

Shawnee County Board of Commissioners  
*William D. Riphahn*, 1st District  
*Kevin J. Cook*, 2nd District  
*Aaron D. Mays*, 3rd District  
200 SE 7th St. Room B-11, Courthouse  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

1/28/2020

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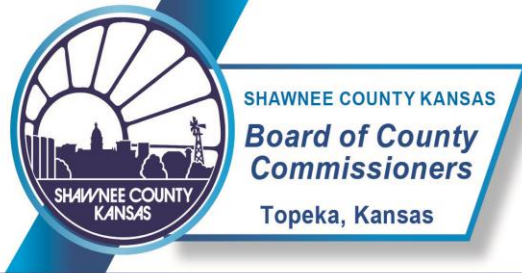
**MEDIA RELEASE**

**New Shawnee County Health Officer Announced**

**Topeka, Kan.** – Today, January 28, 2021 the Shawnee County Board of Commissioners announced the new Shawnee County Health Officer, Dr. Erin Locke, M.D. MPH. Dr. Locke is a Family Physician and Shawnee County resident. She will be transitioning from Holton Community Hospital in Holton, KS, where she served as the COVID-19 Incident Command Liaison Officer in addition to providing full-spectrum medical care. Dr. Locke received a Medical Degree (with highest honors) and a Masters of Public Health from the University Of Kansas School Of Medicine in Wichita, KS. Education she is working towards now is a Climate Change and Health Certificate from Yale School of Public Health. Dr. Locke’s professional interests include environmental health, health equity, population health and prevention of disease. Dr. Locke holds the following licensures and certifications:

- American Board of Family Medicine
- Kansas state medical license
- DEA Controlled Substances Registration Certificate
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Advanced Trauma Life Support

Dr. Locke will assume her role as the Shawnee County Health Officer February 1, 2021. This is a contracted position with the county which is up for renewal every year. The primary focus of this position is



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to improve the health of our community by guiding disease outbreaks, providing orders for vaccinations, STD clinics and responding to public health emergency situations.

“Dr. Locke is a proven public health leader whose professional experiences are well suited to the challenges and great opportunities with leading the health of Shawnee County.” Stated Commissioner Kevin Cook. “I would like to thank Dr. Dennis Cooley, MD for serving as the Interim Health Officer since December 2020 and the Shawnee County Public Health Technical Advisory Board on their diligent efforts in the search of our new county Health Officer.”

Dr. Locke will be available for media request by appointment starting January 29, 2021. Please contact Public Information Officer, Amanda Monhollon at [amanda.monhollon@snco.us](mailto:amanda.monhollon@snco.us) or 785-670-0473.

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