



## Scott County Health Department

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### SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

September 16, 2021

### MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Scott County Administrative Center  
600 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room  
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. Squire

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Brooke Barnes, Eric Bradley, Tiffany Peterson, Brenda Schwarz, Lenore Alonso, Anna Copp, Carole Ferch, Jackie Hall, Tara Marriott, Christina McDonough, Heather VanHoosier, Sue VanDeWalle

Others Present: Nicole Mann, Scott County Kids; Elly Hinders, Clarke University DNP Program; Katie Jones, Clarke University DNP Program

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

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2021 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

The following reports were reviewed and discussed by the Board:

#### A. Director's Report

Amy Thoreson recognized the following employees for their years of service with the department.

- |   |          |              |
|---|----------|--------------|
| • Tia Siegwarth, Maternal and Child Health Consultant | 4 years  | August 22    |
| • Sue VanDeWalle, Public Health Nurse                 | 4 years  | August 7     |
| • Tara Marriott, Environmental Health Specialist      | 8 years  | September 17 |
| • Jessica Redden, Child Care Nurse Consultant         | 9 years  | August 27    |
| • Brooke Barnes, Deputy Director                      | 13 years | August 29    |
| • Jack Hoskins, Environmental Health Specialist       | 21 years | August 7     |

Mrs. Thoreson welcomed a new employee, Staci Nielson who has been hired as a Public Health Nurse. Ms. Nielson started on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mrs. Thoreson introduced a new employee, Heather VanHoosier, Clinical Services Office Assistant. Ms. VanHoosier started on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson reported Jennifer Stout transferred from a Public Health Nurse to a Maternal, Child Health, Adolescent Health Nurse, while Maggie Wright transferred from 1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) to .50 FTE Maternal, Child Health, Adolescent Health Nurse on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson shared Kelly Garcia, Interim Director of IDPH/Director of DHS; Ken Sharp, IDPH along with two other staff members met with the Health Department Admin Team on September 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the COVID-19 experience and redesign of the Iowa Department of Public Health and Iowa Department of Human Services. Staff continues to learn more about the redesign and gives input when given the opportunity. Mrs. Thoreson will keep the Board updated as more information is provided.

Mrs. Coiner reported she shared with the State that public health promotes and protects the health of all people and communities. Mrs. Coiner added she fears with the Department of Human Services being a large department, the values of public health being for all individuals may get lost.

Mrs. Thoreson reported that several programs have participated in the Party in the Park events hosted by the City of Davenport. Staff provided health information and resources, taught hands-only CPR, offered free family activities, and gave away items such as toothbrushes. The events have been a great opportunity to interact with the community and other community partners.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the Maternal Health Program had the opportunity to work with other community partners to host a diaper giveaway, along with other much-needed supplies.

Mrs. Thoreson reported staff completed in-person outreach to all the dental offices in Scott County. Working with these offices during the pandemic helped to create stronger relationships and greater interest in collaboration. The majority of the offices' staff recognized and welcomed the coordinators to learn about the updates with the I-Smile™ programs.

Carole Ferch, I-Smile™ Silver Coordinator shared that Leah Kroeger, I-Smile™ Coordinator and she met with Beau Dexter, Director Clinical Operation at Genesis Health System (GHG). The outcome of the meeting was a collaboration with the GHG 3<sup>rd</sup> Street clinic to pilot a dental/medical integration project. The patient visits at the clinic are thirty minutes and the provider spends time with each patient reviewing their overall health. Mrs. Ferch reported they have been observing the day-to-day operations of the clinic, and are planning to meet at the end of September to develop a plan to integrate dental services.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Mrs. Ferch to share an update on the Iowa Veterans Trust Fund and the I-Smile™ Silver partnership. Mrs. Ferch explained qualifying veterans have up to \$10,000

lifetime maximum for dental care through the Iowa Veterans Trust Fund. Mrs. Ferch along with the assistance of Ben Enlow, Community Services Veteran’s Affairs Director, have helped sixteen veterans and a couple of widows receive financial assistance for oral health needs within the past year. The local dentists are reimbursed one hundred percent of their treatment fee, and are asking for more veteran patients.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Tiffany Peterson to speak about the Doula Project. Mrs. Peterson reported the department will be contracting with doulas who are African American/Black or a person of color to serve five African American or women of color in Scott County for the next year. The women will be receiving training to become certified lactation specialists with the option of continuing to become an IBLCE, International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. The goal is to reduce maternal mortality rates which are higher in women of color.

Mrs. Thoreson provided a COVID-19 Status Update for Scott County presentation that was given to the Board of Supervisors on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

As of the meeting, 22,951 total individuals tested positive with positivity rates hovering between 10% to 11% over the last couple of weeks.

Case Status

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
September	789	960
August	1,515	633
July	335	865
June	88	384

Mrs. Thoreson pointed out that in June and July of 2020 there were considerably more cases than in 2021, but in August of 2021, the opposite was true. Scott County is on trend for September 2021 to see the same or higher positive cases compared to 2020. Scott County is seeing increases in cases, positivity rate, and hospitalizations.

Mrs. Thoreson reported there is a higher positivity rate in school-aged children this year compared to last. For the period July 1, 2020, thru September 30, 2020, preschool, child care, and K-12 aged population accounted for 12% of the COVID-19 cases, while in July 1, 2021, thru September 13, 2021, those age groups represent 23% of the cases. Mrs. Thoreson added two districts have reported outbreaks in a classroom setting this school year.

Mrs. Thoreson explained areas of concern for cases are: Delta variant, classroom transmission, testing capacity, illness volumes, staffing, general community sentiment, and the unknown of what will happen next. The Delta variant spreads much faster, may cause severe illness, and certain monoclonal antibody treatments are less effective. The current vaccines are effective against severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

Last year while cases of COVID-19 were seen in the schools, they were not clusters indicative of classroom spread. Last year, the districts had a layered approach including distancing, mask requirements, etc. A number of the school districts/non-public schools are seeing numbers

similar to what was seen during the surge between November and January. This is putting tremendous pressure on the schools to navigate public health, Department of Education, and rulings/over rulings. Staff continue to meet weekly with the schools to provide support, input and refer them to CDC guidance whenever possible.

The community testing demand is high and has been a subject of discussion on weekly calls with Genesis, UnityPoint, Community Health Care, and Scott County Emergency Management Agency. This was also a topic of discussion with Kelly Garcia and her team that visited the Department on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Overall illness volumes are unlike last year as medical providers are reporting other things being seen such as off-season Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and individuals that delayed their health care from last year. The area clinics and hospitals are busy and experiencing staffing challenges.

A breakdown of the vaccine status of Scott County residents was reported.

	<b>Scott County</b>	
	<b>At Least One Dose</b>	<b>Fully Vaccinated</b>
Total Population	57.1%	50.7%
Population ≥ 12 years of age	67.6%	60%
Population ≥ 18 years of age	69.7%	62.1%
Population ≥ 65 years of age	91.5%	86.6%

Mrs. Thoreson shared Johnson & Johnson vaccine continues to be offered in a walk-in format at the Health Department. The State of Iowa was able to order Johnson & Johnson vaccine for the first time in several months, with Scott County receiving 400 doses; 200 doses were distributed to Main at Locust and 200 doses were kept at the Department.

CHC, Genesis, and UnityPoint are giving the vaccine in their primary care offices. The Genesis mass clinic location will be closing at the end of September due to the building being sold. The jail medical staff is seeing success in vaccinating the inmates.

Mrs. Thoreson shared a quote released from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on vaccinations for the under 12 years of age, "Just like you, we are eager to see our children and grandchildren vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible. We have to let the science and data guide us. The FDA is working around the clock to support the process for making COVID-19 vaccines available for children. As outlined above, the process is complex and relies on robust manufacturer trials and data, and while we cannot offer a specific date or timeline for when it may be completed for the various manufacturers' vaccine candidates, we can assure the public we are working as expeditiously as possible to meet this critical public health need and we very much hope to have pediatric COVID-19 vaccines available in the coming months."

Mrs. Thoreson explained the steps in the process for FDA approval include: vaccine manufacturers complete clinical trials including at least two months follow-up, review of data by manufacturers and submission for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) or approval, FDA review of data, FDA decision, and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) decision. The FDA decides on what is approved and ACIP decides on how it can be used.

The third dose has been approved for individuals considered severely immunocompromised. A general booster dose has not been approved by the CDC or FDA at this time. The FDA committee has a meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> and the ACIP has a meeting scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss general booster doses of Pfizer.

Mrs. Thoreson shared at this time, the workgroup discussed a risk-based approach for the booster dose recommendations which includes residents of long-term care facilities, older adults ( $\geq 65$  or  $\geq 75$  years of age) and health care personnel but the final decision will be made at the meeting based upon review of the data.

Mrs. Coiner asked if there was Scott County data on how many individuals contracting the illness were vaccinated versus unvaccinated.

Mrs. Thoreson responded since we are no longer doing the case investigation we do not have access to that data.

Dr. Squire asked if the vaccinated individuals were still covered from the Delta variant.

Mrs. Thoreson responded that current vaccines protect against severe illness and hospitalization caused by the Delta variant.

- B. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the months of July and August 2021.
- C. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Budget Report for the months of July and August 2021.

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.

Nicole Mann, Eastern Iowa Decategorization Director reported they have supplied Pleasant Valley with fifty Stop the Bleed Kits for their new elementary school and are in the process of purchasing drawstring bags for the kits. Ms. Mann shared they continue their Health Committee meetings monthly with a focus on drug awareness prevention/education as well as increasing family engagement this year.

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

Tiffany Peterson reported the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) program has returned to providing services at WIC locations in person. Mrs. Peterson shared they have met to review the results of the recent MCAH Request for Information. The State has changed the proposed service area to include Cedar, Clinton, Jackson, and Scott counties. Muscatine County is no longer in the proposed service area. Staff has started initial conversations to discuss collaborating regarding the upcoming Request for Proposal.

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

Mrs. Coiner moved to Public Comment.

There were no comments.

Mrs. Coiner moved to Unfinished Business.

There were no items for Unfinished Business

Mrs. Coiner moved to New Business.

Brooke Barnes shared the Fiscal Year 2021 – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Performance Measures/Budgeting for Outcomes (BFOs). Mrs. Barnes highlighted the following:

- There were fewer animal bites reported than projected for FY'21.
- Due to COVID-19 related medical isolation protocols, when an inmate is booked into the jail, the number of inmates in the jail greater than fourteen days with a current health appraisal was lower than normal.
- Child care nurse consultant services were in high demand the past year with nearly two hundred more technical assistance requests than projected for the Healthy Child Care Iowa program.
- The number of dentists practicing continues to decline, as do the number that are willing to accept Medicaid enrolled children. This remains a concern.
- No drills were completed due to the pandemic and real-world implementation of our emergency preparedness plans.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the I-Smile™ Silver application, contract, and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Healthy Child Care Iowa/Community Action of Eastern Iowa Agreement and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Physical Activity Access application, contract, and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. Squire moved to approve and authorize the signature of the 28E Agreement with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for the Permitting of Private Water Wells. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the 28E Agreement Amendment with the Iowa Department of Public Health for the Inspection of Swimming Pools, Spas, and Tattoo Facilities in Jackson County. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. Squire moved to approve and authorize the signature of the St. Ambrose University Influenza Vaccine Support and Education Agreement and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Scott County Kids Flexible Funding Agreement. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Integrated HIV and Viral Hepatitis Testing Services application, contract, and any subsequent amendment. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on October 21, 2021, in the Boardroom on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz  
Recording Secretary