

BLACK HAWK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
MINUTES

March 22, 2023

The meeting of the Black Hawk County Board of Health was called to order at 7:35 a.m. by Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington. Members attending: Vice-Chair, Dr. Disa Cornish (virtual), Kingsley Botchway (virtual), Dr. Adam Roise, and Attorney, Mike Treinein in place of Heather Prendergast. Absent: Rosario Garcia Fino . A quorum was met.

Others present in person: Kaitlin Emrich, Megan Olmstead, Jared Parmater, Zach Pierce, Chris Schwartz, Matthew Verbraken, and Rick Wilberding.

Others present via video conferencing: Jenna Diephouse, Gabbi DeWitt, Amanda Fesenmeyer, Hailey Finn, Bethany Fratzke, Micah Knebel, Jerald Lukensmeyer, Toki Selby, Lisa Sesterhenn, and Tonya Wilder.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

- I. Approval of Agenda – For Vote

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Dr. Cornish moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

- II. Approval of Minutes* For Vote

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to approve the Board of Health Minutes for Special Meeting, February 15, 2023 and Regular Meeting, February 22, 2023. Motion carried.

- III. Public Comments – No comments.

- IV. Bethany Fratzke introduced new Green Iowa Service Member Caitlin Lange, who was not able to attend the meeting.

- V. Chair, Dr. Pilkington recognized the City of Cedar Falls and the City of Waterloo for being the recipients of the Water Fluoridation Quality Award.

Hailey Finn congratulated Cedar Falls and Waterloo Water Works. Ms. Finn added that the letters and awards will be presented to each city with a press release. Rick Wilberding and Zach Pierce were in person at the meeting and thanked the board for the recognition.

- VI. Kaitlin Emrich and Gabbi DeWitt presented the National Public Health Week Proclamation.

A copy of the proclamation was provided to the board and wanted to recognize our local public health during this National Public Health Week.

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to approve the proclamation: whereas the week of April 3, 2023, National Public Health Week. Motion carried.

- VII. RESOLUTION: Adopt and submit to the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors for approval as Black Hawk County Health Ordinance the proposed ordinance entitled "Non-Public Water Supply Wells" Ch. 8.35

Discussion: Mr. Parmater stated stakeholders meeting and public hearing that was recorded on March 6, 2023. Gave stakeholders one week to receive any feedback or comments and none were received.

Mr. Treinen stated this should be called a regulation vs. an ordinance due to it only being effective in the rural areas. Ms. Emrich stated would like to discuss this with Ms. Prendergast for clarification. Mr. Treinen stated okay to approve today pending the clarification on the use of ordinance or regulation.

Dr. Cornish motioned to approve and Dr. Roise seconded. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Dr. Wesley Pilkington, Dr. Disa Cornish, Kingsley Botchway

Nays: None

Absent: Rosario Garcia Fino

Ayes: 4 Nays: None

Resolution adopted.

Jared Parmater left the meeting in person and joined virtually.

- VIII. Personnel Request*- For Vote

Ms. Emrich summarized the reason for the request:

Out of the two Public Health Nurse position vacancies, the department is requesting flexibility from the Board to approve filling one of the positions with a Community Health Worker – LPN if recruitment for two Public Health Nurses is not feasible. While it would be preferred to recruit two Public Health Nurse positions, recruitment has been difficult for this position, with vacancies since January and September 2022. Allowing flexibility with converting one of the positions to a Community Health Worker – LPN, if needed, will enable the Public Health Center clinic to re-build capacity and adjust for sustainability in offering direct clinical services.

Potential drawbacks of this conversion include less flexibility of services offered in the field, as a registered nurse is required to perform services offsite per Child and Adolescent Health grant requirements.

Discussion: Dr. Roise asked what percentage of the FTE is needed for the offsite child health services. Ms. Emrich stated that the percentage would be about 10% offsite. Ms. Emrich added that if the filled position is an LPN, it would become a permanent position unless vacated.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to approve the option to replace the current Public Health Nurse vacant position with a Community Health Worker, LPN, if needed, due to recruitment barriers. Motion carried.

- IX. Financials – *Matthew Verbraken*

A. Disbursements* – For Vote

Discussion: Mr. Verbraken reviewed the disbursements with the board.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to approve paying the bills as presented. Motion carried.

B. Mr. Verbraken presented the Financial Report of 03/17/2023 to the board.

Discussion: No discussion.

X. Consent Agenda: Grants and Contracts* - *Kaitlin Emrich, Deputy Director – For Vote*

The following items will be acted upon by vote on a single MOTION, without separate discussion, unless someone from the board or the public requests that a specific item be considered separately.

- A. Request for Application 58818021-6 – Iowa Nutrition Network School Grant Program (INNSGP), Iowa HHS
- B. Application – Local Public Health Services, Iowa HHS
- C. Application – FY23 Immunization Services, Iowa HHS
- D. Sub-Contracts (New) FFY23 Black Hawk County Doula Pilot Project: Ashley Garrin, Alisha Hunt, Erica Sanders
- E. Contract (Renewal) CY2023 Integrated HIV and Viral Hepatitis Testing Services, State of Iowa HHS
- F. Memorandum of Understanding (Amendment 1) MOU-2023-TB03, Tuberculosis Direct Observed Therapy, Iowa HHS

Discussion: Ms. Emrich reviewed item B with the board. The state has changed its strategy to focus on population health vs. direct care services. There is a 25% decrease in funding due to this change in strategy. There are concerns on the decrease in funding due to its flexibility to provide public health services. Other similar sized counties are seeing reductions in this grant.

Dr. Roise asked how the funding is calculated and if the formula would be updated accordingly. Ms. Emrich stated that there are no anticipated changes to the funding calculation and all administrative rules at the state have been frozen.

Dr. Pilkington asked if there is a capped number of enrollees for item D. Ms. Emrich stated that the state caps the number of clients that are enrolled in the Doula program.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to approve items A-F as presented on the grants and contracts memo and agenda. Motion carried.

XI. Board of Supervisors Update presented by Chris Schwartz

Summary:

- New position: Communications (second half of FY24)
 - Rebranding, new logo
- New Strategic Plan for Black Hawk County FY24
- Levy was kept flat, but had to be re-done due to state evaluations

XII. Human Resources Update presented by Amanda Fesenmeyer

Summary:

- Director recruiting updates:

- Leadership benchmark survey was sent out to the board of health (must complete in one sitting) and requires 4-10 responses (some direct report staff were included in survey)
- Timeline for Director Search
 - First review of applicants starts 03/22/2023 to be completed by Bakertilly through April 5, 2023
 - Final selections to the board by mid-April
 - First week of May - finalist interviews
- Discussed Closed Session options for interviews

XIII. Discussion: Access to Care and/or Health Equity Position Statement - Kaitlin Emrich
Summary

- Policy decisions that are impeding populations are happening at the state legislature, especially the LGBTQIA community but there are several populations that may be affected
- Health Equity position statement to affirm the department's position for access to care
- Requesting to provide guidance on how the board would like to approach

Discussion: Dr. Roise supports re-affirming health equity and creating a position statement.

Dr. Pilkington said it may be good if the statement was specific about access to care and gender re-affirming treatment.

Mr. Botchway agreed and would support a position statement due to the recent policies and suggested taking a business side approach due to the fact it might be harder to recruit people to work in Iowa due to these policies. Would like to advocate for all populations that need the board's support.

Dr. Cornish supports a position statement for health equity since equity has been politicized and it is increasingly difficult to remain apolitical as a public health agency.

Dr. Roise added that having access to care is beneficial for all.

Supervisor Schwartz stated the LGBTQIA community is watching who is supporting them and believes in public health because they know that public health is supportive of health equity for all.

Ms. Emrich asked if any of the board members would like to participate in creating the position statement and can have up to two board members. The board members all agreed to support and participate in the creation of the position statement.

XIV. Health Department Update presented by Kaitlin Emrich
Summary

- Administration: ARPA funds
 - Oral Health van and mobile health clinic approved for evaluation by Board of Supervisors on 3/21/23

- No updates on department space request
- Budget
 - Presentation of FY24 budget to the Board of Supervisors on January 26, 2023, Proposed five position modifications or requests and all were approved (Community Health Worker was approved at a part-time temporary position)
 - New .5 FTE Public Health Preparedness position
 - Increase .3 FTE to .4 FTE Public Health Nurse – Childcare Nurse Consultant
 - Transition .5 FTE Public Health Information Analyst to Information Technology to create shared position with IT
 - New 1 FTE Dental Hygienist
 - New 1 FTE Community Health Worker
 - Tax asking was reduced by 60,000 as that is the anticipated revenue from Medicaid which the dental hygienist will provide billable services
 - Second and final levy hearing is scheduled for April 4, 2023
 - Logistical work to do with hiring and housing new positions, currently we are at capacity with office spaces and will be working with Building Maintenance to identify office space for the dental hygienist and temporary Community Health Worker position
- Workplace Development:
 - Workforce development Core Competency individual survey open from 2/27/23-03/13/23, Response rate of 91%
 - No updates on the Learning Culture Survey action steps since last report
- Rev. Dr. Mary Robinson received the 2023 Iowa Public Health Equity Advocate of the Year Award and will be presented with the award at the IPHA awards ceremony on Tuesday, March 28, 2023
- Advancing Equity in the Cedar Valley: Spring Session Removing Barriers to Hiring and Retention: Thursday, April 20, 2023, 8am – 11:30am.
- Community Health
 - Family Engagement Advisory Committee – 19 applicants
 - Green Iowa AmeriCorps summer recruitment, awarded host site for 23/24
- Disease Surveillance and Investigation
 - Case load is high for staff currently across all the case types (+2 TB, ↑ syphilis, few novel diseases in the past few months). TB treatment compliance consultation from legal, Iowa HHS
 - Office Space shifting due to temporary position
 - Data sharing agreement and data hub development
- Environmental Health
 - Preparing for temporary food season
 - Grants to Counties supported PFAS testing plan to expand to 15-16 homes around the Waterloo Airport
 - Radon Awareness month - January – sold 120 radon kits
 - Housing coalition engagement continuing to go well
- Public Health Center
 - Preparing for CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments) site visit
 - CCNCs providing handwashing and oral health instruction training to daycare centers and providers

- Child and Adolescent Health immunization and blood lead testing outreach impacted by vacancies
- Give Kids a Smile Day partnering with Kimball and Beecher Family Dentistry to provide free dental care to children in need on Friday, February 17

XV. Communications Update presented by Gabbi DeWitt
Summary

- Highlight public health so that “everyone knows that they can make their communities healthier, safer, and stronger when we support and stay engaged with one another.”
- Proclamation and the local theme for Public Health Week is Celebrate Culture. Celebrate Health
- Banner to take to community events this summer
- Highlight the work of our staff, especially Community Health Workers, who work to bridge public health services to our communities with language barriers
- Activities include:
 - Staff Celebration April 3, 2023
 - April 5, 2023, Reception for Community Organizations
 - Invitation sent to board members
 - Highlight community collaboration with Community Health Workers and Navigators, from BHCPH and from health care partners and organizations
 - We will discuss the equity work being done by the department, as well as brainstorm on continued ways to reduce barriers and further work together
 - Community outreach- Health Fair
 - Hawkeye Adult Learning Center on April 4, 2023
 - Public health information available at Tyson on April 6, 2023
 - Social media posts highlighting National themes and local work
- New Bus Wraps are updated and on the road!
- In December, the Board approved a continuation of an advertising campaign with OnMedia
 - Target audience for the campaign is 18-34 in Black Hawk, Bremer, and Buchanan counties
 - Successful second quarter- boost to sexual health pages on the website and generated phone calls to the clinic
- The Campaign includes
 - Digital Website ads and Show ads
 - Google Click per pay- where BHCPH is pushed to the top search topics that relate to sexual health or STI services
 - Non-skippable ads targeted by zip code to any screen someone is watching
 - Instagram, streaming services such as Roku, Prime, and YouTube preroll
 - Two ads: STI education in general and Access to the clinic. The access ad is getting an extra advertising push to Bremer and Buchanan counties
- Fluoridation Awards will be presented to Waterloo and Cedar Falls Water Works and taking pictures and then sending a press release about the fluoridation awards

XVI. Legislative and Strategic Plan Updates presented by Lisa Sesterhenn

Summary

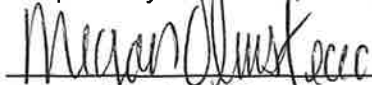
- Strategic Plan FY22-27 update
 - Institute for Decision Making at UNI was contracted to facilitate the development of the plan which included internal and external focus groups
 - 8 priority areas with 13 goals and 35 original objectives
 - Previous plan focused on PHAB accreditation
 - Developed teams for each objective to name SMART performance metrics and action plans
 - Majority of the objectives have actions underway; some were modified based on re-evaluation of intent, and some were put on hold due to ARPA funding requests completed for physical space requests
 - Four of the objectives on hold until new Director hired
 - Tracking objectives with shared spreadsheet and meetings to discuss progress and provide input; will report to the board each year on progress
- Legislative update
 - Between funnel weeks at the state capitol with the second funnel on March 31, 2023
 - February 28, 2023, Public Health Day on the Hill – Jared Parmater, Kaitlin Emrich and Lisa Sesterhenn attended along with IPHA representatives, other local health departments and public health students from the University of Iowa
 - Mr. Parmater and Ms. Emrich were on a sub-committee for raw milk-Mr. Parmater spoke to the committee and proposed not to advance raw milk
 - Spoke with local elected officials such as Senator Giddens
 - Addressed five local legislatures at a legislative forum about healthcare and participated in national public health week in Washington
 - Teamed up with representatives from NACCHO to meet with aides from Senator Grassley and Ernst's offices and Rep. Hinson.
 - Focused on flexible funding at the local level and preparedness for all hazards versus some retroactively once a public health emergency is underway. Shared advocacy priorities with several groups
 - Action alerts sent out to members, registered for or against proposed legislation, and have lobbyists on the hill daily
 - Bill has been proposed to have all inspections go through the Dept. of Inspections and Appeals instead of the Dept. of Health and Human Services

XVII. Next Board of Health Meeting: Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 7:30am, 1407 Independence Ave. Room 420, Waterloo, IA.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT - For Vote

Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:55am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Megan Olmstead, Secretary



Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington