



Scott County Health Department

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SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 20, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Scott County Administrative Center
600 West 4th Street – 1st Floor Board Room
Davenport, Iowa 52801

Dr. O'Donnell, Vice-Chairman of the Scott County Board of Health, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dr. Hanson, Dr. O'Donnell, Mr. Robinson, Dr. Squire

Members Absent: Dr. Schermer

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Brooke Barnes, Tiffany Peterson, Lenore Alonso, Briana Boswell, Carole Ferch, Jackie Hall, Leah Kroeger, Christina McDonough, Lashon Moore, Brenda Schwarz, Stuart Scott

Others Present: Diane Martens, Scott County Kids, Dr. Katz

Dr. O'Donnell welcomed Mr. Sherwin Robinson. Dr. O'Donnell shared Mr. Robinson and Dr. Sydney Schermer have been appointed by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to a three-year term on the Scott County Board of Health.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to the election of officers. Dr. O'Donnell called for a nomination for the Chairman of the Board position.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to nominate Dr. Hanson for the position of Chairman of the Board. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hanson called for a nomination of the Vice Chairman of the Board position.

Dr. Squire moved to nominate Dr. O'Donnell for the position of Vice Chairman of the Board. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hanson called for a nomination for the Secretary of the Board position.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to nominate Dr. Squire for the position of Secretary of the Board. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Dr. Hanson called for a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes of the December 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 employee for his years of service with the department.

- Logan Hildebrant, Environmental Health Specialist 6 years January 11

Mrs. Thoreson reported staff continues to meet with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the jail staff weekly as a result of an outbreak of COVID-19 in the facility. The current outbreak has had no hospitalizations and one emergency room visit. The Health Department staff are routinely testing jail staff and symptomatic inmates.

Mrs. Thoreson shared she participated on the interview panel for the IDPH Medical Director. Mrs. Thoreson explained there were two candidates interviewed and both candidates are from the State of Iowa. As part of the interview process, the candidates met with three separate groups which included leadership of IDPH, staff groups from IDPH, and a group of external stakeholders. The negotiation process is now underway with the chosen candidate.

Mrs. Thoreson shared staff has had an initial conversation with Debra Thompson who previously worked for IDPH as a policy advisor and legislative liaison regarding working with the department as a consultant. Mrs. Thoreson is exploring the possibility of Ms. Thompson coming to the department to do education with staff and the Board of Health to share her knowledge of the legislative process, advocacy strategies, and communication techniques.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Stuart Scott, Community Health Interventionist to share his partnership efforts in the community. Mr. Scott reported he attended a collaboration meeting with UnityPoint Health and CADS/Robert Young Center concerning their Building Strong African Families (SAAF) initiative, the Community Resource Outreach meeting hosted by Community Health Care, the Honor Homeless Person Memorial, and a coalition-building meeting with Armani Family Services. Mr. Scott explained the Health Department celebrated World AIDS Day at NorthPark Mall by providing free and confidential HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C testing. Mr. Scott's role is to build relationships throughout the community in an effort to expand HIV testing and education.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Lashon Moore to speak about the IDPH Immunization Quality Improvement (QI) site visit. Mrs. Moore shared members of the department's Immunization Team participated in the site visit with Kelli Smith, IDPH Nurse Consultant. The group reviewed various metrics and discussed the implementation of a QI project that will take place over the course of a year. The team will follow-up with Ms. Smith at two months, six months, and one

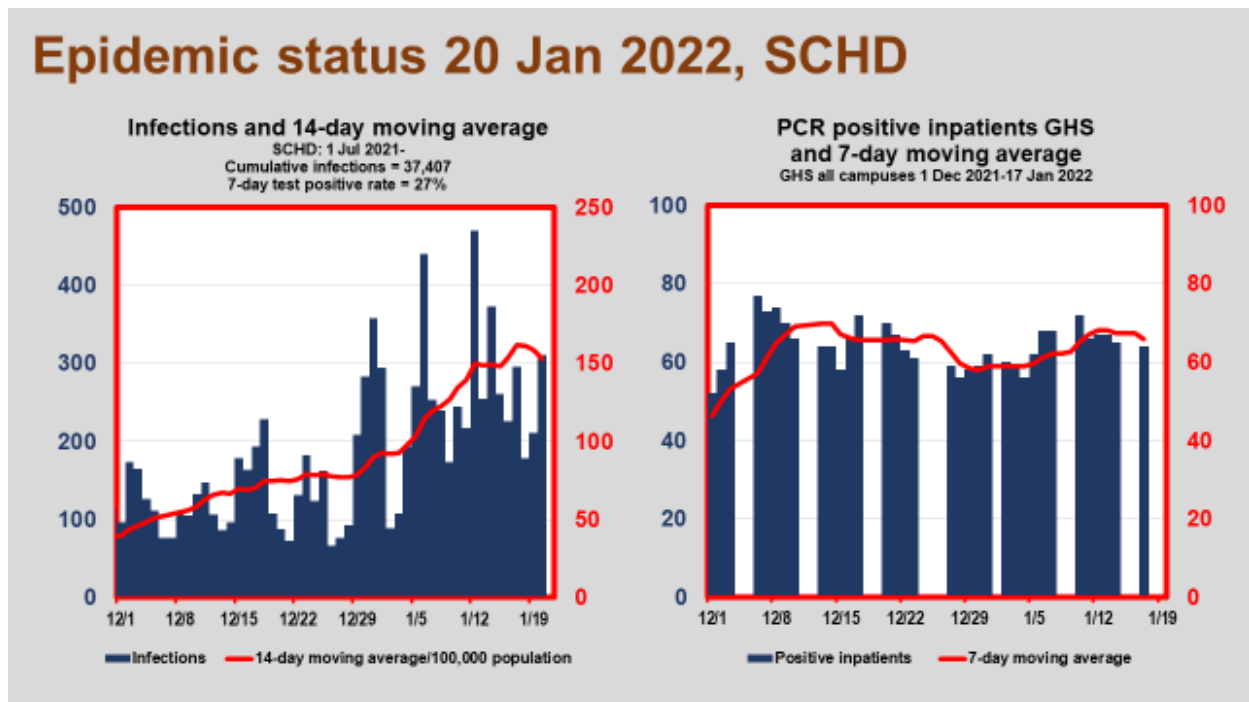
year to see if efforts made an impact on increasing the vaccination rates for those children in the department's medical home.

Dr. O'Donnell stated over the last eighteen months immunizations as a whole in the community are lagging.

Dr. Hanson added as a nation there is going to need to be a major emphasis on the importance of why immunizations and an effort to rebuild confidence.

Mrs. Thoreson noted prior to the pandemic the Immunization Coalition group was actively meeting and it is time to reconvene the group.

Mrs. Thoreson provided an overview of COVID-19 cases for Scott County. As of this meeting, over 36,000 individuals have tested positive in Scott County. Scott County's positivity rate has been 25% to 30% during the weeks preceding the meeting.

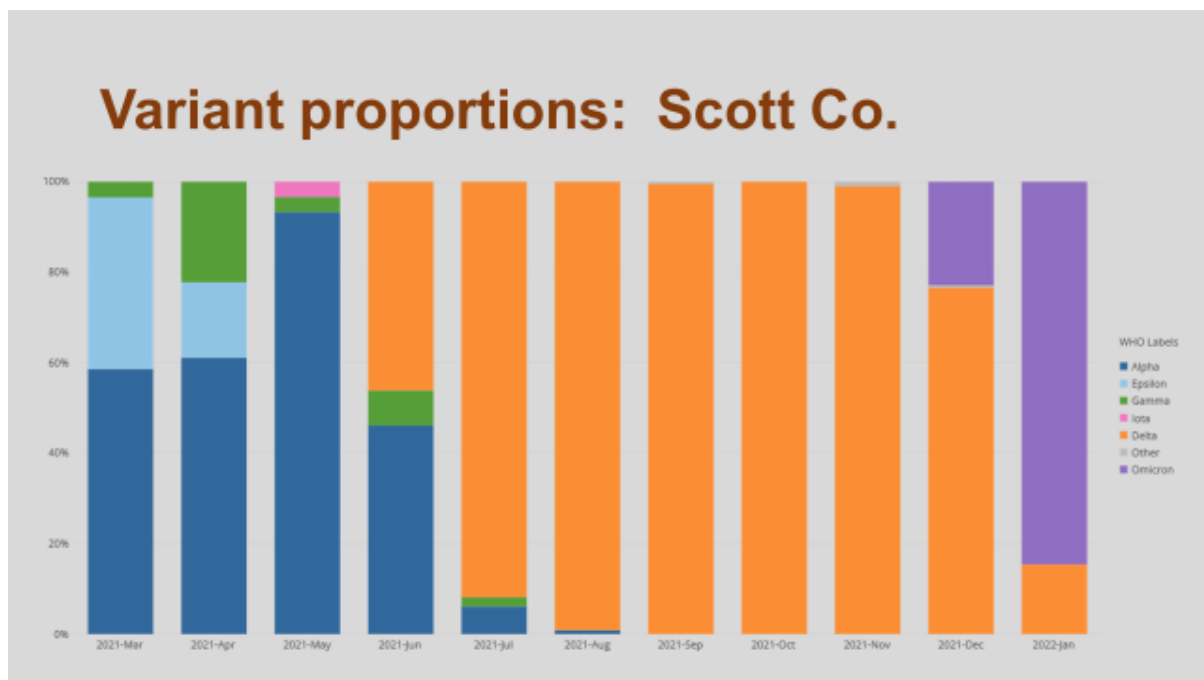


Mrs. Thoreson asked Dr. Katz to explain the above graphs. Dr. Katz shared the reported infections shown on the *Infections and 14-day Moving Average* graph are substantially underestimated with the underestimate mainly due to unreported point of care testing in nontraditional venues (home testing). Dr. Katz noted the fourteen-day moving average (focused on the Omicron interval starting in mid-December) at the peak was 160 infections per 100,000 individuals per day, which is slightly above the peak of Fall 2020. Dr. Katz added this represents more infections than Scott County has seen at any point during the pandemic.

Dr. Katz shared the *PCR Positive Inpatients* graph represents inpatients at all Genesis Health System campuses. Dr. Katz pointed out that looking at the two graphs, they represent a rising number of cases and a flat number of hospitalizations.

Dr. Katz explained the message continues to mask properly, social distance, and complete the full series of vaccinations including the booster dose. The full series of vaccinations, including the booster dose, continue to reduce the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

Dr. Katz noted areas of the country and the world that were among the first to be impacted by the Omicron variant are starting to see their COVID-19 numbers level off, or improve, but the next several weeks will be important to know if that pattern continues and if Scott County will see the same results.



Dr. Katz shared the above graph illustrates 85% of sequences from Scott County processed by the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) are the Omicron variant.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the Testlowa test kits are continuing to be distributed and are in demand.

Mrs. Thoreson asked Brooke Barnes to update the Board on the pop-up COVID-19 testing sites. Mrs. Barnes explained she has received several calls from the community concerned if the pop-up COVID-19 testing locations were legitimate. In response to the complaints, staff has reached out to IDPH and SHL sharing the concerns. A CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988) officer from SHL has made visits to several COVID-19 pop-up testing locations in Scott County to gather information to determine if the sites are connected with a CLIA certified laboratory, and if they are accurately reporting their test results to IDPH. The

information gathered is reviewed and shared with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) who issues a compliance or noncompliance letter to the testing site.

Mrs. Hanson asked if there has been any complaints about the sites asking for payment.

Mrs. Barnes shared they have not received any complaints in regards to payment.

Mrs. Thoreson reported staff continues to meet with Community Health Care, Genesis, UnityPoint, and Scott County EMA weekly. Mrs. Thoreson gave a breakdown of the vaccine status of Scott County residents reported by the CDC. The population greater than 5 years of age fully vaccinated is at 62.3%, the population greater than 65 years of age is over 95% bringing the total Scott County fully vaccinated rate to 58.5%. The department continues to be the source for vaccines coming into the community for health care providers, excluding pharmacies that have the opportunity to access the vaccine through the National Pharmacy Partnership.

Dr. O'Donnell stated in reviewing the Public Health Activity Report, it indicates the COVID-19 positivity numbers were higher last year compared to the current year. Dr. O'Donnell commented with community members using home test kits that are not reported to IDPH, it will come to a point where the test data may no longer be reliable.

Dr. Katz noted that is why he no longer shows the epidemic curve by itself. The numbers represent the direction the curve is moving, but the raw numbers are not as reliable. Dr. Katz explained the most important metric currently is the number of inpatients in the hospital and the number of patients in the intensive care unit due to COVID-19.

B. Dr. Hanson moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of December 2021.

C. Dr. Hanson moved to the Budget Report for the month of December 2021.

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

D. Dr. Hanson moved to the Scott County Kids Report.

Diane Martens, Scott County Kids Early Childhood Iowa expressed her appreciation to the Health Department and the Child Care Nurse Consultant as families and child care providers continue to navigate through the pandemic.

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

Mrs. Peterson reported approval has been given from IDPH on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Obstetrics & Gynecology Associates, PC (The Group). The Group is having their legal team review the MOU with the hope of being able to provide Maternal Health direct services to clients on Wednesdays beginning in February. The 1st Five application

has been released. A meeting is being planned with UnityPoint Muscatine to discuss how to move forward with the application. Mrs. Peterson shared they have learned the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Grant will be two separate applications. The Maternal Health and Child Health applications are to be released in March and April. Mrs. Peterson was pleased to share the City of Maysville passed a comprehensive tobacco-free/nicotine-free parks ordinance.

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

Dr. Hanson moved to Public Comment.

There were no comments.

Dr. Hanson moved to Unfinished Business.

A. FY'22 Scott County Health Department Budget Amendment

Mrs. Thoreson reported there are no updates to the FY'22 budget amendment that was presented at the December meeting. The Board of Supervisors will act on the amendment approval at the end of March. Mrs. Thoreson added the BOS will take action at their January 20, 2022 meeting on the proposed table of organization job description updates discussed at the September Board of Health meeting which are included in this amendment from a fiscal perspective.

B. FY'23 Scott County Health Department Budget

Mrs. Thoreson gave an updated overview of the FY'23 Health Department budget which included salary and benefits for staff. The total budget is \$7,758,558, revenue of \$2,790,061 and a tax asking of \$4,968,497. The FY'23 tax asking is back to the FY'20 level. Mrs. Thoreson acknowledged that the department is thankful to have the continued support of the BOS.

Dr. Hanson moved to New Business.

Overview of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Iowa Department of Public Health for Tuberculosis Direct Observed Therapy and the Sub-MOU with Genesis Visiting Nurse Association.

Mrs. Thoreson explained the MOU is to provide directly observed therapy for suspected/confirmed cases of Tuberculosis.

Overview of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Family Planning Council of Iowa, and the Scott County Health Department for Community Based Screening Services (CBSS) Project.

Mrs. Moore explained the agreement is established to maximize collaboration and to delineate the roles and responsibilities of IDPH's Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) program, Family

Planning Councils of Iowa, and Scott County Health Department to accomplish the goals of the CBSS project. Participating CBSS sites are Scott County Health Department, Scott County Correctional Services, and the Scott County Juvenile Detention Center.

Discussion of Request to Update to Board of Health Position Statement on Community Water Fluoridation.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the July 18, 2013, Board of Health Position Statement in support of the fluoridation of community water systems. Leah Kroeger, Community Dental Consultant/I-Smile™ Coordinator explained that 92% of Scott County residents receive water fluoridation through a community water system. The communities of Buffalo, Blue Grass, Park View, Princeton, and Walcott are not at the optimal level of fluoridation in their water systems. The optimal fluoride concentration level is 0.7 mg/L. Mrs. Kroeger would like to update the 2013 statement with new data, the benefits, and other program information

Following discussion, the Board came to the consensus to draft an updated Board of Health Position Statement on Community Water Fluoridation. The updated draft will be presented at a future Board of Health meeting.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the request for staff to attend job shadowing opportunities in the Polk County Health Department Sexual Health Clinic, two consecutive days on dates yet to be determined. Motion seconded by Dr. Squire. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hanson referred to the Scott County Health Department Public Health Connection – January 2022 and Fiscal Year 2021 Scott County Health Department Annual Report. Dr. Hanson complimented staff on a job well done with the Annual Report.

The next meeting will be held on February 17, 2022, in the Boardroom on the 1st floor.

There being no further business before the Board, Dr. Squire moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:26 p.m. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz
Recording Secretary