



PUBLIC HEALTH

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

August 19, 2020

MEETING MINUTES

4:00pm

Call to Order: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

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

Staff: Dave Koch, Director; Kate Klefstad, Clinical Services Manager; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Business Manager; Susan Denny, Secretary II; Debbie Ackerman, Data Specialist; James Bechtel, Systems Analyst; **Via Teleconference:** Alissa Sotzen, Account Clerk I; Ramonda Shelton, Clerk II; Jamie Huntley, Health Planner; Jasmine Putnam, Environmental Health Specialist; Spencer Stater, Environmental Health Specialist; Caitlin Shea, RN; Sarah Dirks, Adolescent & Women's Health Coordinator; Jesse Bockelman, Environmental Health Specialist; Steven Button, Emergency Preparedness Planner.

Others Present: Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney, Natalie Krebs, Health Reporter, Iowa Public Radio

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Rubin to approve the July 15, 2020 meeting minutes and the August 4, 2020 special meeting minutes; seconded by McLaughlin. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: September 16, 2020 in Conference Room 203-B/C at the Health and Human Services Building.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: None

New Employee Introductions: Managers from each division introduced new staff hired since February, 2020. Employees provided BOH members with a brief background history via Zoom. Two Clinical Services new staff were unable to attend.

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION: None

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000: None

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

OTHER

• **CDC Public Health Associate Program- Sam Jarvis**

Jarvis reported the application for a CDC Public Health Associate was submitted in April, 2020, had been approved. The program will begin this fall. He explained the program is a two year Federal CDC flagship workforce development program placing undergraduates or graduates in public health related positions to gain real public health experience. This program is fully funded by the CDC. JCPH has participated previously in the program in 2015. The CDC Public Health Associate will assist the JCPH Community Health Needs Assessment as well as COVID-19 related activities. Jarvis added this application contained a checkbox distinguishing between accredited versus non-accredited Public Health Departments. JCPH is a PHAB accredited department.

• **Contact Tracer Job Description-Dave Koch**

Koch explained the Contact Tracer job description has already been created and reviewed by Human Resources and was sent to the Board of Supervisors for approval. For expediency, Koch met with Wallace earlier in the month for approval on behalf of the BOH and therefore does not require a formal motion or vote in the current meeting. HR recommended classifying the Contact Tracing employees as part-time temporary. The position is non-bargaining, with a pay rate of \$16.00 per hour. Jarvis is anticipating hiring up to fifty contact tracers. Hours will be limited in order to maintain part-time temporary status. The job posting will remain open in order to recruit and hire as needed. Koch answered questions regarding notification of termination, distinction of temporary status versus contract status, as well as accommodations for the new contact tracing staff.

• **COVID-19 Update-Dave Koch, Sam Jarvis**

Koch reported on call-bank staffing and changes moving forward. He has communicated with Linn County and other health departments for ideas and guidance. Individual staff who are specialized in specific areas will continue to address callers' questions. Koch updated BOH members on the use of social media, focus groups, as well as conference calls with schools and long term care facilities. Jarvis is addressing the majority of media calls. Decals encouraging wearing of face coverings have been and will continue to be distributed to businesses throughout the county. Koch reported data on active cases, deaths, positivity rates, and discrepancies and inconsistencies in state data reporting. Koch thanked Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney for assistance with the face-covering regulation and reported interest from other counties. He and Lacina updated the BOH on communications by the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (IDIA) and the Alcohol and Beverage Division (ABD) in restaurant and bar enforcement. EH staff

have been working with IDIA to address complaints. Jarvis reported on progress in filling and training the contact tracing positions. He also reported JCPH staff are training school nurses to be contact tracers. They are also coordinating with IDPH on sharing COVID-19 or contact tracing policy and procedures. Jarvis answered questions regarding discrepancies in state reporting, terminology for face coverings and social distancing, outreach efforts, education, and university student policies. Pollack questioned if JCPH was seeing much push back from businesses now that the face covering regulation has been enacted. Jarvis responded that there had not been any major complaints or push back. Bechtel added, in general, businesses are not giving negative comments or negative testimonials during interactions related to the decal project when asked if they would hang a "Please Wear a Mask" decal. Discussion followed.

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: Black Hawk County Attorney's Office has reached out to Rose regarding face covering regulation. Wallace thanked her for her help and efforts.

Members, Board of Health: Wallace reported communications with Rod Sullivan, BOS addressing dissemination of the regulation and misinformation. Rubin reported she will be participating on a panel about advancing policy in public health. She will refer another panelist, Brad Brake, Director of Harrison County Public Health, to Jarvis or Koch about his interest in the process for developing a face-covering regulation. Rubin updated the status of Healthy People 2030 initiative.

Pollock expressed appreciation for work accomplished in the last five months by JCPH staff and their awareness about development of regulations, social distancing, proclamations and anticipation of additional problems. He questioned whether enough had been done and if there were other things that public health should be doing based on the prior months' experience.

Director: Koch reported highlights from the Director's report. Domain 5: working with Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and the power outages and damage caused by the Derecho. He recognized Steven Button, Emergency Preparedness Planning and his work with Emergency Management and MRC.

Wallace adjourned the meeting at 5:01 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

September 16, 2020

Date

Signature on File

Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II