



Washington County Board of Health
110 N. Iowa Avenue, Suite 300, Washington, Iowa 52353

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2023 @ 12:00 PM

5th floor conference room, Federation Bank building, Washington, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cathy Buffington, Chairperson
Jack Seward
Andrea Leyden
Jenny Morgan
Trevor Martin via Zoom

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF PRESENT:

Emily Tokheim, Peggy Wood, Karri Fisher, Megan Waterhouse
Lori Hobscheidt, Martha Hernandez via Zoom
Jason Taylor, Cindy Chavez

VISITORS:

Kalen McCain, Southeast Iowa Union
Mary Zelinski, Kalona News (via Zoom)
Jennifer Wilkerson, KCII Radio (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by Cathy Buffington. The Zoom meeting option is available to allow for social distancing recommendations of meeting attendees.

The meeting agenda was approved on a motion by Andrea Leyden, second by Jenny Morgan. Motion carried 4-0.

The minutes from the March 23, 2023 meeting were approved on a motion by Cathy Buffington, second by Andrea Leyden. Motion carried 5-0.

Environmental Health report

Jason Taylor Presented the Environmental Health Budget. Revenue is 92% and Expenditures is 64%.

Jason and Cindy discussed the Environmental Health update. Jason and Cindy attended a Tattoo Workshop to conduct a full inspection of a temporary tattoo establishment. Jason and Cindy attended the Public Health Conference of Iowa, we attended 9 environmental health sessions ranging from unapproved food in an establishment, PFAS and Pesticides in our drinking water, neonicotinoids exposure impacting environment and public health, Cottage Foods 101, Iowa Onsite Wastewater and the herbicide treadmill. Jason and Cindy are conducting Tattoo and Pool inspection in Wapello County. Jason spoke to the Farm to Fork

class at Washington High School about the Pathogenic Bacteria and parasites that are found in our food supply and how to properly preserve the harvest, to lessen the bacterial load in can goods. Jason attended the Iowa Food Safety Taskforce Meeting, put on by the Rapid Response Team Coordinated through Department of Inspection and Appeals. Cindy conducted a ServSafe Class in April had 5 people in attendance and is having the next class on June 12, 2023. Cindy attended a listening session and discussion with the FDA about the changes to the next Food Code. Cindy is preparing for the Temporary Food Season with a number of events planned in Washington County.

Public Health report

Peggy Wood reviewed the agency financials. She noted both revenue and expenditures were within budgetary guidelines.

Emily Tokheim explained an upcoming contract change to the Fresh Conversations program. The program is focused on nutrition and healthy eating habits for those aged 60+. Washington County Public Health currently serves as a subcontractor under Linn County. Effective October 1st, WCPH is eligible to apply for the funds directly. Funding allocations have not yet been determined. Approval for Emily to submit the application was granted on a motion by Jack Seward, second by Trevor Martin. Motion carried 5-0.

Emily reviewed changes to the Home Health Emergency Preparedness Plan. Specifically, organizational chart revisions due to staff turnover. The revisions were approved on a motion by Jenny Morgan, second by Cathy Buffington. Motion carried 5-0. Emily presented each Board member with a flash drive housing all Home Health policies for the agency for future reference.

Emily presented a new agency update format aligning activities with priorities under the Local Public Health Services grant. Emily shared first quarter numbers for communicable disease follow-up, immunizations, dental services, and home health visits. Additionally, she highlighted attendance at meetings and conferences for several staff members as well as various program updates within the agency for the first quarter. Emily also shared information on a recent meeting between Public Health and Encite Architecture to discuss the relocation of PH and other county offices. She discussed recent updates to the relocation project as well as the impact of relocation on agency services.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm. Next meeting scheduled for Noon, May 25, 2023 at WCPH, Federation Bank Building, 5th floor conference room.