, spokesman for the American Mosquito Control Association said they're looking for federal funds that can come down through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help mosquito control districts localize their testing regimens. “The more local we make it, the faster results we are going to get and the faster that intervention measures can be instituted,” he said.

Revitalizing mosquito control efforts became a topic of discussion during a hearing held Thursday by the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs when lawmakers asked whether a federal response was needed. “We need at the federal level to have the technical assistance and the ability to supplement what the states and localities can do,” said Rear Admiral Dr. Anne Schuchat, CDC principal deputy director.

Earlier this month, the CDC [released a draft](#) plan on responding to local cases of Zika infestation. The agency intends to address mosquito control as part of an overall response to Zika, but those efforts so far have been mired in political gridlock over funding. The latest attempt to pass a bill in the Senate that would have allocated \$1.1 billion toward fighting Zika failed on Tuesday over the objections of Democrats regarding provisions included in the measure that would have loosened environmental regulations and banned funding to Planned Parenthood.

Meanwhile, Texas and other states in the South expected to be hardest hit by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito are scrapping together funds. Texas's state health department has [spent more than \\$400,000](#) since the start of the year to expand its lab capacity and to buy mosquito traps. Still, smaller, more rural communities have limited or no mosquito surveillance. Most of those towns must rely on outside labs to conduct their testing, which can take weeks to get back results. So far, no mosquitoes have tested positive for Zika.

As of June 22, more than 800 people have been infected with Zika, according to the CDC. So far, none of the cases reported have been the result of a mosquito bite that occurred in the U.S.





DENVER, Colo. - For the first time in 40 years, the government is overhauling the rules for toxic chemicals.

There are tens of thousands of chemicals that are in interstate commerce every day, that we have at home, that we use constantly," said David Dyjack, Dr.Ph, CIH with the National Environmental Health Association. "Those have received precious little health and safety review." The new law will standardize the \$800 billion dollar chemical industry, previously overseen by individual states.

Critics say toxic chemical regulation should be up to individual states. Congress spent three years working on the changes, which are the first since the 1976 Toxic Substances Control Act. <http://www.neha.org/news-events/latest-news>

The Private Well Class webinars are live enrichment sessions, in addition to the [main email course](#) material. We'll reinforce the topics in your email lessons with additional examples. The webinars are also your best opportunity to ask questions. You can find our upcoming dates below.

## What Well Owners Need to Know about Lead in Drinking Water

August 30, 2016, 1pm Central

More information

## RECENT Webinars

## What Water Testing Labs Need to Know about Private Wells

July 19, 2016, 1pm Central

### Recording

## Septic Systems 101

July 6, 2016, 1pm Central

## Recording

## Is My Safe Safe to Drink? - Common Questions about Private Wells

May 11, 2016, 1pm Central

## Recording

## What Realtors Need to Know about Homes with Well Water

April 27, 2016, 1pm Central

## Recording

## Well Care 101 - What You Need to Know to Protect Your Family

March 30, 2016, 8pm Central

## Recording

## What Environmental Health Professionals Need to Know about Wells

February 17, 2016, 1pm Central

## Recording



<http://privatewellclass.org/calendar>

**BYLAWS**  
**KANSAS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**  
**PROPOSED 2016 REVISION**

**ARTICLE 1 – NAME**

This Association shall be known as the Kansas Environmental Health Association. –It may also be referred to by its initials: KEHA.

**ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVE**

The Objective of the Kansas Environmental Health Association is to promote competency and effectiveness in sanitarians and other environmentalists engaged in the regulation of the Kansas environment including, but not limited to, food service establishments, commercial food preparation facilities, dairy products businesses, meat processing plants, bakeries, commercial lodging and hotels, swimming pools, water supplies, wastewater treatment and disposal, solid waste collection and disposal, air pollution control, radiation control, hazardous waste materials facilities, recreational camps and public events.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.       Classes of Membership** – There shall be four classes of membership:  
Active, Honorary, Emeritus and Student.

**Section 2.       Active Members**

**A. Eligibility** – Any person who is engaged in regulation, education or management of sanitation practices which impact public health or the environment shall be eligible for active membership. In addition to those employed as sanitarian or environmentalist, persons who are advocates of the objective of the association are eligible regardless of employment.

**B. Application** – Individuals desiring to become active members shall apply using application forms provided by the Association. All applications shall be accompanied by payment of one year's dues.

**C. Privileges** – Active members may participate in all proceedings of the Association, hold office, vote for all officers of the Association, and vote on any motions or resolutions brought before the Association subject to specific provisions of these bylaws have right to the floor at annual and special meetings of the Association, and be allowed to attend any meetings of the executive board.

**Section 3.       Honorary Members**

**A. Eligibility** – Any person deemed by the Executive Board to be entitled to special recognition on the basis of distinguished service to the objective of the Association may be awarded an honorary membership in the Kansas Environmental Health Association. This selection requires concurrence by a minimum of three-fourths of the executive board.

**B. Number Limited** – No honorary memberships shall be conferred at a time that the number of existing honorary members exceeds five percent of the number of active members.

**C. Term** – Honorary memberships shall be awarded for the life of the person(s) so honored. Honorary members will be asked to update their status every five years. Honorary memberships may be revoked for cause under the provisions of Article III, Section 6.

**D. Privileges** – Honorary members shall have all rights of active members except for holding office and voting.

**E. Dues Exception** – There shall be no membership dues charged to honorary members.

**Section 4. Emeritus Members**

- A. Eligibility** – Any active member who has such status for at least ten years is eligible for emeritus membership upon retirement from employment. Retirement may be deemed to exist when no more than twenty-five percent of the person's income is derived from employment as a sanitarian or environmentalist.
- B. Application** – An active member desiring emeritus membership must let the Association know of that desire. Emeritus memberships shall be bestowed by the Executive Board at the next occasion of annual dues collection.
- C. Privileges** – Emeritus members shall have all rights of active members except for holding office and voting.
- D. Dues Exemption** – There shall be no membership dues charged to emeritus members.

**Section 5. Student Members**

- A. Eligibility** – Any person who is a full time student at an accredited higher education institution in Kansas in either undergraduate or graduate work in a curriculum related to public health or environmental studies shall be eligible for student membership.
- B. Application** – Individuals desiring to become student members shall apply using applications provided by the association.
- C. Privileges** – Student members shall have all rights of active members except for holding office and voting.
- D. Dues Exemption** – There shall be no membership dues charged to student members.

**Section 6. Suspension or Expulsion of Members**

- A. Action** – Any member may be suspended or expelled from membership in the Association for reason with a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board. The President shall promptly notify the member of such action and advise him/her regarding the opportunity for appeal. This notification shall be made by mail or electronic mail.
- B. Procedure** – The President shall notify the suspended or expelled member immediately and give him or her the time and place of the next meeting of the Executive Board, at which time he or she shall be granted an opportunity to be heard provided he or she requests such a hearing within ten (10) days after receipt of the notification letter from the President. At the Executive Board hearing, the suspension or expulsion action may be over-ridden with a two-thirds majority vote. The Executive Board decision shall be final.

**ARTICLE IV – DUES****Section 1.**

**Amount of Dues** – Active members shall pay annual dues in advance of the membership year which runs from January 1 to December 31. Annual dues shall be set by the Executive Board prior to August 1. Such dues shall be set at a level that will adequately fund the proposed budget presented to the Executive Board. A approval of the budget for the coming year by the membership at the annual meeting constitutes approval of the associated annual dues amount.

- Section 3. Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues** – Such suspension shall be automatic on March 1. Members who have been suspended for non-payment of dues shall not claim Association membership, may not vote in Association matters, may not hold Association office, nor be entitled to receive Association mailings.
- Section 4. Reinstatement of Members Suspended for Non-payment of Dues** - Upon payment of dues such members suspended for less than a year, are considered to be reinstated with full restoration of privileges. An exception to this restoration is the right to hold office when the vacancy by suspension has been filled by another appointed or elected active member. The Association is not responsible for replacing lost benefits during the period of suspension, such as mailings or notifications. If a member has been suspended for non-payment of dues in excess of one year, all unpaid dues which would have accrued during the period must be paid to achieve restoration of active membership. In individual cases where non-payment of dues suspension exceeds two years, the Executive Board may approve a waiver of back dues in excess of two years.
- Section 5. Pro-Rating of Dues Prohibited** – No pro-rating of dues for a portion of a year shall be permitted. An individual joining after October 15 shall be considered an active member through the next membership year.

#### ARTICLE V –CALENDAR YEAR

The calendar year shall begin January 1 and end December 31.

#### ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

- Section 1. Annual Meetings** – There shall be at least one general meeting of the Association each year which shall be known as the annual meeting. The time and place of the next annual meeting shall be set and announced by the Executive Board at least 60 days prior to the meeting.
- Section 2. Special Meetings** – Additional meetings of the Association may be called by the Executive Board for specific purposes, provided notice of such special meeting is sent to all members at least thirty days in advance of the meeting.
- Section 3. Quorum** – A quorum at an annual or special meeting shall consist of ten percent of the active membership. Those members present and capable of voting, whether or not they actually vote on a specific matter, shall be counted towards meeting the quorum requirements. Active member voting decisions shall be made on a basis of simple majority of those actually voting on a question.
- Section 4. Communication** – *All communication between the Association and Members shall be by electronic means. A member not having such access must inform the Secretary that they require communication via United States Postal Service at each annual renewal.*

#### ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS

- Section 1. Designation** – The officers of the Association shall be the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President (Officer), two Sectional Chairpersons, and a Member-At-Large.

When acting collectively, these officers constitute the Executive Board. The same person may serve as both Secretary and Treasurer if so elected by the membership, but would have only one vote as an officer of the Executive Board.

**Section 2. Eligibility** – Only active members in good standing may act as officers of the Association. There is no prohibition against re-election.

**Section 3. Term of Office** – The normal term of office is one calendar year starting January 1. In the event that an election cannot be normally carried out or an elected officer is unable to take office, the incumbent officer shall continue in service until a successor is provided in accordance with these bylaws. Voting shall be by written ballot with provisions to accommodate absentee ballots submitted in advance by active members unable to attend the annual meeting.

**Section 4. Vacancy** – In case of a vacancy in any office excepting President, the Executive Board shall fill the unexpired term by appointment. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the First Vice-President for the remainder of the year. In filling an appointment for Past-President, consideration should be given to the person with the most recent former service as President who is capable of and willing to carry out the functions of the office.

**Section 5. Duties of Officers**

**A. President.** The President shall:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Association.
2. Preside at all meetings of the Executive Board.
3. Make all appointments to committees with simple majority approval of the Executive Board.
4. Serve as official representative of the Association except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, and act in that capacity in all matters for and in behalf of the Association during his or her term of office.
5. Assure that all directives of the Association are carried out.
6. Be an ex-officio member of all standing and ad hoc committees.
7. Serve as the official delegate to any national or state Association where such liaison is required or desirable. The President may, with concurrence of the Executive Board, appoint any active member as official alternate delegate.
8. Strive for an orderly and beneficial transfer of authority and duties to his or her successor.
9. Perform such other duties as the Association, custom or parliamentary procedures may require.

**B. First Vice-President.** The First Vice President shall:

1. Act for the President during his or her absence or at his or her request.
2. Serve as a member of the Executive Board.
3. Serve as chairperson of the conference committee for the annual meeting which will take place during his or her term of office as First Vice-President.



**C. Second Vice-President.** The Second Vice-President shall:

1. Act for the First Vice-President during his or her absence or at his or her request.
2. Serve as a member of the Executive Board.
3. Take oversight responsibility for any newsletters of the Association.
4. Be responsible for written communication and liaison with the International Association of Milk, Food & Environmental Sanitarians, and with the National Environmental Health Association.
5. Perform such other duties as the President or First Vice-President shall request.
6. Not automatically succeed to the office of First Vice-President, but may be elected by the membership to such office.
7. Perform such other duties as the Association or Executive Board may require.

**D. Secretary.** The secretary shall:

1. Keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Association and the Executive Board.
2. Give notice of the annual meeting of the Association, special meetings of the Association, and meeting of the Executive Board.
3. Handle the official correspondence of the Association and the Executive Board.
4. Send out all notices required by Bylaws, or ordered by the Association or Executive Board.
5. Act as custodian of the official records, books and papers of the Association.
6. Maintain membership records.
7. Perform such other duties as the Association or Executive Board may require.

**E. Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall:

1. Receive all funds collected by the Association.
2. Serve as official custodian of all monetary assets of the Association, holding the same subject to the direction of the Executive Board.
3. Present the annual accounts for membership approval at each Annual Meeting.
4. Present the current year's budget to the membership.
5. Discharge all financial obligations of the Association contracted by the Executive Board in accordance with its official acts as permitted by the bylaws.

6. Perform such other duties as the Association or the Executive Board may require

#### ARTICLE VIII – EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Section 1.** Composition of the board shall consist of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past-President, two Sectional Chairpersons and Member at Large.

**Section 2. Duties.** The duties of the Executive Board shall be:

- A. To determine all administrative policies of the Association.
- B. To appoint members to serve on all committees unless otherwise provided for in the bylaws.
- C. To direct the administration and affairs of the Association, including adoption of an annual budget and expenditures of monetary assets.
- D. To set annual dues for membership.
- E. To act for the Association in the interval between annual meetings subject to limitations of bylaws.

**Section 3. Meetings.** Meetings of the Executive Board shall:

- A. Be held as necessary for proper and orderly conduct of the Association's business.
- B. Be scheduled at least two weeks in advance, with notice given to all Executive Board members, except in emergencies.
- C. Require a quorum of at least half the Executive Board members.

#### ARTICLE IX – SECTIONS

**Section 1. Number** – There shall be two sections of the Association known as (1) General Sanitation Section and (2) Special Sanitation Section. The Special Sanitation Section shall represent any members who do not consider themselves general sanitarians. At the time of annual dues payments each member shall identify the section to which they wish to affiliate. Additional Sections may be formed if in the opinion of the KEHA Board of Directors enough of a special membership population exists to warrant the new section.

**Section 2. Chairperson** – Each section shall have a chairperson elected exclusively by the members of that section at the annual meeting. The section chairpersons serve as members of the Executive Board. There is no prohibition against re-election such be the wishes of the membership.

**Section 3. Member-At-Large** – The Member-At-Large shall be elected by all members present at the annual meeting. The Member-At-Large will serve as a member of the Executive Board. There is no prohibition against re-election if such be the wishes of the membership.

#### ARTICLE X – COMMITTEES

**Section 1. Committee Chairperson** – Each committee chairperson shall be appointed by the President, when approved by majority vote, of the Executive Board. Service is normally for a term of one year, running from annual meeting to annual meeting, but is subject to continuing approval at the Executive Board. There is no limitation on repeating service. The committee chairperson is empowered to select committee members.

**Section 2. Standing Committees** – The standing committees are (1) Audit Committee, (2) Awards Committee, (3) Conference Committee, (4) Continuing Education Committee, (5) Membership Committee, (6) Newsletter Committee, (7) Nominating Committee, and (8) Scholarship Committee.

**Section 3. Additional Committees** – The President, with approval of the Executive Board, is empowered to create such additional committees as may be required to advance the best interests of the Association and to enable it to fulfill its objectives.

#### **ARTICLE XI – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

In all proceedings of the Association, Robert's Rule of Order shall be followed and shall constitute the official procedures.

#### **ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all active members present and voting at the annual or a special meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendments has been submitted to the Executive Board for review at least 90 days prior to a proposed meeting. Following such review and at least 30 days prior to the meeting, the Secretary shall send by mail or electronic mail, the proposed amendment(s) to all members in good standing.

#### **ARTICLE XIII – DISCONTINUANCE OR DISSOLUTION**

Upon discontinuance or dissolution of the Kansas Environmental Health Association, the Executive Board shall, after paying or make provisions for payments of all liabilities of the Association, dispose of all of the assets to the benefit of charitable, educational, or scientific organizations qualifying as non-profit groups by the Internal Revenue Service. Such terminal actions must be ratified by the general membership.



The Objective of the Kansas Environmental Health Association is to promote competency and effectiveness in sanitarians and other environmentalists engaged in the regulation of the Kansas environment including, but not limited to, food service establishments, commercial food preparation facilities, dairy products businesses, meat processing plants, bakeries, commercial lodging and hotels, swimming pools, water supplies, wastewater treatment and disposal, solid waste collection and disposal, air pollution control, radiation control, hazardous waste materials management, pesticide usage, institutions, schools, nursing homes, hospitals and health care facilities, recreational camps and public events.

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