

Executive Administrator Report

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December 2020

NCSBN Upcoming Meetings:

- NCSBN Midyear is March 9 – 11 in Seattle, WA (*will be held virtually*)
 - Attendees:
- 2021 NCSBN Annual Meeting is August 18 – 20 in Chicago, IL
 - Board President and Executive Administrator are voting delegates
 - Attendees:

COVID-19 Agency Response:

- Governor Kelly declared a State of Disaster Emergency on March 12, 2020
- Three top priorities I continue to have for our agency: 1) Keep the employees safe and decrease their chance of exposure in the workplace, 2) All employees keep their jobs in an uncertain time and 3) Keep the functions of the agency continuing during the pandemic.
- Presently 70% of our employees are teleworking effectively and will continue to telework until further notice
- KSBN bi-weekly updates continue to aid in communication
- Communication with KSNA Director, KHA and other stakeholders as needed
- Changes we have made within the agency for safety include:
 - Six feet social distance floor stickers between employee workstations
 - Video intercom installed at agency front door to gain access to the agency for non-employees
 - The number in our lobby should be no more than 2 at a time due to social distancing requirements
 - We are highly recommending the public conduct their business with us via online services, mail, phone call or email
 - If customers need to talk with someone, it is highly recommended they make an appointment so we can service them when they arrive. One person per appointment and no children or other adults are permitted
 - Telephone appointments are also available
 - We NO longer perform fingerprinting services in the agency
 - Staff must wear masks when outside their offices/workspace
- I continue to be proud of the agency staff for their flexibility in these challenging times and their commitment to the mission of the Board

State of Emergency Declaration:

- The Finance Council on November 13 extended this to expire on December 15, 2020
- Pursuant to Executive Order 20-64, all complete renewal applications for licenses expired or set to expire between March 12, 2020 and December 15, 2020, as well as any required

continuing education, will be considered timely if received by the Board on or before December 15, 2020.

- The Board will consider the renewal application late and the license expired or lapsed if received after December 15, 2020, and a late fee, if applicable, will be assessed

House Bill 2016:

- This bill was passed by the Legislature in June 2020 in a Special Session
- This act concerns the governmental response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic in Kansas. It contains provisions that impact nurses supporting a healthcare facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Here is a brief overview of these provisions:
 - APRNs employed to support a facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic may work as necessary without direction and supervision from a responsible physician. A RNA may work as necessary to support the facility's response to the pandemic without direction and supervision from a physician **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - RNs or LPNs may order the collection of throat or nasopharyngeal swab specimens from individuals suspected of being infected by COVID-19 for the purposes of testing **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - LPNs may provide healthcare services appropriate to their education, training and experience when employed or contracted to work to support the facility's response to the pandemic without direction from a RN **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - RNs or LPNs who hold a license that is exempt or inactive or whose license has expired within the past five years may provide healthcare services appropriate to their education, training and experience **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - Allows a registered nurse who is serving in the military to volunteer or work within a facility in roles that are appropriate to their education, training or experience **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - A nurse licensed and in good standing in another state may practice as a nurse in the state of Kansas **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - Nurses meeting the requirements of this act may have their license reinstated within five years of lapse without the requirements of continuing education and payment of a fee. **Nurses wanting this provision will be given a temporary license that expires on 1/26/2021.** After that date, the nurse may apply for reinstatement of license and meet the requirements of reinstatement **(expires 1/26/2021)**
 - Allow a student who is enrolled in a program to become a licensed, registered or certified healthcare professional to volunteer for work within such facility in roles that are appropriate to such student's education, training and experience **(expires 1/26/2021)**

Budget:

- Division of Budget made no changes to the FY 21, 22 & 23 budgets I submitted
- Includes \$20,000 for AAG legal counsel for FY 2021, AG's office will re-evaluate the cost each year, based on usage

Regulation Revisions:

- Undergraduate nursing program regulations – Revisions requested are with the Division of Budget for review

2021 Legislative Session:

- Starts January 11, 2021
- Legislators will elect Senate and House leaders on December 7, 2020
- Legislative Coordinating Council is discussing COVID-19 precautions for the legislative session. Some considerations being discussed include:
 - Requiring masks in the Statehouse
 - Closing off balconies in the chambers to allow seats for social distancing of legislators
 - Policies on who can go into legislators' offices to ensure safety of office assistants
 - Who can come into the Statehouse
 - Cleaning of the Statehouse
- There is a virtual Statehouse project, whose goal is to make legislative meetings available virtually to the public
- Fewer seasonal workers are expected to return to the 2021 session

Meetings Attended:

- System Automation's 2020 Virtual Use Conference on October 13 & 14
- Governor's Cybersecurity Summit (virtual) for Executives on October 15, 2020
- NCSBN's Practice/Academia Webinar on October 15
- NCSBN 2020 IT/Operations Conference (virtual) on 11/10/2020

Agency Updates:

- Board member positions: presently all Board member positions have been appointed
- Board member terms:
 - Patricia Zeller, 07-01-2018 to 06-30-2022 (second term)
 - Carol Bragdon, 07-01-2017 to 06-30-2021 (second term)
 - Julianna Rieschick, 07-01-2017 to 06-30-2021 (first term)
 - Mandy Karstetter, 07-01-2017 to 06-30-2021 (first term)
 - Rebecca Sander, 07-01-2016 to 06-30-2024 (second term)
 - Gwendolyn Loyd, 07-01-2019 to 06-30-2023 (first term)
 - Gita Noble, 07-01-2018 to 06-30-2022 (first term)
 - Jade Ramsdell, 07-01-2019 to 06-30-2023 (first term)
 - Andrea Watson, 7-1-2020 to 6-30-2024 (first term)
 - Adri Gouldsmith, 7-1-2019 to 6-30-2023 (first term)
 - Giovannie Gone, 7-1-2020 to 6-30-2024 (first term)
- Agency vacancies (*strategic plan, priority 2*): A RN Investigator, Senior Administrative Assistant for Licensing and Education Specialist

- Board member orientation (strategic plan, priority 2): Offered to new Board members before the September meeting.
- Agency record retention (strategic plan, priority 2): KSBN has been on an agency-wide endeavor to increase our document imaging footprint for all departments. Plan to take a revision to the record retention schedule for the Investigative Records in early 2021.
- Monitor fiscal impact of NLC implementation (strategic plan, priority 2): Continue to monitor monthly agency financial reports. No decrease in agency fee fund since implementation of NLC on 7/1/19.
- Streamlining agency processes: Every division is continuing to streamline their processes as much as possible, which makes teleworking more productive when the information is electronic.

Projects/Collaboration:

- Presented at the Annual Program Administrator's Update on 9/21
- Visited with the Vermont Board of Nursing regarding NLC implementation experience
- New KSBN Committee member orientation on 11/23