

SPECIAL BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

Thursday, April 2nd – 12:00 P.M.
Meeting held at Tama County Annex Building and via Zoom

Members Present:	Micki Ferris	Sherry Parks - via Zoom	Laura Wilson – via Zoom
	Lori Johnson	Jolynn Harger	Heather Bombei – via zoom
	Chris Behrens	Stacy Koeppen	Kelly Purk
	Sherri Vesely	Beth Eberle	LeeAnna Kriegel

Members Absent: Curt Hilmer Sally Custer Richard Arp

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Parks, Chairman at 12:01 p.m.

Proposal/Action for Home Health, Public Health and Transition Plan

Stacy stated that the purpose of the meeting was to present a plan to decertify from being a Medicare Certified Home Health Agency. Handouts were distributed to Board members, presenting two options, one outlining a transition timeline for the closure of the home health side of the agency and the other for transitioning to a decertified agency.

The Home Health Agency Closure Transition Plan outlines the steps necessary to safely and compliantly discontinue home health services while ensuring continuity of care for patients, completion of all billing, and fulfillment of federal and state regulatory requirements.

The Decertified Public Health Transition Plan is designed to ensure continuity of care, maintain regulatory compliance, support financial stability, and preserve essential health services within the community. Services would continue to include sliding fee, zero-fee, and full-fee patients, as well as care for Veterans and the Meskwaki population.

Public Health and Home Health budgets were presented.

Sherry Parks stated that she had expected to see a plan demonstrating how home health could become profitable in order to maintain the service. Stacy responded that the decertified plan would eliminate on-call requirements, which is a significant issue given current staffing shortages. Since the last meeting, both an RN and the CEO have resigned. She emphasized that this new decertification plan is the most feasible way to continue serving the community.

Sherry Parks stated that a Director for the agency would still be needed. Stacy confirmed that a Director position is included in the plan. She also explained that homemaker services would be moved under Public Health, as these services were cut under previous budget proposals.

The plan allows for maintaining current employee wages, including the 3% increase approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Questions were raised about whether employees would need to reapply for their positions. Heather Bombei, Regional Health Consultant, stated that she views this as the same agency with a change in services, and therefore does not believe employees would need to reapply; however, she recommended confirming this with Human Resources.

Micki Ferris moved to decertify and approve the Public Health Transition Plan (effective July 1st) and to present it to the Board of Supervisors. Sherry Vesely seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant