



## Scott County Health Department

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### SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 17, 2019

### MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Scott County Administrative Center  
600 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Room 605  
Davenport, Iowa 52801

Mrs. Coiner, Chair of the Scott County Board of Health, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mrs. Coiner, Dr. O'Donnell, Dr. Hanson, Dr. Squire

Member Absent: Dr. Sandeman

Staff Present: Edward Rivers, Amy Thoreson, Eric Bradley, Denny Coon, Vicki Doner, Roma Taylor, Tiffany Tjepkes, Teri Arnold, Briana Boswell, Carole Ferch, Jackie Hall, Logan Hildebrant, Christina McDonough, Kim Mills, Chris Varnes

Others Present: Carmily Stone, Kelsey Feller, Matt Enright, Kim Brown, Denis Platt, Donald Luallen

Election of officers was held. Dr. O'Donnell recommended the current slate of officers remain the same for the coming year. Mrs. Coiner would remain Chair, Dr. O'Donnell, Vice Chair, and Dr. Hanson as Secretary. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. Squire moved to accept the agenda. Motion seconded by Dr. Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Hanson moved to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2018 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

The following reports were reviewed and discussed by the Board:

#### A. Director's Report

Mr. Rivers recognized the following employees for their years of service with the department.

- Logan Hildebrant, Environmental Health Specialist      3 years      January 11
- Jane Morehouse, Public Health Nurse      17 years      January 2

Mr. Rivers asked Roma Taylor, Clinical Services Coordinator to expand on the identification of an elevated blood level through blood lead testing in the department's immunization program. Mrs. Taylor stated that having children in the department for immunizations is a great

opportunity to ensure that children are offered other services such as dental screenings and blood lead testing. Mrs. Coiner stated that she believes it to be a wonderful program.

An update was provided regarding an issue for which the board had taken action in a prior meeting, a complaint of a roach infestation in Le Claire. Jackie Hall reported that the house involved had been cleared out, and a professional exterminator had treated it, as had been required by a notice and order issued by the department. The exterminator provided a very thorough report. The owner is no longer living in the house.

Mr. Rivers asked Roma Taylor to comment on a change in the issuance of enteric disease isolation orders. The Iowa Department of Public Health will issue formal orders in these instances, and local health departments will send a staff member to the residence of the party to explain the requirements of the order. Stool cultures will be collected to comply with the order and receive clearance to return to work.

B. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Activity Report.

Dr. Hanson questioned where in the influenza season the area was. Dr. O'Donnell noted that it typically extends to April. She stated that January might see an increase as children return to school after the holidays.

Dr. Squire commented on the shingles vaccine shortage. Dr. Hanson noted that there seems to be a more widespread shortage of vaccines than in the past.

C. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Budget Report for the month of December 2018.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the claims. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Scott County Kids Report.

No representative was present to report but minutes were included in the monthly packets.

E. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Title V, Local Public Health Services and Tobacco Use Prevention Program Report.

Tiffany Tjepkes reported that six-month performance targets have been met for the maternal health program. The progress on the August target is well on its way. There is progress in the oral health requirement, but work remains to be done. Plans are being made to hire a maternal health nurse to provide services to make further progress on these goals.

F. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Preparedness Program Report.

There was nothing to add to the report. Denny Coon noted that the Disaster Preparedness Conference is scheduled for April 2. Presentations include a report on the Las Vegas shootings and the World Trade Center incident.

G. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Modernization Report.

Amy Thoreson reported that the Public Health Advisory Council is preparing to conduct pilot projects to address public health system issues.

H. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Health Department Strategic Plan Report.

Mr. Rivers reported on technology issues and current accreditation activities. He also informed the board that the strategic plan is due to be updated in 2019. He commented that as a part of this process, the Board of Health would be encouraged to participate.

I. Mrs. Coiner moved to Board of Health Orientation.

Staff from the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) presented on the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP). Carmily Stone, Bureau of Environmental Health Services, gave an overview of CLPPP at the state level. The program works to reduce lead poisoning through identifying children at risk and providing case management with elevated blood lead levels (EBL); controlling lead paint hazards, which is the primary means by which children in Iowa are poisoned; and conducting lead prevention activities or contracting counties to do so.

Ms. Stone stated that IDPH covers fifty-one counties and is challenged to provide the services in those counties at the same level that local programs can deliver services. She shared her appreciation that Scott County Health Department contracts with IDPH to provide services in Scott County.

IDPH facilitates universal testing, which means that all children in Iowa must be tested by age six. Programs such as Kindergarten Match, which sends rosters of kindergarten children to IDPH to match against testing records, ensure that all children are tested. As many as thirty percent of children do not show a match for a variety of reason. Out of state records, database errors, and other procedural reasons may be responsible. For those with no match, contact is made with parents in an effort to resolve the issue and ensure the child is or has been tested.

Funding for the IDPH lead program comes from state appropriations (\$504,000), and federal funds (\$445,000). State appropriations are shared among IDPH, counties, and other state agencies. Federal funds are restricted to IDPH use.

Future concerns include:

Resources and funding. Ms. Stone noted that appropriations to counties through the CLPPP contract is very low, and efforts are underway to change the amount of funding provided.

Confirmation of positive tests is also a concern. When a child tests positive, a confirmatory test is conducted, to ensure that false positives are excluded. Better performance in this area is desirable.

Environmental investigations are expensive due to staff training and time as well as equipment costs. An alternate methodology is being explored in order to make the program more economical.

No timeline was identified for the changes, but it was acknowledged that the issues must be resolved in due course.

Dr. Squire asked what the compliance rate is for confirmatory tests. Ms. Stone noted that it was very low, but did not have the exact figures.

Dr. Hanson asked how IDPH covers fifty-one counties. Ms. Stone noted that it is a challenge. Only cases with EBL of twenty micrograms per deciliter (mcg/dl) are investigated, despite a Center for Disease Control recommendation of action at five mcg/dl or higher. Funding precludes performance at that level. Phone calls are made for cases with levels of fifteen to nineteen mcg/dl. No action is taken for levels of five to fourteen mcg/dl.

Mrs. Coiner asked what the EBL rate is for counties IDPH covers. Kelsey Feller, Data Governance Coordinator for IDPH, addressed the question. Ms. Feller noted that rates vary by county, and local contractors cover counties with the majority of the cases. Rural counties have one to two EBL cases per year in some instances, and urban counties have higher rates.

Dr. O'Donnell stated that in the twenty-six years the program has been in place, funding has been steadily reduced. She asked why no definitive action has been taken in that time to eliminate the source. Ms. Stone noted that funding available is often restricted by use. Dr. O'Donnell asked if there is an opportunity to obtain funds not restricted by use. Ms. Stone noted that this is discussed at the state level, but complications introduced by involvement by other sectors precludes action.

Dr. Squire asked what the cost of remediation is for a property. Mr. Rivers stated that experience in Scott County is that an average cost is \$18,000. Dr. Squire asked if elimination of lead hazards is required for rental properties. Ms. Stone indicated that it is not. Dr. Squire stated that this should be a requirement, with fines for non-compliance. Eric Bradley explained the requirements of Chapter 27 of the Scott County Code of Ordinances, which mirrors state law regarding remediation after an EBL case. The role of social services agencies in EBL cases was also discussed. This involvement does not extend to landlords of rental properties. Parallels to radon testing and septic tank testing requirements were discussed.

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the reports. Dr. Hanson moved to approve the reports. Motions seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Coiner moved to Public Comment. There were no comments.

Mrs. Coiner moved to Unfinished Business.

Amy Thoreson shared that there were no updates to the Scott County Health Department FY'19 amended budget.

Amy Thoreson presented the Scott County Health Department FY'20 budget submission, with salary data included. An overview of salary costs for each service area was provided as well as a comparison of revenues and expenditures. Salary cost will be influenced by a 2.25% cost of living increase. A salary study conducted by the county may also affect salaries.

The request from Quad Cities Harm Reduction for a letter of support from the Board of Health for the syringe service programs (SSP) was addressed. The board had requested data that examined the record of such programs in other jurisdictions. Dr. Squire stated that he

considered the studies that were presented to be well conducted and indicated that he would support providing the letter.

Dr. Hanson stated that conclusive data should not be expected, due to the nature of the issue, but that SSP did not appear to increase crime rates. She said she could support providing the letter.

Dr. O'Donnell noted that the studies were from the 1990's and early 2000's. She observed that hepatitis C rates had increased since the times of the studies, and SSP had not affected that. She also noted that drug use rates and overdose numbers had also increase in that time. Dr. O'Donnell stated that she did not necessarily oppose SSP, but did not believe the claims being made for the program were supported by data.

Dr. O'Donnell shared that an effort of SSP could be to reduce the hazard to emergency medical service staff and law enforcement, which would be a positive. She asked Kim Brown of Quad City Harm Reduction what they were asking the legislature to do. Ms. Brown stated that lifting hepatitis C treatment restrictions was one issue and SSP could reduce rates. Dr. O'Donnell objected that the data did not support this. A discussion of the hepatitis C treatment issue followed. Ms. Brown clarified that a SSP was not active in Scott County or the state of Iowa as Iowa Code prohibits them.

Dr. O'Donnell inquired if funding was being solicited from the legislature. Ms. Brown stated that no money was being requested; a change in the Iowa Code to allow SSP is what is being requested. Clients of the SSP would not be charged with an offense if in possession of syringes obtained at the SSP. Dr. O'Donnell then asked if there are other organizations besides Quad City Harm Reduction involved. Ms. Brown noted that this is a statewide effort to change the law. Dr. O'Donnell noted that overdose rates would not be positively affected by the program.

Dr. Squire asked if Johnson County was part of the effort. Ms. Brown noted that Johnson County Board of Health issued a letter of support. He asked if hepatitis C education was a part of the effort. If not, such education would be a good addition.

Dr. Hanson noted that hepatitis C surveillance through testing at SSP would benefit knowledge of hepatitis C rates. She noted that such programs could possibly eliminate gaps in the data.

Mrs. Coiner voiced concern that the data submitted did not indicate a decrease in rates of overdose or disease, and asked if Quad City Harm Reduction would do research to evaluate results. Ms. Brown noted she would see that as a requirement of the program that would be established by IDPH.

Dr. O'Donnell asked for clarification on what agency was asking for the letter. Ms. Brown stated that Quad City Harm Reduction was the group at issue. Dr. O'Donnell also inquired as to who their medical director is. Ms. Brown indicated that Dr. Michelle Yates currently serves as the group's medical director.

Mrs. Coiner asked about logistics in getting clients to the agency. Ms. Brown noted that education would be important. It was discussed that Illinois passed legislation to allow SSP and that Scott County's location on the state line sees many going back and forth into Illinois. Mrs. Coiner stated that the protection of EMS and police is an important benefit, but reducing the

availability of drugs should also be a primary effort. Ms. Brown agreed, noting that her son passed in 2011 from an overdose. She indicated that drug addiction is a chronic relapsing condition, and that it should be considered from a disease treatment model. She stated that SSP are one piece of this model and may result in more being in treatment.

Dr. O'Donnell asked for clarification that what was being requested was a law change in the definition of paraphernalia, so that clients of SSP would not be charged with an offense for possession of syringes. Ms. Brown confirmed that this is the case. Dr. O'Donnell noted that she would not support a SSP that was not properly administered and from which data was not analyzed. She stated that a testing component should be included. Ms. Brown noted that IDPH would frame the issue if the bill passes. Only the passage of a bill modifying the Iowa Code to allow SSP is being requested.

Dr. Hanson asked for clarification on the request being made by Quad City Harm Reduction, as no parameters were defined. Roma Taylor noted that IDPH would define the requirements for a program. Dr. Hanson asked if there would be an opportunity to provide guidance to IDPH. Ms. Taylor stated that is a usual component of the process. She also noted that Scott County Health Department provides HIV test kits to Quad City Harm Reduction for which reports are provided. Dr. Hanson inquired about IDPH providing funding. Ms. Taylor shared that HIV programs are already being funded by IDPH. Ms. Brown noted that the Iowa Senate approved the measure last year, but it did not reach the floor in the House.

Dr. Hanson moved that Scott County Board of Health provide a letter of support, including a provision that further guidelines be developed by IDPH. She noted that it should not be included that the board believe SSP reduces hepatitis C incidence. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Coiner moved to New Business.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve and authorize the Staff Education Requests. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be on February 21, 2019, in the Boardroom on 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Arnold  
Recording Secretary