



Scott County Health Department

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SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 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, Chair 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. Franzman

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Brooke Barnes, Briana Boswell, Lashon Moore, Nicki Parmelee, Tiffany Peterson, Parker Prochaska, Mariah Bryner, Anna Copp, Ellen Gackle, Christina McDonough, Brenda Schwarz

Others: Miranda Anderson, University of Cincinnati Nurse Practitioner Program

Dr. O'Donnell requested that Discussion Item 6A be moved to follow Action Item 6C on the agenda.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to accept the request to amend the agenda. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Dr. O'Donnell called for a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Franzman moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2025 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to Public Comment.

There were no comments.

The following reports were reviewed and discussed by the Board:

Director's Report

Mrs. Thoreson recognized the following employees for their years of service to the department.

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|--|----------------------------|----------|
| • Aubrey Hanrahan, Per Diem Dental Hygienist | September 4 th | 1 year |
| • Heather VanHoosier, Office Assistant | September 13 th | 4 years |
| • Tara Marriott, Environmental Health Specialist | September 17 th | 12 years |

Mrs. Thoreson shared the departure of Alicia Coppedge, Public Health Nurse, effective September 10th.

Mrs. Thoreson shared the departure of Tiffany Williams, Family Health Nurse, effective September 17th.

Mrs. Thoreson shared Julia Lotta will be transferring from a Public Health Nurse to a Correctional Health Nurse.

Mrs. Thoreson noted that a document outlining the Scott County Health Department (SCHD) FY26 Goals that includes the Community Health Needs priorities, Community Health Improvement Plan strategies, (CHIP) and Infrastructure Team strategies has been added to the Board of Health (BOH) materials for reference.

The revised Chapter 77 of the Iowa Administrative Code, Local Boards of Health, which was shared earlier this summer, has been approved. The revisions result from the state's red tape review and are minimal in scope, focusing primarily on clarifying language and removing outdated wording. The updates will go into effect on November 1st.

State leaders continue discussion on a Public Health Alignment Bill, which is expected to be introduced in the 2026 legislative session. The details remain uncertain, but the shared responsibility model is under consideration. County leadership continues to monitor conversations on property tax reform.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will meet on September 18th and 19th. The agenda includes vaccine discussions on measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella (MMRV); hepatitis B; and COVID-19. The national trade association, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), confirmed that health plans will continue to cover all ACIP recommended immunizations in place as of September 1, 2025, including updated COVID-19 and influenza vaccines, through the end of 2026.

Mrs. Thoreson shared that she and staff attended a roundtable called OneTable, which brought together local nonprofit agencies to discuss funding challenges and explore coordinated solutions to protect essential services.

Staff are in the process of developing a pilot project with Tapestry Farms. Mrs. Thoreson explained that local health departments can serve as designated civil surgeons, completing the immunization portion of the I-693 form, which is part of the process for individuals applying for a Green Card.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of August 2025.

Dr. Hanson asked if the community has seen any cases of the West Nile virus.

Mrs. Thoreson shared there has been one case of West Nile virus reported in Iowa, while larger numbers are being reported in Illinois. Mrs. Thoreson added that the state is investigating a Legionnaires' disease outbreak in Marshalltown; the source has not been identified.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to the Budget Report for the month of August 2025.

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

Dr. O'Donnell moved to the Board of Health Orientation: 2025-2027 Community Health Improvement Plan – Tiffany Peterson and Ellen Gackle.

Ellen Gackle and Tiffany Peterson provided an overview of the Community Health Assessment (CHA) process and the resulting Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) priorities.

Ms. Gackle explained that the CHA is conducted every three years to assess the community's health status, behaviors, and needs; identify resources available to improve the community health; and highlight areas of greatest concern to guide prioritization of resources.

The CHA is a collaborative effort involving Community Health Care, Inc.; MercyOne Genesis; Quad City Health Initiative; Rock Island County Health Department; Scott County Health Department; UnityPoint Health–Trinity Muscatine Public Health; and UnityPoint Health–Trinity. The data reviewed and reported is collected through a telephone survey conducted by Professional Research Consultant, Inc. (PRC) of individuals in Scott, Rock Island, and Muscatine counties; secondary data sources; and the gathering of input from local community members in focus groups.

Ms. Gackle shared that the CHA results identified 15 areas of opportunity, including access to healthcare, cancer, diabetes, disabling conditions, heart disease and stroke, housing, infant health and family planning, injury and violence, mental health, nutrition, physical activity and weight, oral health, respiratory disease, sexual health, substance use, and tobacco use.

Ms. Gackle noted that the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is working towards creating a standardized CHA survey to collect comparable data across all Iowa counties. Counties have been asked to submit copies of their current CHAs to the Iowa Academy of Science (IAS) for review. The goal of the IAS is to develop a survey that includes standard questions with the option of adding county-specific questions.

Mrs. Peterson explained that based on the CHA findings, the committee developed the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP is designed to set goals, outline strategies, and guide activities for priority areas, serving as a roadmap for community-wide action.

For this cycle, the CHIP prioritizes mental health and access to healthcare.

Mental Health

- **Year 1 Strategies:**
 - Expand the Quad City Behavioral Health Coalition.
 - Support subgroup initiatives, including referral system improvements.
 - Monitor Iowa's evolving behavioral health system.
 - Increase availability of community-based mental health training.
- **Long-Term Strategies (2025–2027):**
 - Enhance community education and awareness.
 - Improve timely access to services by addressing financial and social barriers.
 - Promote coordinated community supports.
- **Monitoring:**
 - Coalition-tracked indicators, including:
 - Number of crisis encounters
 - Wait times for prescriber and therapist appointments
 - Coalition membership growth

Access to Healthcare

- **Year 1 Strategies:**
 - Expand the Access to Healthcare Work Group.
 - Continue community engagement and dialogue.
 - Clarify the group's mission and roles.
 - Begin building a shared community agenda.
- **Long-Term Strategies (2025–2027):**
 - Strengthen healthcare infrastructure.
 - Secure funding and resources.
 - Launch formal initiatives to reduce access barriers.
- **Monitoring:**
 - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data, e.g., percentage of residents unable to see a doctor due to cost.
 - Growth in work group membership.

Mrs. Peterson shared that progress will be reviewed annually. Workgroups and coalitions will provide updates, with results summarized in an annual report. Updates will also be shared regularly in the Director's Report to ensure alignment with the department's strategic plan and accountability to community partners.

Dr. Hanson asked for more details on how the number of member organizations participating in the Access to Care Workgroup correlates to increasing access to care.

Mrs. Peterson explained that identifying a measurable indicator for access to care is challenging, as many of the typical measures are either limited or not collected annually. However, the number of participating organizations is something the committee can directly influence and track. By engaging a broader mix of partners, the committee can build stronger networks, reduce service gaps, and improve coordination, which ultimately supports better access for residents.

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

Dr. O'Donnell moved to Unfinished Business.

Mrs. Thoreson reported that the Public Health Policy Committee is continuing to work on revising the existing immunization position statement.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to New Business.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve and authorize the FY'26 Infrastructure Team Workplans. Motion seconded by Dr. Franzman. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve and authorize the signature of the agreement items listed below. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried.

- St. Ambrose University Influenza Collaborative
- University of Iowa College of Public Health Affiliation Agreement for Field Practice of Master of Public Health Students

Following discussion, Dr. Franzman moved to approve and authorize the signature of the grant item listed below. Motion seconded by Dr. Hanson. Motion carried.

- Calendar Year 2026 Disease Intervention Specialist and Partner Services for Sexually Transmitted Infections amendment and subsequent Calendar Year 2026 amendments

Discussion was held on potential backgrounds for a candidate to fill the vacancy left by Dr. Schermer. There was consensus that a mental health professional would be valuable, as mental health aligns with current priorities.

Mrs. Thoreson reminded the board that any candidate must reside in Scott County and must not create a conflict of interest through contracted organizations. Staff will begin exploring suitable candidates, and Board members are encouraged to share any recommendations with Mrs. Thoreson.

Mrs. Barnes shared that data tracking for the FY'25 Performance Measures/Budgeting for Outcomes (BFOs) went well throughout the year. The measures continue to serve as a valuable tool for both guiding program direction and onboarding new staff.

The next meeting will be held on October 16, 2025, at the Scott County Administration Center, 1st Floor Board Room. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz
Recording Secretary