



Scott County Health Department

600 W. 4th Street | Davenport, IA 52801-1030 | P. 563-326-8618 | F. 563-326-8774
health@scottcountyiowa.gov | www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health

SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

December 15, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Scott County Administrative Center
600 West 4th Street – 6th Floor Room 605
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 (virtually), Dr. O'Donnell, Dr. Franzman, Mr. Robinson, Dr. Schermer

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Brooke Barnes, Briana Boswell, Tiffany Peterson, Lori Steiner, Andrew Swartz, Lenore Alonso, Mariah Bryner, Anna Copp, Carole Ferch, Ellen Gackle, Jodi Jorgensen, Erica Lopez, Tara Marriott, Krishna Marmé, Christina McDonough, Raymond Miller, Lashon Moore, Brittany Sandlin, Brenda Schwarz, LaBridgette Tensley

Others Present: Dr. Louis Katz, Scott County Health Department, Medical Director

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

Dr. O'Donnell called for a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Robinson moved to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2022 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. 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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| • Lenore Alonso, Senior Office Assistant | 17 years | December 19 |
| • Debbie Olesen, Office Assistant | 18 years | December 27 |
| • Tiffany Peterson, Community Health Manager | 18 years | December 6 |

Mrs. Thoreson introduced new employee, Erica Lopez, who has been hired as the new Dental Direct Services Consultant. Ms. Lopez joined the department on December 12th.

Mrs. Thoreson reported Denise Gebel has transferred from a Public Health Nurse to a Per Diem Nurse, effective November 16th.

Mrs. Thoreson reported Tracy Zeimet will transfer from a Public Health Nurse to a Per Diem Nurse, effective January 4th.

Mrs. Thoreson reported, that as of the meeting, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HSS) reported 54,313 positive COVID-19 tests in Scott County; averaging 30 cases being reported per day. Mrs. Thoreson reminded the board that the numbers reported are undercounted due to home test kit results not being reported.

The department continues to manage the vaccine orders for the community and will continue until the federal government transitions to a more standard purchasing process. The state has sent out vaccine ordering dates through May 2023.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have approved the bivalent boosters for children ages 6 months through 4 or 5 years; depending on the vaccine brand. A pre-order of 900 doses of the vaccines was submitted and has arrived in the community to healthcare providers. The pre-order of Moderna bivalent vaccine supply is limited with only 100 doses available on the shipment.

Staff will be meeting on December 16th with health care partners to discuss influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in addition to COVID-19. Mrs. Thoreson explained policy recommendations are shifting as respiratory disease incidence caused by multiple viruses are elevated.

Mrs. Thoreson reported the internal workgroup formed by Scott County Administration regarding transitioning MEDIC EMS to a department of Scott County continues to meet. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) will be voting on December 20th on the recommendation to hire an external consultant for the emergency medical services (EMS) transition study and business consulting services. In February, the workgroup is planning to provide an internal document to the BOS. Mrs. Thoreson is hopeful to bring a presentation to the Board of Health (BOH) at the March meeting.

Mrs. Thoreson shared that Brooke Barnes and she met with the two newly elected Scott County BOS members. During the initial orientation, a general operational overview of the department and BOH were given.

The Live Lead-Free Coalition has approved a contract with the former Scott County Planning and Development Director, Tim Huey, to manage the project. Mr. Huey will begin his role in January.

Mrs. Thoreson explained, Lori Elam, Scott County Community Services Director and she have been asked to facilitate a plan for the BOS regarding opioid settlement funds coming into the community. The planning process will begin in January and will involve staff members to assist

in gathering community input on where the funds should be allocated in accordance with the settlement guidance.

- B. Dr. O'Donnell moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of November 2022.
- C. Dr. O'Donnell moved to the Budget Report for the month of November 2022.

Following discussion, Dr. Franzman moved to approve the claims. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Dr. O'Donnell moved to Public Comment.

There were no comments.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to Unfinished Business.

There were no items for Unfinished Business.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to New Business.

Mrs. Thoreson informed the board of changes in revenue and expenses included in the FY'23 Health Department budget amendment. Changes in the revenue are adjustments due to changes in grant funding, new grant funding, or service delivery funding. The increases in revenue reflect the I-Smile™ and I-Smile™ Silver grants including additional staff support and expectations that more time is allotted for direct care services, the addition of home food processing licensure, inspection support being provided in Muscatine County for swimming pools, spas and tattoo facilities, and refunds and reimbursements for out of county Iowa resident deaths that occur in Scott County that are billable. The revenue increase for the Public Health Emergency Response program is for funds received for monkeypox, the extension of vaccine equity money, technology, homeless, and detention support.

The department saw decreased revenue as direct care services were limited, the Physical Activity Access grant ending on September 30th, the reflection of the updated funding projections for the new Maternal, Child, Adolescent Health (MCAH) collaborative service area, the delay in initiating the Medicaid billing process project due to the pandemic response and staff changes, and ServSafe training not offered due to staff changes and the uncertainty of space availability in the building,

Mrs. Thoreson explained the adjustments in expenditures have been made due to actual expenditures. The bonus adjustment was made to reflect the BOS giving employees a bonus in July and other salary/benefit adjustments based on actuals.

Dr. Franzman asked if the County encourages the Health Department to increase revenue streams or look for other sources of revenue.

Mrs. Thoreson shared that the Health Department is very fortunate to have the level of investment and support the county provides to the department. The department does want to

be good stewards of county funds, which is why the department is pursuing Medicaid billing. Mrs. Thoreson explained there is a shared knowledge that grant funded positions are contingent on the award and continued award of the grant.

Dr. Franzman asked if the department is asked to review their fees.

Mrs. Thoreson shared that the county does want the department to continually review their fee schedule to ensure there are not large jumps in fees.

Dr. Hanson noted there was discussion prior to the pandemic that fees be reviewed every two years.

Mrs. Thoreson added that the department will be reviewing fees in FY'24.

Dr. O'Donnell asked what steps are taken to ensure that unnecessary inmate emergency department (ED) visits are not made.

Mrs. Thoreson explained that there is a correctional health medical director on-call 24/7, nursing staff available 24/7 (unless there is a vacancy), and that inmates are only taken to the ED if deemed medically necessary. Mrs. Thoreson added that the goal is to care for the inmate in the facility as it can create a security risk for the community, staff, and the inmate any time an inmate leaves the facility.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve the FY'23 Scott County Health Department budget amendment as presented. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Thoreson provided an overview of the FY'24 Health Department budget. Mrs. Thoreson explained the figures, in the packet, for this budget are being compared to the amended budget for FY'23. Overall revenue for FY'24 is budgeted to decrease compared to FY'22 and FY'23. Both of those years saw large amounts of emergency response dollars (immunizations, technology, and monkeypox) and at this time, the funds are due to end June 30, 2023, which accounts for a \$500,000 decrease. Mrs. Thoreson added that she is hopeful that FY'24 will represent a new baseline for the department.

Mrs. Thoreson reviewed the projected expenditures for the FY'24 budget which include the salary expenditures. The county budget and administrative services director budgets for salary and benefit information. Overall, the non-salary figures are flat except a slight increase to support the Human Society's work under contract regarding animal control and animal bite follow-up. The correctional health expenses are decreased due to the new model for paying for services utilizing the Medicaid reimbursement rate.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve the FY'24 Scott County Health Department budget as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Andy Swartz, Environmental Health Manager explained that the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) changed their inspection frequencies of food establishments. The contracted counties are allowed to either adopt DIA's inspection frequencies, or create their own, as long as frequencies are not less stringent than DIA's frequencies.

Mr. Swartz presented a recommendation to the board to adopt a hybrid model between the current inspection frequencies and DIA's new inspection frequencies.

- Very High: every 6 months and may be adjusted to every 4 months
- High: every 12 months and may be adjusted to every 6 months
- Medium: every 18 months and may be adjusted to every 12 months
- Low: every 24 months and may be adjusted to every 18 months
- Very Low: every 36 months and be adjusted to every 24 months

The complaint-driven inspections will continue, and food establishments will undergo an inspection prior to opening.

Brooke Barnes added with the inspection frequency update, it will allow the food inspectors to have the opportunity to spend additional time in facilities educating staff as they see needs.

Dr. Franzman asked which type of facilities are included in the very high-risk category.

Mr. Swartz explained that facilities that offer raw fish, sushi, or that have a variance would be considered in the very high-risk category.

Following discussion, Dr. Franzman moved to approve the food inspection schedule as presented. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Thoreson reviewed the 2023 Iowa Public Health Association's Policy Platform document, existing BOH Statement on Syringe Service programs, 2023 Iowa State Association of Counties top legislative priorities document, existing BOH policy statement on the Iowa Natural Resource Trust Fund, and existing BOH position statement on the consumption of raw milk.

Mrs. Thoreson noted several staff listened to the Iowa Public Health Associations legislative forum and it is anticipated that mandatory childcare and school immunization requirements may be challenged. Dr. Katz shared there is opposition for mandatory childcare and school vaccinations requirements, and it is important to support the mandatory vaccination requirements.

Mrs. Thoreson asked the board if they would like to have any of the position statements updated, if they would like a childcare and school requirement position statement drafted, and if there were any other position statements the board would like developed and brought to them at the January BOH meeting.

Dr. Schermer asked if there is an update on the Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) drinking water health advisory that was issued in mid-June over alleged PFAS contamination at the 3M Cordova operations along the Mississippi River.

Mr. Swartz responded that he has not received a recent update from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Swartz explained the 3M Corporation has sent letters to private well owners that are in a three-mile radius of the Cordova 3M facility, which includes a portion of northeast Scott County, and is working with owners to test their wells.

After discussion, the BOH asked that the position statements on the Iowa Natural Resource Trust Fund and the consumption of raw milk be updated to reflect current statistics and current reports with important conclusions, a position statement supporting mandatory child care and school immunization requirements for admission be drafted, and an update on the syringe service program be given to ensure the letter of support is positioned correctly at the January BOH meeting.

Mrs. Barnes reviewed the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Annual Report. Mrs. Barnes explained that although the COVID-19 response caused a gap in formalized Quality Improvement (QI) activities taking place, the structure of the QI Council has acted as a strong foundation that has allowed the Council to quickly begin reengaging the department QI activities. In the past year, additional QI Council members have been trained in Technology of Participation (ToP) Facilitation to assist in QI project facilitation.

The department continues to use the performance management system to identify opportunities for improvement. In the last few years, staff have monitored performance measures for dental access to care, recognizing that access has been decreasing as community needs remain and are increasing. The number of practicing dentists accepting Medicaid insurance has taken a dramatic decrease in recent months. Department leadership and the I-Smile™ Silver Dental Coordinator took this opportunity to approach state elected officials from the Iowa Senate and House of Representatives to discuss concerns about the current dental landscape. The data to support the concerns was beneficial and reinforced the importance of performance-based decisions and advocacy.

Mrs. Barnes explained the department has been able to strengthen its collaborative working relationships. The emergence of the monkeypox outbreak became an opportunity to leverage the department's collaborative relationships with local providers serving the LGBTQIA+ community. Due to the strength of existing relationships with The Project of the Quad Cities, local infectious disease physician clinics, cultural groups, and LGBTQ bars in the community, the clinical team was able to collaborate to host vaccine clinics geared toward eligible individuals with the LGBTQ community. In addition, the department established closer working relationships with the Iowa Department of HHS and multiple county health departments in Iowa as the department moved through the COVID-19 pandemic and the monkeypox outbreak response. In partnership with both HHS and three county health departments, a joint monkeypox and behavior-based prevention advertising was promoted across LGBTQIA+ focused dating apps in eastern Iowa.

Mrs. Barnes shared that during the past year, the Community Health Assessment (CHA) Steering Committee has been engaged in completing the county's Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan. Access to healthcare is a large focus of this effort, especially in the quantitative data gathering that takes place through telephone surveys of individuals. The CHA Steering Committee is comprised of public health, both hospital systems in the community, the local federally qualified health center, and a healthcare collaborative agency.

Mrs. Barnes explained the department leadership coordinated a reorganization of the department's service areas based upon current service delivery needs.

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

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

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Community-Based Screening Services contract and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve and authorize the signature of the 28E Agreement with the City of Bettendorf regarding water well permitting. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

After discussion it was decided to move the March BOH meeting to March 30th.

The next meeting will be held on January 19, 2023, in the Boardroom on the 1st floor.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz
Recording Secretary