

ALLAMAKEE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 11, 2023

LOCATION: Board of Supervisors Room, Allamakee County Courthouse

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Stein, Board of Health Chair; Dr. Bill Withers; Lynn O'Hara; Jan Ellingson and Dan Byrnes, Board of Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mandy O'Neill- BOH Secretary, Sheryl Darling-Mooney- CHC, Laurie Moody- Environmental Health, Amanda Josvanger-Unity Point, Grant Davis & Taylor Meyer- Hillcrest Family Services

Board of Health meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS: Motion to approve minutes from November with changes made by Dr. Withers and seconded by Lynn O'Hara. All in favor. Motion carried.

GUESTS:

- Amanda Josvanger came to the meeting to give an overview of the public health program at Unity Point Dubuque Visiting Nurse Association. 1st Five is a public health partnership with primary care providers to improve rates of developmental screening to coordinate referrals, interventions and follow up for children referred to the program. VNA consists of 8 counties service area including Allamakee County. In the past year, she has met with VMH Medical Clinic and Postville Medical Clinic to be sure they are aware of the necessary screenings to send referrals onto Unity Point for the 1st Five Grant. For 1st Five, a Developmental Support Specialist can assist families by connecting them to a wide variety of resources including early intervention services through Keystone, childcare assistance, transportation, and food, utility, and clothing assistance. Screenings are done by phone call for the initial screening. The requirements for this program are child needs be ages 0-5, referred by a primary care provider and must live in the state of Iowa. **Handouts on services are available in Environmental Health Office**

-Grant Davis & Taylor Meyer are HIV Development Coordinators with Hillcrest Family Services in Dubuque. Offer testing for STI and HIV, they offer condoms, and training in harm reduction and offer wound care kits. There has been staff turnover so haven't been to our County in a while. Treatment, care plans, referrals, and health fairs for STI and HIV testing. Per chat feature on zoom, Taylor mentioned they are happy to travel with their supplies to our area and would need space, with no compensation necessary. Free service for testing and treatment. They also offer vaccination of Twin Rix. They would send us fliers and advertise for our area. Due to them being logged off zoom before there was an option to mention this to the Board, this discussion is tabled until the next meeting. Motion by Jan Ellingson to table this discussion from Hillcrest Family Services HIV Clinic; seconded by Dr. Withers. All in favor. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Dr. Withers makes a motion to nominate Jeanne Stein as Chair and Jan Ellingson as Vice Chair. Dan Byrnes seconded. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

APPOINTMENT OF BOH SECRETARY: Jeanne makes a motion to appoint Mandy O'Neill. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL FOR CHAIR TO SIGN ROUTINE RENEWABLE GRANTS/AMENDMENTS WITHOUT

BOARD VOTE: Jeanne states there's a lot of grants with amendments which might be a dollar amount, or something small. If any new grant comes up, it would go before the Board. Dan Byrnes makes a motion for the Chair or Vice Chair to sign without a Board vote; Lynn O'Hara seconds. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Jan Ellingson was appointed by the Board of Supervisors on 1/3/2023 to fill the board vacancy.

Lynn O'Hara makes a motion to keep the time and date of 2023 meetings as the 2nd Wednesday of every other month starting in January at 9am; Dr. Withers seconded. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Conflict of Interest was signed by all Board Members.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Sheryl Darling-Mooney - CHC Updates** Lisa is unavailable due to something that came up at the last minute. The agenda item regarding voting on clinical manager will be tabled until next time. Motion made by Jan Ellingson; seconded by Dr. Withers. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Dr. Withers made a motion to designate Veterans Memorial Hospital CHC as the Allamakee County Health Department; Lynn O'Hara seconded. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Budget information has changed from carefax to matrix care and there were crossover issues. **FY23 2nd Quarter Report & End of Year Report-** Compared to this time last year, there are a few less home health clients. Staff have been very busy, and December was very busy with referrals. On the Public Health side, there have been a lot of vaccinations given. Those who have received the COVID vaccine, generally are compliant with remaining up to date with boosters. No active TB at this time. Most COVID cases test with an at home test so accuracy of statistics reported by IDPH/CDC are not very accurate. We hope that if people feel the need to test, they will follow the correct guidelines for isolation. Schools reported a large percentage of absenteeism between the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. If a school has more than 10% absenteeism, they are required to report it to IDPH. One school site in particular had frequent days of >10% absent. Public Health is alerted to these absenteeism rates and offers assistance to the schools. It is a wide range of illnesses reported including RSV, COVID, Influenza, Norovirus, etc. There is a testing panel that can be done to test for COVID, Influenza, and RSV. In the last year 4,062 vaccinations to 2,777 people through Public Health. Their vaccine partners Gundersen Clinics in Lansing & Waukon, VMH Clinics in Waukon & Postville, Nightingale and Hartig Pharmacies have also helped to vaccinate residents of Allamakee and beyond. Discussion took place on religious and medical exemptions for COVID vaccines. One school district has taken an extra step of requiring students to receive vaccine or not be at school if an outbreak would take place. Example- If there was an MMR outbreak in a district, they would require the students be vaccinated or not attend until the outbreak was deemed to be over. Schools have all done a good job making sure vaccination records are up to date. Jeanne asks about public output of information for vaccines and Sheryl states they have been and will continue to be putting information out there. Dan asks about hospital masking regulations if statistics aren't valid. Sheryl responds it's more about respiratory infections than a COVID statistic.

- **Laurie Moody- Environmental Health**

- Due to glitches in Iowa Grants, all second quarter information has been removed and the grant site has been on hold since November. So 2nd Quarter reports cannot be completed yet. We're hoping the site is operational soon.

- **Expense/Revenue Reports-** October, November & December Dan Byrnes made a motion to approve these reports as presented and Dr. Withers seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.
- **BOH FY24 Budget-** Budget reviewed by all members and no changes made. Dan Byrnes makes a motion to approve FY24 Budget; Jan Ellingson seconds. All in Favor. Motion carried.
- **Environmental Health FY Budget-** Laurie states Grant to County amount, salary, FICA and IPERS need amounts entered in the proposed budget to even create one. An email was sent to GTC asking for budgeting purposes, if the next budget is expected to be the same as this year, which was \$50,505. So, for budgeting proposal, this is the number used. 5% wage increase is figured in, although we don't know the percentage yet and 10% is increased for health insurance. Vehicle expenditure has \$17,000 in both the grant and EHD budgets. This may not even be enough to cover the cost, it's just an estimate for a mid-size SUV. Dan Byrnes makes a motion to approve the budget as presented, but leave salaries, vehicles and health insurance to supervisors discretion; Dr. Withers seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.
- **Board of Health Chair Comments/Correspondence-** Letter from Roxane Schleich at Veterans Memorial Hospital to approve the consent to assignment of agreement with the conversion of VMH from a City to County Hospital. Dan Byrnes made a motion to sign the agreement; Lynn O'Hara seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Michael Coyle also sent a letter stating there will be no change to Employer ID number with the conversion.

- **Contracts Update**— there weren't any contracts to sign.

Full audio minutes are available at the Environmental Health office.

FUTURE MEETING: The next meeting for the Board of Health will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 9am in the Board of Supervisors Office.

ADJOURNMENT: Lynn O'Hara made a motion to adjourn at 10:35 a.m. Dr. Withers seconded. All were in favor. Motion Carried.

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE**_____

Jeanne Stein, Chairperson

MINUTES TAKEN BY: Mandy O'Neill

ALLAMAKEE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

March 8, 2023

LOCATION: Board of Supervisors Room, Allamakee County Courthouse

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Stein, Board of Health Chair; Dr. Bill Withers; Lynn O'Hara; Jan Ellingson and Dan Byrnes, Board of Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mandy O'Neill- BOH Secretary, Sheryl Darling-Mooney & Lisa Moose- CHC, Jen Rose-Helping Services, Kiane Smith-I Smile **Via Zoom-**Taylor Meyer & Grant Davis- Hillcrest Family Services

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS: Motion to approve minutes from January made by Dr. Withers and seconded by Dan Byrnes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jan Ellingson makes a motion that in the absence of clinical manager, Lisa can appoint the next chain of command, which is Sheryl Darling-Mooney for public health and Cindy Johnson for Home Health. Dan Byrnes seconded. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Taylor Meyer & Grant Davis with Hillcrest Family Services spoke that they are still looking for a location to have STI & HIV Testing for free as well as hand out harm reduction supplies and condoms.

GUESTS:

- **Jen Rose, Helping Services** No changes with Domestic Abuse Advocacy services director Kathleen Davis. The Family Education and Support team director is Barb Fjelstul. They are going into the homes for children ages birth to three for developmental screenings, weight checks and yearly health screenings. Prevention Services team will meet via zoom tomorrow from 11:30-12:30. The Integrated Provider Network Grant is promoting March as Problem Gambling Awareness Month. Began implementing Curriculum-Based Support Groups for 4th/5th graders at the after-school program in Waukon. This program is for small groups of youth whose high risk situations put them at an elevated risk for future behavioral and health problems including substance misuse, delinquency, and violence. There is an upcoming TIPS certification course (Training for Intervention Procedures) offered to all alcohol retailers and their employees in Allamakee County, being held on Monday, March 13th at Robey Memorial Library in Waukon from 4-7 PM. 11 participants became certified in TIPS (10 from Quillin's IGA in Lansing, 1 from Casey's General Store in Postville) at a training held at the Lansing Public Library in February. Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Grant has done vaping presentations for Middle & High School Health Classes as well as a High School Life Management Class. These presentations covered dangers that are associated with these products as well as cessation resources that are available. Staff is looking to conduct presentations for additional groups of adults who currently work with youth to provide updates on the Youth Nicotine Trends. The State Opioid Response 3 Grant is Continuing to provide training on Opioids, Psychostimulants,

Stigma, Harm Reduction, and Addiction. Training continues to be offered to agencies that provide/offer services in Allamakee County, community members, and medical/emergency personnel. Schools are able to have Naloxone on hand in case of an overdose or poisoning on school grounds. Information has been sent out to all schools in the county on this and staff will follow up to offer technical support with obtaining the Naloxone. The Youth Mentoring Grant for Youth Impacted by Opioids Recruitment-On March 26, the 2023 Youth Mentoring Bowl-A-Thon is being held. We have already raised \$6,675 from sponsors (businesses and individuals). There is still time to register to bowl at www.helpingservices.org/ymbowl

Screening- Procedures are helpful to determine if applicants are a good fit for the program.

Training- On 3/ 21, there will be a training on Internet Safety via Zoom from Noon-1.

Matching and Initiating-We currently have 10 matches. 5 youth are waiting-4 boys & 1 girl.

Monitoring and Support- Mentoring staff visit regularly with matches to help support them and coach them to overcome barriers when needed.

Closure- No matches have closed recently.

- **Kiane Smith- I-Smile Coordinator with VNA** CSA 10 is an 8 County service area. Services provided are dental screenings, fluoride and varnish, nutritional counseling, maternal health, tobacco counseling and dental sealants. They attend the schools in Allamakee County for a sealant program each school year, which include WIC, Head start & Preschools. In 2022, 359 screenings were completed and in 2021, 308 were completed. They are seeing a 19% decay in Allamakee County and the state average is 17%. 1,700 kids in Allamakee County ages 0-20 are enrolled in Medicaid and there are no dental offices that will accept new Medicaid patients which is the biggest barrier with access. 39% of children statewide are enrolled in Medicaid and in Allamakee County is 46%. 13% of children 0-17 in the State of Iowa live below the poverty level and in Allamakee County is 15%. 44% of pregnant women in Iowa have no dental care with 56% of Allamakee County pregnant women not receiving dental care. 63% of new mothers in Iowa reported receiving no dental care with 66% of new mothers in Allamakee County.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Lisa Moose & Sheryl Darling-Mooney - CHC Updates** On January 30, President Biden announced the National Public Health Emergency Declaration will be ending the COVID19 Pandemic on May 11. Questions are arising on how our County will get vaccine here, as of right now, Public Health allocates what vaccine is needed for all county vaccine partners and orders it on a monthly basis. Free COVID tests kits are currently available free of charge, and vaccines are available at no charge right now, unsure what that will all look like going forward. Pfizer is the bigger vaccine producer and requires vaccine storage in an ultra-cold freezer and if one isn't available, can be kept in a vaccine refrigerator for 10 weeks from date of delivery. Grant funds are available to update the vaccine refrigerator and for the purchase of an ultra-cold storage freezer, along with the digital data loggers required for constant temperature monitoring. Once the ultra-cold storage is available in the agency the vaccine can be stored until the manufacturer's expiration date of the vaccine. Infectious disease count is at 55 cases for 2nd quarter FY23 with most of them being COVID. Nursing Visits- The current census is 65-70 clients. Janel Helgerson has been a nurse with CHC for 21 years and has resigned. Deb Hanson is retiring next month as well. There are

some in-house applications to fill these spots. There are two home care aides, and some PRN home care aides help occasionally when available. QUAPI data plan updates and audits reviewed. Matrix Care Software has a report available on wound care. Nurses use an IPAD in client homes and are able to take pictures using the IPAD. The photos then are immediately available in the client's chart.

- **Laurie Moody- Environmental Health 2nd Quarter FY23 Quarter Report**

2nd Quarter was just submitted to Iowa Grants last week, as this site has been shut down since October. Working on getting 2022 septic maps and well logs in from contractors.

The Septic Variance for Stan Fullerton at 1235 N 2nd Street, Lansing, is not an official application right now, it's just to make you aware it's most likely coming in May. The only access is to come through Brad Hermans lot due to the retaining wall. There isn't an agreement yet for access until Brad is back from vacation. The permit will be for a 3,000-gallon holding tank which will most likely be placed closer than the 10' minimum from a property line. Lynn O'Hara makes a motion to table the variance; Dan Byrnes seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

- **Expense/Revenue Reports-** January & February- Dan Byrnes made a motion to approve these reports as presented and Dr. Withers seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Board of Health Chair Comments/Correspondence-**

Contracts Update— was signed on paper on 2/20/23- 58885BT403 Amendment #14 adding \$19,000 for the purchase of an ultra-cold freezer-refrigerator and temperature monitoring system in COVID 19 crisis response budget.

This was missed being mentioned in January as it was signed 12/1/22- 5885BT403 Amendment #13 Emergency Response Multi Year Program.

Dr. Withers asks about the Hospital conversion from City to County, wondering if there's bumps in the road or business as usual. The vote was to acquire the assets of the hospital and the thought was that the Gundersen building was part of the Hospital, and the City says that building and the parking lot is theirs and they plan to continue renting that out to Gundersen. Staffing updates- CFO, Roxanne, has resigned and County Attorney has retained help of another Attorney to help with the transition. The public needs to know that losses are being backfilled with the County Levy. There is a consulting firm looking at taking on financial responsibilities at Veterans Memorial Hospital. Having the hospital in town is a great thing and it's good to be able to help it be successful.

Full audio minutes are available at the Environmental Health office.

FUTURE MEETING: The next meeting for the Board of Health will be Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 9am in the Board of Supervisors Office.

ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Withers made a motion to adjourn at 10:17 a.m. Lynn O'Hara seconded. All were in favor. Motion Carried.

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE**_____

Jeanne Stein, Chairperson

MINUTES TAKEN BY: Mandy O'Neill

ALLAMAKEE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 10, 2023

LOCATION: Board of Supervisors Room, Allamakee County Courthouse

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Stein, Board of Health Chair; Dr. Bill Withers; Lynn O'Hara; Jan Ellingson and Dan Byrnes, Board of Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mandy O'Neill- BOH Secretary, Sheryl Darling-Mooney & Lisa Moose- CHC

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS: Motion to approve minutes from March made by Lynn O'Hara and seconded by Jan Ellingson. All in favor. Motion carried.

GUESTS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Lisa Moose & Sheryl Darling-Mooney**

CHC Updates- QUAPI Report- Wound assessment was done with 100% weekly measurements and documentation. On 4/20/2023 an admission information audit was completed on 74 patient records. The audit was to ensure that clinical records contained clients DNR status and Disaster Triage status. There were 3 records that this wasn't completed on, so the result is a 96% completion rate. Disaster Triage is checking to see if clients are ok in their home without a visit or if they need to be checked on, for examples such as a tornado for those with oxygen, wound vacs, IV antibiotics, etc. People are coded upon admission if they can do without help for a day or so or if they need to get to them right away.

With the resignation of a full time nurse and retirement of another in March, there have been two hospital nurses who were requesting to transfer to CHC. Surgery has stated they are keeping the nurse for another 3 months until training is complete. Current client census is 73, with 5 referrals this week and they are working with 4 nurses 4 days a week and 1 nurse working 2 days a week. One new nurse has been able to come in 1 day a week, but it's very hard for her to remember how to do everything. The administration is fully aware help is needed and they are meeting with them today. There have been a few referrals declined due to the complexity of care. Hospital policy states the internal candidate is to remain in their current position until the replacement begins employment. The new hire applied on 2/21/23 and they've been waiting a long time to begin employment with CHC. A recent newspaper statement reads about therapy visits being up and there were 123 visits for the month. Turns out it was therapy visits in the home. Michael got stats from HIM but didn't clarify about being therapy visits in the home, not CHC visits. Dr. Withers asks if hospital is giving sign on bonuses. Some contention is that initially the starting wage was raised, so everyone got a \$2/hr. raise. Then everyone except home care got a \$3 raise. When Lisa

asked why CHC wasn't considered and was told that on 1/29/23 they would get a raise, but that wasn't the case. They got everyone up to 50th percentile of what the Iowa Hospital Associations wages are, so only three CHC employees got a raise to get them up to the starting wage of the hospital. Home care wages were already at the 50th percentile because employees have been there for up to 20 years longevity, so they should be making more than people just starting out.

Public Health Updates- Cases reports were unavailable due to new server software that was installed. 1st Quarter there was 45 infectious disease cases including Hep C, E Coli, COVID and STD. They were able to use grant money for new laptops, desktops and IPADS. Grant money pays for equipment and salaries. A lot of vaccines were no longer good after 10 days prior to the new Immunization refrigerator and ultra cold freezer where vaccines can now be kept until expiration dates. Lisa & Sheryl attended the Iowa Public Health State Conference and learned more about the direction Public Health is going. They did a tabletop exercise with a 14-county coalition in Fayette on power outages and identifying clients in need who are oxygen or ventilator dependent, or those who are in an electric chair when the power goes out. Corey Snitker is working with Upper Explorerland on a Hazardous Mitigation plan for Allamakee County. Starting in June, Blood Pressure clinics will be held in Postville, Lansing, Harpers and New Albin once per month at City Libraries for 2 hours. Looking at Waukon and Waterville as well. Immunization Clinic will be held Friday at the Postville School. The school Nurse and Sheryl work together to determine immunization status on immigration population. A Master Student from Viterbo worked with them in January on a Capstone Project and had her help update the Allamakee County Resource Guide. It will be rolled out over the next few months. Public Health Regional meeting focused on succession planning. The state epidemiologist is coming today to work with infectious disease cases. COVID vaccine boosters are now available for people who are immune suppressed or over age 65 are able to receive another booster. With grant money, portable solar generators have been purchased in the event of a power outage. These can charge electronically and the maintenance department at VMH is helping with this and storage.

- **Laurie Moody- Environmental Health Update by Mandy O'Neill-** Mandy attended the Regional Environmental Health Meeting in Charles City with Laurie where the 28E agreements were discussed, which is a formal agreement with Board of Health to allow her and another county to work back and forth with each other. A sample was given to the Board to review. On April 14, heard back from the Iowa Finance Authority on the "Unsewered Communities" grant, they wanted further information. The previous variance request for Stan Fullerton at 1235 N 2nd St Lansing is no longer needed. A 2023 Jeep Cherokee was purchased for Env. Health Department in April. The 2008 Trailblazer is being handed down to the Planning & Zoning Department. As of now, Grant to Counties has not paid out 1st, 2nd or 3rd quarters.

3rd Quarter Report- 7 animal bites, 42 water tests, 5 TOT Inspections, 0 septic permits, 2 well permits and 38 radon kits. There is \$26,783.43 Grant money remaining for 4th quarter.

- **Expense/Revenue Reports-** March & April- Dan Byrnes made a motion to approve these reports as presented and Jan Ellingson seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

- **Board of Health Chair Comments/Correspondence-
Contracts Update**— was signed on paper on 4/13/23- 5884BT103 6 yr. response & 507814-
FY24 LPHS. ON 3/16/23 resigned the freezer amendment for adding \$285 for monitoring
temperature.

Full audio minutes are available at the Environmental Health office.

FUTURE MEETING: The next meeting for the Board of Health will be Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 9am in the Board of Supervisors Office.

ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Withers made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 a.m. Dan Byrnes seconded. All were in favor. Motion Carried.

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE** _____

Jeanne Stein, Chairperson

MINUTES TAKEN BY: Mandy O'Neill