

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

Monday March 28, 2022 – 12:00 P.M.
Meeting held via Zoom - Tama Co. Annex Building

Due to heightened potential public health risks related to the COVID-19 virus, all Tama County Board of Health meetings will be held electronically through ZOOM or by phone conference until further notice.

Present:

Micki Ferris –via Zoom	Shannon Zoffka	Jolynn Harger
Lori Johnson	Bill Faircloth – via Phone	Sherry Parks, PA-C –via Zoom
Heather Bombei –via Zoom	Dr. Polly Hineman, via Zoom	Chris Behrens
Sally Custer – via Zoom	Darvin Graham – via Zoom	

Absent:

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Parks, Chair, at 12:00 p.m.

Sherry Parks read the following statement:

Per Iowa Code, Chapter 21.8, Electronic Meetings, the Tama County Board of Health will conduct meetings via zoom or by phone conference due to circumstances where such a meeting in person is impossible or impractical. With 2 members of the BOH being medical providers and/or EMS providers in the county it is impractical to meet due to heightened potential public health risks related to COVID-19 including continued virus activity in our State, electronic meetings is our safest option.

Dr. Hineman moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Micki Ferris moved to accept the Minutes of the February 28, 2022 meeting as presented. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Environmental Report:

Chris has finished his CIOWTS and Certified Pool Operator trainings.

He has been working on the grant for homeowners in unsewered communities. So far he has had 11 grant applications turned in. He has issued 1 septic permit so far this spring and is working on maintenance contracts for alternative systems.

Director’s Report – Shannon Zoffka

Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement (QAPI): Penny attended trainings to learn more about utilizing certain programs available in our EHR to enhance our QAPI program.

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA): We are looking at how to streamline the survey process for community feedback. The current survey is 8 pages, which is rather lengthy.

Supporting Kids in Prevention (SKIP): April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. We are waiting on pinwheels to arrive to be distributed throughout communities. There is a family fishing event being planned for June, with community businesses and services able to have a booth at the Civic Center. The Tama County Cattlemen will be grilling burgers.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP): An Agency text communication drill was conducted on 03/21 and we participated in the Statewide Tornado Drill on 03/23 utilizing our Disaster Call Tree.

A COVID Response IT Grant was approved and will assist with technology purchases and updates for the agency.

We are having a luncheon on April 20th for the VMRC to recognize our volunteers during Volunteer Week. Without the help of the VMRC we would not have been able to hold vaccine clinics and vaccinate the number of Tama County residents that we did in 2021.

Human Resources: The County has hired a new Safety Director. He performed a survey/walk through on March 17th. We have a few areas to work on: reducing clutter in supply rooms and storage areas, cleaning the north stairwell and removing any heaters that are not auto shut off.

Communicable Disease: There were no communicable disease cases in February, and one animal bite.

The STI Clinic held in February had zero individuals served. There is an increase in infections in the state. Discussion was held with Linn County regarding changing the hours and locations of the clinic. Shannon will attempt to provide more education to the school nurses about the clinic and let them know that they are not conducted by our staff.

COVID:

We have seen significant drop in COVID infections in the County. At the last meeting we had a total of 4364, today we have 4392 (only 28 newly reported cases in a month outside of home tests). Since the start of the Pandemic we have had 90 deaths in our County due to COVID.

COVID Vaccine: The demand for vaccine has greatly decreased. We have had very small clinics that are mainly to provide second dose or booster doses. We are able to order vaccine and redistribute to interested pharmacies and clinics in our County. We will be cleaning out the Juvenile Home site later this week.

Wellness: We are participating in the Food Insecurity Group that was initiated by ISU Extension. As a result of this our office participated in the first Northeast Iowa Food bank mobile food pantry. 80 families were given boxes of food. The food pantry will be held at the Living Faith United Methodist Church the 4th Wednesday of each month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Shannon will be participating in a Walking Audit on April 7th with the Tama Toledo Community Visioning group, hosted by Wellmark Healthy Hometown.

Maternal Health Program: Nest class was held on March 15th. Infant choking was reviewed. Resource information for LIHEAP, WIHEAP, Food Drive, and the Food Pantry were given.

Home Health:

Referrals continue to be down. Our caseloads and home visits are down. RN's are encouraged to do other tasks during down time such as: agency promotion, cleaning and organizing supply rooms, and assisting with other tasks as needed. We have been able to avoid enacting low census policy due to scheduled time off and absences.

Waiver: February: Seven patients were served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver. There were 0 Maternal Health Home visits in February.

Financial Report:

For the month of February, Admissions were up and Skilled Nursing visits. Home Health Aide visits and hours were up for the month of February. Our revenue increased for the month of February.

We received grants in the amount of: HRSHA \$108,000, BETS \$8,219, and VMRC Grant Carryover \$4,600.

Dr. Hineman moved to approve the Financial Report. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize Assistant Director/CFO to sign Attestation of HRSA Phase 4 Payment in the Amount of \$108,881.72. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to be the BOH Authorized Signatory for the Local Public Health Services Grant. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Amendment #13, Contract #5885BT486, Emergency Response Multi-Budget Amendment. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Concurrence Letter for the next grant year (beginning July 1, 2022). Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Sally Custer moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Lamar Contract #3787498 for COVID EQUITY Grant Advertising. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None.

Future Meeting Dates: The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, April 25, 2022 at Noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant