



## Scott County Health Department

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### SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

December 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. Hanson, Dr. O'Donnell, Dr. Squire

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Brooke Barnes, Tiffany Peterson, Lori Steiner, Briana Boswell, Anna Copp, Jackie Hall, Christina McDonough, Brenda Schwarz, Chris Varnes

Others Present: Nicole Mann, Scott County Kids, Sherwin Robinson

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. Hanson moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 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.

- |  |          |             |
|--|----------|-------------|
| • Vicki Doner, Correctional Health Manager   | 3 years  | December 3  |
| • Lenore Alonso, Senior Office Assistant     | 16 years | December 19 |
| • Debbie Olesen, Office Assistant            | 17 years | December 17 |
| • Tiffany Peterson, Community Health Manager | 17 years | December 6  |

Mrs. Thoreson reported Danielle Freund will be transferring from a part-time Correctional Health Nurse to a Per Diem Nurse on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the resignation of Christopher Varnes, Community Health Consultant effective January 7<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Coiner expressed her appreciation for his six years of service to Scott County.

Mrs. Thoreson reported staff continues to meet with Community Health Care, Genesis, UnityPoint, and Scott County EMA weekly. Scott County school leadership continues to meet with the department weekly, and the Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition continues to meet biweekly for COVID-19 information sharing.

Mrs. Thoreson shared she attended a meeting with leadership from Bettendorf, Davenport, MEDIC, and Scott County to discuss the 28E process. Kelly Garcia, Director of the Iowa Department of Human Services and Public Health, and local Representative Gary Mohr participated in the discussion. There is work to be completed around the structure to be eligible for additional Ground Emergency Transportation (GEMT) program funds, but there is a desire to move things forward. There is work being done outside of the Health Department regarding this process by the administrators of Bettendorf, Davenport and Scott County.

Mrs. Thoreson reported she has been selected to participate in the NACCHO Adaptive Leadership Academy. The academy is a virtual seven-month program running December 2021 through June 2022. It is designed to help leaders identify and deal with consequential change in uncertain times.

Mrs. Thoreson reported that Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Barnes and she had listened to the Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA) 2021 Legislative Forum. IPHA expressed concerns as vaccine mandates are discussed and the possible impact legislations could have on childhood immunization requirements. There was a discussion on fewer dentists accepting Medicaid creating a need for increased Medicaid reimbursement; Scott County is seeing that impact in the performance measure reported quarterly. Finally, a concern was highlighted that a repeal of state income tax could lead to an increase in sales tax; this could disproportionately impact lower-income residents.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Anna Copp, Community Tobacco Consultant to speak about the Tobacco-Free Quad Cities (TFQC) Coalition Champion awards. Mrs. Copp explained the award is given to local organizations that help to support TFQC's mission of reducing the impact of tobacco and nicotine in our community by having a comprehensive tobacco and nicotine-free workplace policy. Qualifying policies have a minimum of the following components: 1) covers all products not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for cessation use; 2) applies to employees and visitors; 3) is in effect at all times, and 4) includes company vehicles. Mrs. Copp shared she was privileged to present the City of Maysville, Genesis Health System, Profile by Sanford, QC Dental Docs, P.C., River Bend Food Bank, and the Scott County Board of Supervisors with the TFQC Champion Award.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Jackie Hall, Environmental Health Specialist to give an update on swimming pool inspections. Ms. Hall explained that a Scott County apartment complex had been operating its spa year-round until the annual reopening inspections in June. She has been working with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) that the spa and the facility

regarding the situation; the spa design was not approved for year-round operations at the time of installation.

Ms. Hall explained Scott County has a 28E agreement with IDPH for the inspection of swimming pools, spas, and tattoo facilities in Jackson County. Ms. Hall shared she has made two swimming pool/spa inspections with a result both facilities closing due to health and safety violations. Ms. Hall is working closely with both facilities to assist them in resolving their compliance issues.

Mrs. Thoreson provided an overview of COVID-19 cases for Scott County. As of this meeting, IDPH reported a total of 29,094 positive individuals in Scott County. To date, there have been 1,567 cases in December, compared to a total of 2,111 in November and 1,252 in October. Scott County's seven-day positivity rate is 15.2% and the fourteen-day positivity rate is 14.7%. The entire state of Iowa remains an area of high transmission. Mrs. Thoreson shared the majority of cases remain the Delta variant, but Omicron has been detected in the State.

The department has recently participated in joint press briefings with the hospitals. The hospitals are challenged. The current ICU situation is worse than last year with the emergency rooms functioning as a second ICU with seriously ill people being housed there due to no bed availability locally or in the region. The hospitals are reporting that 90% of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated. Joint messaging with health care partners has been occurring with additional information being shared by the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce.

The department continues to offer Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine through a weekday walk-in clinic. Pfizer vaccine is being offered during immunization clinics on Wednesdays. Testlowa test kits are continuing to be distributed.

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

	<b>At Least One Dose</b>	<b>Fully Vaccinated</b>
	<b>Scott County</b>	<b>Scott County</b>
% of Population	65.4%	56.5%
% Population greater than 5	69.7%	60.5%
% Population greater than 12	75.3%	65.7%
% Population greater than 18	77.7%	67.7%
% Population greater than 65	95%	89.8%

Dr. Hanson noted that she has not read any adverse children's reactions due to the COVID-19 vaccination in the younger groups and asked if that was what staff were hearing. Mrs. Thoreson replied that the younger children groups seem to be tolerating the vaccine well. Dr. Hanson shared that some parents have indicated they were waiting to see if other children experienced any reactions to the vaccination before deciding on whether to vaccinate their

children. Mrs. Thoreson responded that initial efforts to engage the local pediatricians in the public promotion of vaccine were well received; it may be time to reengage them in the information sharing.

Mrs. Coiner asked if all tests were automatically tested for the Delta or Omicron variant. Mrs. Thoreson explained the State Hygienic Laboratory completes sequencing on a sample of tests submitted each week.

- B. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of November 2021.

Dr. O'Donnell asked if there has been any information on the influenza vaccine and its match to the strains this year. Mrs. Thoreson replied she will check with Dr. Katz and get back to the Board.

- C. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Budget Report for the month of November 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 Scott County Kids is sponsoring, the Lisa Project on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Scott County Administrative Building. The Lisa Project in 10 (minutes) is a unique multi-sensory exhibit experience allowing the visitor to hear, see and experience the reality of the world of child abuse. Through audio narration from a child's perspective, visitors are guided through scenarios depicting abuse. The exhibit is open to employees and board members.

- 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) team met to review year-end outcomes and action plans for the fiscal year 2021 Year-End report. Data were reviewed; challenges and accomplishments were discussed, and the group's thoughts were summarized into a narrative for the report. All planned activities were completed and Mrs. Peterson was proud to report the team led the state with the highest number of Maternal Health services provided among MCAH agencies. The SCHD team was also able to reach and serve a more diverse population of MCAH clients than the rest of the state.

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the reports. Dr. Hanson 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 informed the board of changes in revenue and expenses included in the FY'22 Health Department budget amendment. Changes in the revenue are adjustments due to changes in grant funding, new grant funding, or service delivery funding. The department saw additional dollars to support the doula project, a disease intervention specialist position, private water well services program, and nearly \$700,000 in public health preparedness dollars to support the COVID-19 response. A bulk of the response funds are being directed towards improving information technology infrastructure. The state is in the process of selecting and purchasing a new web-based communicable disease record system. The department is working closely with Scott County Information Technology to create a plan to enhance department infrastructure. Other activities the response funds have been earmarked towards are testing and mitigation in the correctional settings and testing and support work with homeless shelters.

The department saw decreased revenue as direct care services were limited and ServSafe training was not offered due to adjusted space requirements in the building. Changes in expenditures were made to reflect the adjustments made in revenue.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve the FY'22 Scott County Health Department budget amendment as presented. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Thoreson provided an overview of the FY'23 Health Department budget. She explained the figures, in the packet, for this budget are being compared to the amended budget for FY'22 and include non-salary expenditures only. Scott County Administration has not provided FY'23 salary figures. Mrs. Thoreson will provide them at the January meeting. Overall revenue for FY'23 is budgeted to increase by \$214,430. This increase will be dependent on how much of the public health preparedness response dollars are spent in which fiscal year and how the maternal child health reorganization unfolds. There is support for Scott County to be the applicant receiving the funds for Scott, Clinton, Jackson, and Cedar counties. Mrs. Thoreson reviewed the projected expenditures for the FY'23 budget.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the FY'23 Scott County Health Department budget (Revenue and Non-Salary Expenditures) as presented. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the Signature of a Maternal Health Program Agreement with Obstetrics & Gynecology Specialists, PC (The Group). Motion seconded by Dr. Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve the signature of the IPHA Social Media Collaborative Mini-Grant Application and Contract. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Brooke Barnes reviewed the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Annual Report. Mrs. Barnes shared with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and public health response, it has constrained the department's progress in quality improvement (QI)/Performance Management (PM). Formalized QI efforts and QI team meetings have been on hold. Staff continues to monitor performance through the department's PM system, but efforts to further analyze, update, and enhance the PM system have also been put on hold.

Community collaboration is a component of the PHAB Annual Report. Mrs. Barnes explained the department has been able to strengthen its collaborative working relationships throughout the COVID-19 response. In March 2020, area health, business, government, and emergency management officials had the foresight to acknowledge the future magnitude the newly identified SARs-CoV-2 virus would bring and collaborated to create the Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition to work to minimize the risk for community spread and lessen the physical, social, and economic impacts of COVID-19.

Mrs. Barnes shared the COVID-19 pandemic gave the Health Department a prime opportunity to lead efforts to address health equity. The department established a working committee to address access to vaccination for the African American/Black, Hispanic/Latino/Latinx, and Vietnamese communities in Scott County. The department engaged in conversations with its vaccination partners to identify opportunities to remove barriers and to bring vaccinations into communities in greatest need. This work involved collaborating with community and faith leaders, service providers, and cultural organizations within communities of color.

Mrs. Barnes noted the department leadership acknowledged the importance of workforce development and improvement throughout the challenges of the pandemic. The department joined the Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PH WINS) project's online survey of individual workers at governmental public health agencies. Both Mrs. Thoreson and Mrs. Barnes were able to represent public health through a local Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Leadership Institute hosted by the United Way of the Quad Cities. The institute acted as a community forum to discuss and promote conversations and strategies to address racism and equity in both and workplaces. As an outcome, an action plan for formally re-engaging staff and efforts surrounding health equity following the COVID-19 pandemic response has been developed.

Lastly, Mrs. Barnes gave an overview of the population health measures chosen to track across multiple years.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve the signature of the Public Health Accreditation Board Annual Report. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on January 20, 2022, with the elections of officers, in the Boardroom on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

Mrs. Thoreson expressed her appreciation to Mrs. Coiner for her years of service to the Board of Health and the community.

Dr. Hanson presented Mrs. Coiner with a retirement gift from the Board of Health members that symbolized her years of service holding the Health Department in her hands and her public service holding, the community in her hands over the years. Dr. Hanson expressed what a pleasure it has been to work with Mrs. Coiner over the years and wished her well.

Mrs. Coiner thanked the other Board members and Health Department staff, past and present, for their efforts.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz  
Recording Secretary