



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

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

August 22, 2022 @ 12:00 PM

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cathy Buffington, Chairperson
Connie Larsen
Jack Seward
Trevor Martin, DO

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF PRESENT:

Emily Tokheim, Peggy Wood, Karri Fisher
Roberta Sloat, Jessica Janecek, Lori Hobscheidt, Martha Hernandez via Zoom
Jason Taylor, Cindy Chavez

VISITORS:

Jerry Edwards, KCII Radio
Kalen McCain, Southeast Iowa Union
Mary Zelinski, Kalona News via Zoom
Berdette Davis, Community Health Consultant

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 pm by Cathy Buffington. The Zoom meeting option is available to allow for social distancing recommendations of meeting attendees.

The amended meeting agenda was approved on a motion by Jack Seward, second by Connie Larsen. Motion carried 4-0.

The minutes from the July 28, 2022 meeting were approved on a motion by Connie Larsen, second by Trevor Martin. Motion carried 4-0. The minutes from the August 19, 2022 Special Meeting were approved on a motion by Jack Seward, second by Connie Larsen. Motion carried 4-0.

Environmental Health report

Jason Taylor Presented the Environmental Health Budget. Revenue is 5% and Expenditures is 5%.

Jason presented an update on the dog bite in rural Wayland. The Board of Health returned the dog to the owner, after reviewing the evidence and receiving letter of support from the day care parents of how the dog acts.

Jason Discussed a septic back up on a rental property in the city limits that is outside of the 200 foot of city sewer hookup. Jason was notified by a tenant of the rental property, that the septic system in the laundry room is backing up. This location it serviced by an on-site waste water system, that was permitted in 1999. Jason contacted the owner of the property and he stated that the other tenants work for a concrete company and when they wash their clothes the concrete residue plugs the pipe from the laundry room. He stated that he would unplug the pipe. The complainant called back and stated that he has not fixed the issue. Jason contacted the city and the property is up for a rental inspection. Jason will go along on the inspection to check out the issues with the septic system.

Public Health report

Peggy Wood reviewed the agency financials. She noted minimal activity in the first month of the new fiscal year. Peggy added additional details for revenue received for COVID response funding and reimbursement from Johnson County Public Health for billing assistance.

Emily Tokheim reviewed the proposed therapy contract with JET Physical Therapy. Changes included revised wording for emergency preparedness requirements and contractual visit rate increase to \$100. The contract effective September 1, 2022, was approved on a motion by Jack Seward, second by Trevor Martin. Motion carried 4-0.

Karri Fisher reviewed updates to several, emergency preparedness policies to reflect current and required practices. Policies included: Communication Plan, Iron Key Content, Strategies for Optimizing the Supply of Face Masks, Protocol for Decreasing Staff Risk of Exposure, and Emergency Preparedness Plan. Revisions to stated policies were approved on a motion by Connie Larsen, second by Cathy Buffington. Motion carried 4-0.

Emily reviewed and clarified the current wage matrix for the agency. The Board of Supervisor's approved 7.0% wage increase effective July 1st was applied to the matrix. Moving forward, Emily added the matrix will be revised according to approved wage increases and/or position changes and submitted at budget time.

Emily announced the Notice of Intent to Award for the Child Health portion of the Maternal Child Adolescent Health program was postponed until August 30th by the Iowa Department of Public Health. The reason for the delay was unknown. Emily noted the agency is seeking other funding opportunities to supplement the program in order to maintain current services and staffing levels.

Emily's agency updates included information on Back To Schools clinics for immunizations, dental and vision screenings, preparation underway for required immunization audits due end of October, WIC provider change to Community Action of SE Iowa effective October 1st, scheduling of flu clinics, merger of Iowa Department of Public Health and Department of Human Services to Health and Human Services, her involvement with the County wellness program with Amber Armbruster, and her attendance at the Iowa State Association of Counties conference in Des Moines Wednesday-Friday of this week. Emily and Jack updated the Board on the current status of the County's Feasibility Study with Carl A. Nelson and the proposal to relocate several County offices to Orchard Hill utilizing American Rescue Plan Act funds. More information will be shared during the September meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:27 pm. Next meeting scheduled for Noon, September 22, 2022 at WCPH, Federation Bank Building, 5th floor conference room.