

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

Monday June 24, 2024 – 12:00 P.M.
Meeting held at Tama County Annex Building and via Zoom

Members Present:	Curt Hilmer	Micki Ferris	Shannon Zoffka – via Zoom
	Lori Johnson	Jolynn Harger	Dr. Hineman – via Zoom
	Casey Schmidt – via Zoom	Heather Bombei – via Zoom	
		Zoom	

Members Absent: Sally Custer Sherry Parks, PA-C Chris Behrens

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Hineman, Vice-Chairman at 12:02 p.m.

Micki Ferris moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Casey Schmidt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Casey Schmidt moved to accept the Minutes of the May 28, 2024 meeting as presented. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Environmental Report:

Chris was not present at today's meeting, but his report was included in the packet. Shannon reported that Chris will be gone on vacation July 8-12 and July 17-19.

Director's Report - 10 Essential Public Health Services Framework – Shannon Zoffka

1. *Assess and Monitor population health status, factors that influence health and community needs and assets*
 - Food Pantry: 161 Households served, 465 Individuals, 0 New Households for May
 - Avian Flu information/talking points from IHHS shared with staff
2. *Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population*
 - Communicable Disease Investigations Started in May: 1
 - Active & Latent TB Cases: 4 current latent cases
 - Animal Bites: February – 1 Dog Bite and 2 Cat Bites followed in May
 - Immunizations Given: 3 in May
3. *Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it*
 - Social Media Strategy: Weather Alerts, Local Flood Impact, Mental Health Awareness, Nurses Week, EMS Week, Heat Exposure in Vehicles, Measles Information
 - Posts: 42
 - Coffee Talks: 7 held with 28 attendees
 - Claire provided Sun Safety tips to STC 3rd graders
4. *Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health*
 - Maternal Health: 2 Facebook posts. Poweshiek County PH will be providing a “soft handoff” of new moms to Tama County for MH visits
 - Nest: 10 attendees, topic covered Water Safety, Sun Safety, First Aid
 - SKIP: May 16th, Supper with Super Heroes - 288 burgers grilled. May 23rd, meeting. 20 Facebook posts, met in person with Jenna from Pathways to share information
 - NEI3A/COA: Staffing changes at the Senior Center, waiting on more information

- Health Fairs: June 12 at Iowa Premium
 - HRSA (Health Resources & Services Administration) a government organization that focuses on supporting equitable health care for the highest need communities, met with Lori and Shannon to discuss programs, assistance, resources and maternal health
5. *Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health*
 - Attended the Private Well Grant Webinar to learn of changes being made
 - Attend the ISAC "Impact on Counties" webinar that discussed the changes being made at the State level with behavioral health delivery and how that might impact counties.
 6. *Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health*
 - PHEP: Table top exercise was offered in Des Moines, we did not attend due to previous commitments. Prioritized communications on social media regarding flooding in the area, road closures, warnings, and clean up
 7. *Assure and effective system that enables access to the individual services and care need to be health*
 - Foot Clinics continue monthly (Traer Library, Westbrook Assisted Living, Bickford)
 - Blood Pressure checks provided at the Senior Center continue
 - Home Health: 39% of referrals were admitted in May.
 8. *Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce*
 - Nurses Week recognized
 - Information on a new time and attendance program in the County was received. We have a policy and process in place already that meets the demands for being a Medicare Certified agency as well as the demands for multiple payors and funders. We have not begun utilizing the program as it has no benefit to our agency and does not meet the needs of our agency. Discussion will be held later in the meeting.
 - Shellina Putney, CNA will begin full time on June 25th
 - Nurse Aide meeting in May covered driving safety in flood, do not drive through water.
 9. *Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research and continuous quality improvement.*
 - QAPI: no new news
 - The transition to the new IT Company continues
 10. *Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health.*
 - Grants to County RFP submitted timely.
 - In the BOS meeting minutes from June 17th, noted that a member of the public inquired about the County combining the weed, zoning and sanitarian position, no contact was made with our office.

Question was asked by Dr. Hineman if there are any cooling stations located around Tama County. Discussion was held. Shannon said that Meskwaki has them. Some towns have centers open. She usually posts that on our Facebook page and with the LEPC when she receives that information. Dr. Hineman asked if the State had any guidelines. Heather Bombei stated that there is no State Board of Health anymore, there is only a Health and Human Services Council. This would be a local decision. Micki Ferris wondered if each city would respond if the City Managers were contacted. Shannon said that she can check with the LEPC to see what the guidelines are. All cities in Tama County are members. Dr. Hineman thought that would be a good idea as certain heat indices are significant to human health. Casey asked if Shannon could get in touch with Ryan Goodenbaur, Tama County EMA, to see if there are designated cooling stations.

Waiver: May: Three patients were served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver. There were 0 Maternal Health Home visits in April.

Financial Report:

Admissions decreased for the month of May. Skilled Nurse visits increased for May. Health Aide visits and hours decreased for the month of May. Our revenue increased for the month of May.

Chris Behrens is wanting to do permitting online for septic and well permits. We are doing a survey of other counties to see what they are doing.

Micki Ferris moved to approve the Financial Report. Casey Schmidt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- A. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Business Associate Agreement with the Iowa TB Control Program and Emocha Mobile Health Inc. dba Scence Health. Casey Schmidt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Discussion was held about the Time and Attendance software that the Auditors Office wants all County offices to use. After reviewing the information presented at Department Head Meetings and information sent by Michelle Schroeder, Payroll Administrator, using this software will create more work, more steps and more auditing to our current processes. To stay Medicare and Medicaid Certified we have to be compliant to their guidelines. Staff are already tracked by our clinical software (on two different programs), with trackers on their county vehicle and time sheets that are turned in daily. These are monitored and audited by staff each day. Our time sheets are coded so we know what programs we can bill for. This new system does not have that option that we need to bill our payers. No other county in the State is using this software. Lori was told twice by Laura Kopsa, Tama County Auditor, that if this system does not meet our needs that we didn't need to use it. We currently have three polices that cover time tracking and our processes. They were included in the Board packet that was sent to BOH members. They are: Agency Daysheet Policy, Data Input and Charge Verification. The comment was made that it doesn't look like it meets Agency needs. Curt Hilmer feels that this was rammed through without any input. Dr. Hineman moved to keep things the way they are. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Future Meeting Dates: The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, July 22, 2024 at Noon. A hybrid option is still being offered as well as in-person meeting at the Public Health office.

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant

The full Zoom recording is available. It is available by request.