



## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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**Dave Koch, Director**

**Board of Health**  
**Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA**  
**Michael P. McLaughlin, PhD**  
**Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS**  
**Bonnie D. Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA**  
**Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS**

### **JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**September 18, 2019**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**4:00pm**

**Call to Order:** Vice Chair Michael P. McLaughlin, PhD called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

**Roll Call:** Michael P. McLaughlin, PhD; Bonnie D. Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS. **ABSENT:** Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA

**Staff:** Dave Koch, Director; Nalo Johnson, Community Health Manager; Kate Klefstad, Clinical Services Manager; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Business Manager; Stephanie Gramlich, Oral Health Coordinator; Darlene Gibson, RN; Suzie Walker, RN; Catalina Hernandez, Clerk II; Rob Thul, Environmental Health Specialist II; Susan Denny, Secretary II.

**Others Present:** Susie Nehring, Assistant County Attorney; Representative Mary Mascher, House District 35; Travis Breese, News 7 KWVL; Mazahir Salih, Center for Worker Justice.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Rubin to approve the August 21, 2019 meeting minutes; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Regular Meeting Date and Time:** October 23, 2019 in Conference Room 214B at the Health and Human Services Building.

**Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues:** Representative Mary Mascher expressed the need for input from BOH members and JCPH for support in legislative sessions regarding vaping, anti-vax issues, etc. She would like representation from JCPH and the BOH as well as other Public Health departments.

**New Staff:** Klefstad introduced new Clinical Services employees Darlene Gibson, Public Health RN, Child Care Nurse Consultant; Suzie Walker, Public Health RN and Catalina Hernandez, Part-time Clerk II. Lacina introduced new Environmental Health Specialist II, Rob Thul, promoted to the new position from his former position as an Environmental Health Specialist. The BOH members welcomed the new employees and congratulated Thul.

## **DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):**

- **HealthyJoCo:** Nalo Johnson

Johnson updated BOH members on the **HealthyJoCo** program goals with a Power Point presentation. She explained how the CASPER (Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response) engagement tool and innovative technology was used by JCPH staff, volunteers and interns in an exploratory study employing intercept surveys or “chats” at community events (such as Iowa City Arts Fest), community mapping exercises and door to door surveying in the summer of 2019. The study provided meaningful interaction between community members and the health department as well as the added benefit of showing College of Public Health students what it means to be involved in local public health. Johnson reported the number of surveys, key locations, demographics and plans for community asset mapping for a youth-focused enrichment program and presented the BOH members with conclusions and analysis regarding demographics and community health concerns. Rubin asked whether the study received feedback from the public. Johnson reported public feedback was positive. Engagement using media exposure, t-shirts, postcards, flyers and **HealthyJoCo** information cards promoted the website and the surveys. Johnson described the next phases of the project and a timeline including taking the model into rural Johnson County communities. Koch and Johnson explained methods for continuing community engagement. McLaughlin complimented the in-house marketing tools.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Expenditures Over \$3,000:** None

### **Applications, Contracts and Agreements:**

- **Biomonitoring Project with State Hygienic Lab (SHL):** D. Koch

Koch reported Lacina, EH Manager, received a letter inviting JCPH to participate in a five year study measuring metals, pesticides and endocrine disrupters from water and urine samples collected. The study will provide compensation for travel and other expenses. JCPH was one of ten counties invited to participate. Koch believes JCPH involvement with Grants to Counties (GTC) and the Iowa Well Survey contributed to inclusion in the project. He described the timeline for the study, including the first year of training and background. Rubin asked if data from the study would be broken down by county. Koch will confirm when he receives more details.

## **OTHER**

- **19-24 Fall Budget Amendment:** D. Koch

Koch reported \$185,538 in amendments and identified the programs affected. He added IDPH has changed their allocation process (full funding up front vs. amendments at the end of the grant year) which will result in managing funds more efficiently and allocating unused County dollars to other needs.

**Motion** by Rubin to accept the Fall Budget Amendment as presented; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

- **19-25 Fluoridation Position Statement:** D. Koch

Koch presented the Fluoridation Position Statement updated by Clinical Services staff, Klefstad and Gramlich. He informed BOH members they could approve the statement or they could include additional edits and he would provide another updated draft at the next meeting. Pollock commented on decreasing fluoridation programs and asked about national percentage comparisons

to Iowa, and whether cost is a factor in decreasing use. Klefstad will discuss percentages with the state representatives. Gramlich added that, misinformation about the safety of water fluoridation is a factor in decreasing use as well as other issues. More discussion followed regarding education and grant opportunities for community fluoridation programs.

**Motion** by Pollock to approve Fluoridation Position Statement as written; seconded by Rubin. The motion passed unanimously.

- **19-26 Helmet Usage Position Statement:** D. Koch

Koch presented the Helmet Usage Position Statement updated by Community Health Manager, Johnson and Epidemiologist, Ahmed. Koch and BOH members discussed updates and possible additional verbiage in the Helmet Usage Position Statement to include motorized scooters or other motorized conveyances. More discussion continued regarding research on head injuries, medical costs etc. and whether data differentiates between injuries with and without helmet use as well as comparison of data from metropolitan areas with motorized scooter use. Future updates to the position statement may include more updated information on these factors.

**Motion** by Rubin to approve the Helmet Usage Position Statement as written, with noted changes for consistency; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

- **FY19 Review of BOH Actions:** D. Koch

Koch summarized the FY19 BOH approved actions, presentations by staff and community partners, expenditures, etc. Discussion of format changes, additions, highlights, applications to PHAB Domain 12 and engagement, discussion followed.

- **SNAP, Public Charge Rules Impact on Clients:** K. Klefstad

Klefstad explained changes and/or exceptions to SNAP, Federal Public Housing, Section 8 Assistance, and Medicaid, under the revised Public Charge Rule; a test to determine likely dependence on future public benefits by immigrants applying for permanent residence (green cards) or visas to the United States. The new rules will take effect on October 15, 2019. Klefstad discussed the impact of the new ruling on immigrant families and stressed the importance of informing the public that WIC and other programs such as CHIP, School Lunch's etc. are not subject to the new rules. Klefstad provided BOH members with information about outreach toolkits and other printed material with frequently asked questions and answers. As well as anticipated negative outcomes of the rule and how to inform and encourage families to continue using programs that are not part of the new rule. Travis Breeze with KWWL News 7 Television videotaped Klefstad's report to help educate the community. Discussion regarding hosting a session for clients in a safe environment to answer questions and challenges posed by these changes, partnering with community liaisons, other resources, etc., followed.

- **Review Agenda for Legislative Forum:** D. Koch

Koch reported the responses he received surveying elected officials for available dates to attend a forum with JCPH and BOH members. Only two officials were able to meet on one of the proposed dates. To accommodate schedules, he is considering meeting with legislators individually, along with BOH members to discuss pertinent issues. Koch clarified the goal of this initiative is to educate, navigate and increase the Public Health mission. Representative Mascher supported the effort, stressing legislators need Public Health backing and support, especially on issues such as

vaping, anti-vaxxing, etc. in legislative sessions. Rubin noted Johnson County BOH and the Johnson County Public Health department could facilitate conversation between legislators and colleagues across the state and in other Public Health departments and Boards of Health on important issues. Koch will move forward to arrange meetings.

• **Discussion – Director’s Two-Year Evaluation**

Koch will be completing a self-evaluation to submit to Dr. Wallace for his two-year review.

**Reports / Inquiries:**

**County Attorney:** None

**Members, Board of Health:** Pollock commented on re-discussing or refocusing on clean air regarding vaping through the **HealthyJoCo** initiative emphasizing rights of the public to breathe without being exposed to vaping, etc., especially in schools. Pollock proposed JCPH begin a dialogue with the schools to increase awareness. Koch responded Susan Vileta, Health Educator is well connected with schools and will be speaking in an upcoming forum on this issue. Mascher requested the forum to be taped to reach a wider audience. She added recommendations on the issue of vaping for upcoming legislation in terms of taxation, effects and black-market sales would be welcome.

Rubin expressed an interest in general information about septic systems and Time of Transfer process at a future meeting, regarding a recent septic system issue and letter. Nehring commented on the issue and a review of the waste water regulations. Discussion by staff and BOH members continued. Koch will include a review of regulations on this issue as an October meeting agenda item.

McLaughlin attended a NALBOH meeting in Denver in August. JCPH is one of the few BOH’s in Iowa who are members.

**Director:** Koch summarized highlights. Domain 2: Regency Mobile Home Park nuisance complaint. Environmental Health is monitoring progress on removal of twenty-three structures. The management is cooperating. Lacina described the process of removal.

McLaughlin adjourned the meeting at 5:28 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

October 23, 2019

Signature on File

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Date

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Michael McLaughlin, PhD, Vice-Chair

Submitted by:  
Susan Denny  
Secretary II