



Scott County Health Department

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SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

October 21, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Scott County Administrative Center
600 West 4th Street – 1st 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, Michelle Dierickx, Christina McDonough, Lashon Moore

Others Present: Nicole Mann, Scott County Kids

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 September 16, 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.

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| • Monica Nickels, Laboratory Technician | 3 years | October 22 |
| • Katie DeLaRosa, Medical Assistant | 5 years | October 3 |
| • Leah Kroeger, I-Smile™ Coordinator | 5 years | October 31 |
| • Carole Ferch, I-Smile™ Silver Coordinator | 5 years | October 31 |
| • Michelle Dierickx, Office Assistant | 8 years | October 28 |
| • Brenda Schwarz, Senior Office Assistant | 13 years | October 27 |
| • Tammy Loussaert, Environmental Health Specialist | 31 years | October 1 |

Mrs. Thoreson reported Heath Johnson transferred from a Community Health Interventionist to a Disease Intervention Specialist effective October 1, 2021. Mrs. Thoreson welcomed Roma Taylor as a per diem nurse for the immunization clinic.

Mrs. Thoreson provided an overview of COVID-19 cases for Scott County. As of this meeting, IDPH reported a total of 24,782 positive individuals in Scott County. To date, there have been 717 cases in October, compared to a total of 1,835 in September. Scott County’s seven-day positivity rate is 8.5% and the fourteen-day positivity rate is 10.1%.

Mrs. Thoreson shared cases have been decreasing, but the county is currently at a plateau with cases neither falling nor rising. Dr. Katz has studied various models that exist and does not have a prediction, but anticipates the plateau will continue for a while. Scott County remains classified as a high transmission county along with the entire state of Iowa and most of Illinois.

Mrs. Thoreson reported tests kits are available at the Scott County Administration Center. Scott County Facility and Support Services is assisting with the effort by allowing staff time at the building front desk to be utilized for pick-up and drop-off. A courier picks up the completed test kits (Monday thru Friday) and transports them to the State Hygienic Laboratory. At this time, results are expected the next day. The test kits are also available at the Center for Active Seniors, Inc. (CASI), Blue Grass City Hall, and Riverdale City Hall. To ensure test kits are easily available to the community, the kits were offered to all Scott County cities. Community Health Care, Inc., Genesis Medical Center and UnityPoint are distributing test kits as they identify family member(s) that may need to be tested.

Mrs. Thoreson gave a breakdown of the vaccine status of Scott County residents.

	At Least One Dose		Fully Vaccinated	
	Scott County	US	Scott County	US
% of Population	59.3%	66.1%	53.1%	57.1%
% Population greater than 12	70.1%	77.3%	62.8%	66.9%
% Population greater than 18	72.2%	79.1%	64.8%	68.6%
% Population greater than 65	93.4%	95.9%	88%	84.5%

The department continues to offer Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine through a weekday walk-in clinic.

Mrs. Thoreson shared that the FDA’s Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) met on October 14-15, 2021 to discuss the use of a booster dose of Moderna’s COVID-19 vaccine and a second dose of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is meeting on October 21, 2021, to discuss the recommendations from the FDA VRBPAC. The anticipated recommendations for a Moderna vaccine booster dose are those at least 65 years of age should receive, those 18-64 years of age with underlying medical conditions should receive, and those who live or work in a high-risk setting may receive. These are the same recommendation as the Pfizer vaccine booster. The CDC’s ACIP will also be discussing whether everyone should receive a second

dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine to boost immunity at least two months after the initial dose.

The FDA VRBPAC will be meeting on October 26, 2021, to review and discuss the data regarding Pfizer vaccine for children five to eleven years of age. The CDC's ACIP has a meeting scheduled November 2-3, 2021 to discuss the FDA advisory committee recommendations should the committee issue an emergency use authorization (EUA).

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) shared with local public health, that the CDC is going to allow preordering and shipping of the pediatric vaccine. IDPH has allowed Scott County to preorder 5,400 doses and is planning to ship orders one to nine days after the EUA is signed by the FDA. Mrs. Thoreson explained should the Pfizer pediatric vaccine be approved for children five to eleven years of age, it cannot be administered until after the FDA EUA has been approved and the ACIP recommendations are issued and signed by the Director of the CDC.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the CDC is estimating thirty percent of parents will want to have their children vaccinated "right away" while another twenty-five percent will shortly after. The CDC is anticipating parents will want to talk with their children's health care provider about the vaccine. Our local providers are on board and prepared.

Mrs. Coiner asked if there were plans to vaccinate children in the school setting.

Mrs. Thoreson explained there has been some expressed interest around partnering with the Health Department/Health Systems to provide vaccinations. At this point, the vaccine providers are hesitant to provide mass vaccinations in the school setting. Unlike the mass influenza clinics, the providers will want a parent to be present during the vaccination. The plan is to start with the providers and pharmacies and then look to fill any identified gaps.

Mrs. Thoreson shared she has been asked to participate in a group from World Relief that meets quarterly. World Relief is anticipating one hundred and fifty Afghan refugees coming to the Illinois Quad Cities. During the initial meeting, they spoke about the process.

Mrs. Thoreson shared she has been asked by the United Way to participate on their Impact Council. The group looks at measures from their projects and how they impact measures the department is working on.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Tiffany Peterson to update the Board on the Community Health Assessment project. Mrs. Peterson shared that the Community Health Assessment Steering Committee compiled the results of the focus group sessions, demographic survey, and received preliminary data from Professional Research Consultants from the community survey. The results were presented during a series of virtual meetings in October to the Community Health Assessment Stakeholder committee, board members, and other focus group participants. On October 26, 2021, a press conference will be held to share preliminary results and seek public feedback. The report will be finalized in November, identifying the top community health needs.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Eric Bradley to update the board on the Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative. Mr. Bradley shared the department has partnered with the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative for the Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative. Mr. Bradley explained plastic pollution from the Mississippi River contributes as much as forty percent of the volume of plastic flowing into the Atlantic Ocean each year. The Mississippi River Basin became the first river system in the world to join the Clean Seas Campaign. This initiative aims to generate a snapshot of the state of plastic pollution along the river. The data is generated by the participation of the community volunteers using the Marine Debris Tracker, a free mobile phone app for tracking marine litter.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Christina McDonough to update the board on a pop-up demonstration project at Hy-Vee on Devil's Glen Road in Bettendorf. Mrs. McDonough shared that between September 25 and October 10, 2021, Bi-State Regional Commission, Geifman First Equity (owners of Hy-Vee), Young Management Corporation (senior property management company), and Scott County Health Department hosted a pedestrian safety pop-up demonstration project at the Hy-Vee on Devil's Glen Road. The property has several senior living properties adjacent.

The pop-up project included temporary cross-walk paint throughout the Hy-Vee parking lot and main entrance. Ledges along the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp from the sidewalk entrance were also temporarily painted to increase visibility for pedestrians utilizing the ramp. Ten temporary pedestrian yard signs and spray-painted shoeprints were marked along the sidewalk route to encourage Young Management Corporation and neighboring residents to not cut through the Hy-Vee pharmacy drive-through as indicated during the previous phone interviews. Three moveable, large reflective mirrors were also temporarily installed to increase the visibility of pedestrians and traffic throughout a Hy-Vee entrance with blind corners and on each side of the building where Young Management residents indicate they walk. Mrs. McDonough reported comment boxes were available at Hy-Vee and to residents of the three surrounding senior housing properties. The nineteen survey responses were received and are being reviewed. A meeting is planned with the partners in November to discuss the results and course of action.

Mrs. Coiner asked if there were any updates on the redesign of the Iowa Department of Public Health and Iowa Department of Human Services.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the alignment process is moving forward. Staff has not seen the next proposal on how the departments and programs are linked. Mrs. Thoreson will keep the Board updated as more information is provided.

- B. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of September 2021.
- C. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Budget Report for the month of September 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 facilitate a Health Committee meeting that includes public health and school nurses. The school nurses have identified substance abuse as an area of concern in the schools. Scott County Kids will be hosting a Tall Cop training on April 12, 2022, at the River Center with two sessions and continuing education credits available in response to the concern.

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

Mrs. Peterson reported the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) grant is underway for fiscal year 2022. The State has changed the proposed service area for the next contract period to include Cedar, Clinton, Jackson, and Scott counties. Muscatine County is no longer in the proposed service area. Staff has been meeting with community partners individually to discuss collaborating regarding the upcoming Request for Proposal, and how the WIC and 1st Five programs will look in each county.

Mrs. Peterson was excited to share Anna Copp worked with the City of Riverdale to pass the Tobacco and Nicotine Free Resolution in September.

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

Mrs. Thoreson gave an overview of a proposed Health Department Table of Organization Reorganization. Mrs. Thoreson shared the Scott County Health Department has been in a season of change since the fall of 2019 with eight retirements consisting of one hundred and ninety-six years of service to the department, sixteen new employees and will have two new Board of Health members. When a position is vacated due to a resignation or retirement, the department is asked by Scott County Administration to evaluate the position. In doing so, time was spent talking with partners, looking at job descriptions and table of organization of other local health departments, asking questions of current and previous employees, talking with Scott County Human Resources and Administration, talking with the Scott County Health Department Leadership team and looking at personal experience, observations and knowledge.

Mrs. Thoreson explained the proposal is the Public Health Safety programs will no longer have their own service area. The pandemic has shown the importance of being integrated across the department and with partners. The Community Health Consultant position in this service area would become part of the CRIPS service area as it links with other community planning, policy, and

assessment programs/staff, aligns with data review, and responds to community needs with education, programs and building infrastructure. This adjustment will keep the Community Health Consultants in one service area and allow flexibility amongst them. The preparedness and injury prevention programs will be moved within CRIPS, the medical examiner program will be under the Director and Fiscal Manager and EMS will be handled collectively for now until more direction is clear with the intergovernmental entity discussion regarding MEDIC. The Public Health Services Manager position that has been vacant since November 2019 will not be filled and the Senior Office Assistant position will move to a new Fiscal Services area.

Mrs. Thoreson shared Fiscal Services will become its own service area with its own Manager. The needs of the department in this area have grown tremendously as grants have increased in number and complexity, Medicaid billing and future billing of insurance is undertaken, fiscal policies/procedures are needed, and the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software has been implemented. By creating a Fiscal Services area it will give fiscal an identity and team. A new position, Senior Administrative Assistant is being requested as part of the Fiscal Service area during the budget process to support the Board of Health responsibilities, give department leadership support, and provide programmatic work for the medical examiner program. Additionally, the Senior Office Assistant positions from the Public Health Safety and CRIPS service areas would move under the newly created Fiscal Services area.

Mrs. Thoreson explained a separate Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) service area would be created as part of the reorganization. The MCAH program and staffing levels have evolved over time and have the potential to grow further. During the spring of 2022 the department anticipates writing an application for the programs we currently have, including a new Doula pilot project, and additional programs such as 1st Five and I-Smile™ at School in Scott County as well as Cedar, Clinton, and Jackson counties. While the department has many grants that impact programs, and a few that fully fund programs, this grant truly drives an entire system of services for individuals. This program has reached a level where it too needs to have some flexibility to be scalable. The I-Smile™ Silver program would move to this service area; keeping dental health efforts together. Lastly, the Childcare Nurse Consultant program would move from Clinical Services to MCAH as it is a requirement of the MCAH grant. The action plans align, funding is beginning to align, as well as there have been long-term discussions at the DHS/IDPH level about the need for consistent funding for this position.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the supervision of the service areas would be adjusted. The Correctional Health Manager and Fiscal Manager would report to the Director. The Clinical Services Manager, MCAH Manager, Community Health Manager and Environmental Health Manager would report to the Deputy Director. Both positions will continue to interact with all the programs but it will allow balancing.

Mrs. Thoreson noted the job descriptions will need to go before the Board of Supervisors for review and approval. The additional position of a Senior Administrative Assistant will go through the organizational change request process and would not go into effect until July 1, 2022, unless there are additional funds available in the spring. Mrs. Thoreson recognizes change is hard and the transitions will be gradual with the first step being getting the leadership positions in place.

The proposed table of organization reorganization was presented to staff on October 7, 2021, and has received positive feedback.

Dr. Squire asked what the budget projection would be.

Mrs. Thoreson explained it will depend on where the impacted positions align in the salary schedule. The Scott County Administration team will determine the salary schedule based upon the information, roles, experience, and responsibilities staff has shared with them. The added MCAH Manager position will be in place of the Public Health Safety program manager position.

Following discussion, Dr. Squire moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Application, Contract and Subsequent Amendments of the National Environmental Health Association-Food and Drug Administration Flexible Funding Model Grant. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. Squire moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Title V Doula Pilot Project Service Contracts and Any Subsequent Amendments with Iowa Department of Public Health Identified Doulas. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2021, in the Boardroom on the 1st floor.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz
Recording Secretary