



## Scott County Health Department

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SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MARCH 19, 2026  
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

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

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

Absent: Dr. Franzman

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Briana Boswell, Lashon Moore, Nicki Parmelee, Lenore Alonso, Monica Barona, Lorna Bimm, Michelle Fitzjarrell, Ellen Gackle, Vianka Herrera, Amy Long, Brenda Schwarz

Others: Bob Behm, Lori Elam, Mark Mathews

Dr. O'Donnell called for a motion to accept the amended agenda. Dr. Hanson moved to accept the amended 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 February 19, 2026 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to Public Comment.

There were no public 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.

- |  |         |          |
|--|---------|----------|
| • Monica Barona, Dental Direct Services Consultant | 1 year  | March 17 |
| • Parker Prochaska, Environmental Health Manager   | 2 years | March 25 |
| • Ann Carmody, Per Diem Dental Hygienist           | 3 years | March 3  |
| • Mindy McLaughlin, Per Diem Dental Hygienist      | 3 years | March 10 |

- Lorna Bimm, Public Health Nurse 18 years March 24
- Brandon George, Correctional Health Nurse 19 years March 9
- Sherry Holzhauser, Correctional Health Nurse 22 years March 7

Mrs. Thoreson recognized new employee, Shreise Hudson, who has been hired as a per diem correctional health nurse. Ms. Hudson joined the department on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson reported that the FY27 county budget must be filed with the state by April 30<sup>th</sup>. There are public hearings on proposed tax levy rates scheduled for the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup>. County administration continues to monitor ongoing uncertainty related to potential property tax reform.

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shared that plans to hold sessions in late March and early April focused on public health alignment and collaboration have been placed on hold. This is due to the continued movement of Iowa Senate File 2432, as there is a desire to wait for further clarity before moving forward.

The 2025-2026 child care immunization audit results have been submitted and approved by HHS. The rate of religious exemptions increased to 5.26% during the audit year.

Mrs. Thoreson noted that an email and a hard copy letter have been sent to the non-public schools regarding the decision to discontinue the Non-Public School Nurse Consultant Program at the conclusion of the current school year. A small number of responses have been received. Staff are preparing a resource list and materials to provide guidance, and individual transition meetings will be offered.

Dr. O’Donnell moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of February 2026.

Dr. O’Donnell moved to the Budget Report for the month of February 2026.

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

Lori Elam, Director of Scott County Community Services, provided an overview of the Scott County Mental Health Alliance’s work addressing “high utilizers,” individuals who frequently cycle through hospitals, shelters, jails, and emergency services. The Alliance includes representatives from the Davenport Police Department, Davenport Fire Department, MEDIC EMS of Scott County, Vera French Community Mental Health Center, MercyOne Genesis, Eagle View Behavioral Health, Scott County Attorney’s Office, Scott County Jail/Sheriff’s Department, Scott County Emergency Communications Center, Scott County Community Services, and Downtown Davenport Partnership.

The Mental Health Alliance, a subgroup of the Scott County High Utilizer Committee, identified seventeen individuals who, over the past five years, accounted for more than \$7.1 million in service costs, averaging \$84,000 per person per year. Despite this level of investment, outcomes have been limited, with ongoing crises, homelessness, and incarceration reflecting the complexity of service systems, limited affordable housing, and barriers to accessing care.

Mrs. Elam shared that current community strategies include regular meetings of the Mental Health Task Force, High Utilizer Committee, and Mental Health Alliance, along with programs such as the Co-Responder Program and the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team, both of which are expanding.

Mrs. Elam added that long-term community goals focus on reducing high-utilizer incidents through early intervention and prevention, allowing emergency services to focus on life-threatening situations, and implementing cost-effective strategies to improve outcomes and quality of life in Scott County. To support this work, Scott County is pursuing grant funding, including potential support from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to sustain and expand services and enhance coordination across agencies.

Mrs. Elam emphasized the importance of policy advocacy to revise Iowa Code and the State Medicaid Plan to better support intensive case management, expansion of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), and development of smaller, local residential facilities that can more effectively meet the needs of individuals with complex behavioral health conditions.

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

Dr. O'Donnell moved to Unfinished Business.

Mrs. Thoreson shared information on key bills relevant to public health, including those regarding local boards of health, tobacco and nicotine taxation, radon regulation, health maintenance organization taxation, and public health authority.

Dr. O'Donnell moved to New Business.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve and authorize the director to sign the following contract item listed below. Motion seconded by Ms. Flaherty. Motion carried unanimously.

- Cooperative Agreement with Eastern Iowa Community Colleges for Clinical Placement of Nursing Students

Following discussion, Dr. Hanson moved to approve and authorize the director to submit and sign the following grant items listed below. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

- FY27 Early Childhood Iowa-Clinton/Jackson Counties I-Smile Services in Childcare Settings Application, Contract, and Subsequent Amendments
- Immunization Services Contract Year 2027 Amendment and subsequent Contract Year 2027 amendments

Following discussion, Ms. Flaherty moved to approve and authorize the director to sign the following agreement item listed below. Motion seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

- Commercial Septic Tank Cleaner Inspections with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

The next meeting will be held on April 16, 2026, at the Scott County Administration Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned

at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Schwarz  
Recording Secretary