

Public Health Association of Nebraska (PHAN) announced the selection of Myra Stoney as the new Chairman of the Local Health Directors Section of PHAN.

She is the Director of Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department headquartered in McCook. Stoney assumed the new duties in January following her election during the PHAN annual conference in Grand Island.

Twenty-four health departments across Nebraska were represented in the voting for the chair, vice-chair and secretary positions.

Stoney's duties will include quarterly meetings with health department directors, monthly executive committee meetings and designating committee members for special projects. She will also represent the health directors on the PHAN board.

"I am excited to accept this leadership position among the local health department directors in Nebraska," said Stoney. "We are bringing more value to this organization through the efforts of numerous directors. Our collaboration with local health departments and external partners continues to grow and helps us improve the health of Nebraskans."

Stoney will work with an executive team of Vice Chair Michele Bever of South Heartland Public Health Department and Secretary Shannon Vanderheiden of West Central Nebraska Health Department.

Stoney is director of Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department which covers eight counties: Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Perkins and Red Willow.

PHAN's mission is to protect and promote the personal, community and environmental health of all people in Nebraska. They are active in identifying and resolving Nebraska's health problems and provide a forum for discussion of the significant public health concerns facing our state.