



PUBLIC HEALTH

Dave Koch, Director

Board of Health
Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP
Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA
Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS
Bonnie D. Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA
Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 20, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

4:00 pm

Call to Order: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

Roll Call: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; VIA TELECONFERENCE: Bonnie D. Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS; Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA, Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP.

Staff: Sam Jarvis, Acting Director; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Business Manager; Susan Denny, Secretary II, Kathryn Edel, Health Educator; James Bechtel, Systems Analyst; VIA TELECONFERENCE: Kate Klefstad, Clinical Services Manager; Becky Paulson, CCNC; Dean Schillinger, Public Health Dietitian.

Others Present: VIA TELECONFERENCE: Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Rubin to approve the December 9, 2020 meeting minutes; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: February 17, 2021 in Conference Room 203 at the Health and Human Services Building and via teleconferencing.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: None

New Board of Health Member Introduction: Wallace introduced Dr. Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP to staff and board members. Bosch is a retired University of Iowa Family Nurse Practitioner and also holds a PhD in educational psychology. Bosch provided a brief summary of her experience. Staff and BOH members welcomed Bosch.

New Employee Introductions: Klefstad introduced Dean Schillinger, part-time Public Health Dietitian originally from Wisconsin who will be working in the WIC program. Schillinger provided his experience as a dietitian to the BOH. Wallace extended a welcome on behalf of JCPH.

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):

- **Integrated Testing Program (ITS):** Kathryn Edel, Clinical Services Health Educator provided an overview of the HIV and Viral Hepatitis ITS program along with a power point presentation. Johnson County is one of ten ITS programs throughout the state screening for HIV and hepatitis C (HCV), as well as prevention and treatment options. In addition, participants are offered STD screening. The program is

funded by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH). Edel provided statistics and outlined goals of the ITS program, noting Iowa has a successful program with a viral suppression rate of 81% success rate, compared to the national rate of 65%. She also explained how the program has adapted to COVID-19 challenges. Edel credited community partners' involvement contributing to the success of the program. She responded to questions from Rubin related to funding sources, reporting outcomes, measuring results and processing tests. The overall numbers of tests administered has been reduced due to the pandemic. Rubin asked about rapid testing related to Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waivers. Edel explained a positive test is considered preliminary and a confirmatory blood draw is taken and sent to the State Hygienic Lab (SHL). Rubin also asked how the program relates to Healthy People 2030 goals. Edel was not familiar with the program but will research how the ITS program applies to the Healthy People objectives. Wallace asked how less populated counties deal with testing. Edel responded the ITS programs were asked by the state to expand their service areas to increase testing in more rural communities without access to an ITS program. JCPH ITS service area includes Wapello, Washington, Poweshiek, Iowa, and Louisa counties, in addition to Johnson County. Rubin commented on a position paper supporting ITS. Edel had written a position paper in 2018 supporting syringe service, but was not sure if a bill has been introduced in the 2021 legislature and will be researching that as well. Bosch asked where to find the position paper and was directed to the location on the JCPH webpage.

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000: None

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

- **21-01 Request for Proposal: Emergency/Supplemental ECI Funding:** Klefstad described the RFP as supplemental funding intended to support Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) work. If awarded, the funding will support Becky Paulson, CCNC hours from half-time to full-time to provide services and COVID-19 support to childcare providers. Iowa Department of Human Services asks the CCNC in each county provide support to providers. The RFP is due February 1, 2021 and funds will be available from March 1, 2021 until June 30, 2021, with an opportunity to re-apply for ongoing funding in a three year cycle. The amount of the RFP is approximately \$21,000 and will support half of the CCNC time for the March until June period. She thanked Debbie Ackerman, Data Specialist for preparing the first draft to be ready for the BOH to review. Rubin thanked Klefstad for providing the draft of the proposal and asked for clarification on initial funding and required metrics of outcomes, goals from ECI. Klefstad verified they have set criteria for CCNC quarterly reporting and annual reporting. She added Ackerman included the ECI Statewide Performance Measures in the proposal. Rubin commented on other metrics and reporting requirements within the department and how BOH could be made aware of these outcomes, possibly on a quarterly basis for a better comprehension on how and what the department is doing. Klefstad agreed there could be better communication in what is being tracked and suggested Bechtel could facilitate that connection. Rubin asked if Bechtel could comment on updates on outcomes and metrics that could be shared with BOH members. Bechtel updated BOH members on progress with logic models and standardization of tracking and communication on a monthly basis across different platforms and the disruption of that process and other challenges including the COVID-19 response.

{experiencing teleconferencing technical issues, meeting paused while issues were resolved}

Motion by Rubin to approve the opportunity to apply for the funding to supplement the CCNC program with the Request for Proposal Emergency/supplemental ECI Funding; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

- **Election of Officers:** Wallace asked for motions for the election of a chair and vice chair for the period of 2021.

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Motion by Rubin to nominate Wallace to continue as Chair of the BOH; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Pollock to nominate Rubin as Vice Chair of the BOH; seconded by Bosch and Izakovic. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Board of Health Meeting Schedule:** Wallace asked BOH members to note the 2021 meeting schedule and to notify the Secretary II if there were any conflicts or need to re-schedule with advance notice.

- **Update – Award for the NACCHO 2021 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Operational Readiness Award:** Jarvis informed BOH members JCPH was awarded the National Association of City and County Officials MRC Operational Readiness Award. The amount of the award is \$10,000. JCPH was one of eight awarded in this Federal Region for activity and response to COVID-19. This is the second MRC Operational Readiness Award received by JCPH. The first was \$5,000.00. Wallace congratulated Steven Button, Emergency Preparedness Planner for his work with the MRC.

- **COVID-19 Update:** Jarvis updated BOH members on the status of vaccines and the Vaccine Planning Team (VPT) strategy in the past month. The VPT has been reaching out to dozens, even hundreds of individuals and healthcare workers in the community. He added planning is a week to week challenge as the number of weekly vaccine allocations is unknown. Initially the state was expecting approximately 172,000 doses by the end of 2020, and then shortly after reported a 30% reduction in that number for the entire state. Johnson County was allocated roughly 15,000 doses of vaccine. JCPH is making progress with the 1-A vaccinations. He reported the Federal Pharmacy Partnership is going well and vaccine clinics are being set-up.

The state and IDPH has announced the initiation of Phase 1-B to begin on February 1, 2021. The VPT has been reaching out to those priority populations and organizations. Due to the shortage of vaccine and changes from week to week, it is undetermined if JCPH will be able to start on that date. JCPH will continue to provide communications and updates. He recognized the VPT for their work organizing and prioritizing vaccine distribution, adding indirect care staff are being asked to wait. Wallace asked about the contact tracing progress. Jarvis reported baselines were higher than he would like, at more than 30 cases a day on average, and is currently 50 or more, but is going well and they have not seen a significant surge due to holidays. Rubin asked about what callers were concerned about since last meeting's report and what were the most common questions. Jarvis responded callers wanted to know when they could receive a vaccination and also why Johnson County isn't receiving more vaccine. Jarvis added thanks to staff on the call team for responding with patience to caller frustrations. Rubin also asked on behalf of neighbors, friends, and family members, how they will know when they will receive vaccinations, what is the communication plan to let people know they are eligible, and how to sign-up. Jarvis answered they have been looking at Phase 1-B and how to implement that process using social media, press releases, local media, and community partners to provide continuous information, to inform everyone. He added using the MRC volunteers as vaccine ambassadors to share public information in social circles. Rubin also asked about community members without access to those sources. Jarvis responded organizations who serve those populations will coordinate to provide information and communicating with rural areas to coordinate vaccine clinics for sparsely populated areas. Rubin also asked if they were utilizing Johnson County Emergency Management and the response data and information they have available. Jarvis confirmed they were also working with Johnson County Emergency Management. Bosch asked about using University Hawk and other emergency alerts during daytime hours to reach people who aren't on social media, etc. Jarvis responded he can certainly look into those systems and noted there may be restrictions. Rubin asked who has been appointed the Public Information Officer. He informed her Susan Vileta, Health Educator is the PIO.

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: None

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Members, Board of Health:

Pollock asked about the limited functionality in chat options during this meeting, and would like to improve that functionality for future meetings. He also asked Rose to follow up on appropriate communication between BOH members, including email conversations and when a public meeting would be required.

Wallace updated BOH members on Koch's progress and Jarvis' status as the acting director. He suggested communication to Koch should be sent through Jarvis and not directly to Public Health staff. Wallace reported HR increased Jarvis' salary effective at the end of January while he is serving as acting director. He also thanked Public Health staff for their professionalism through a trying year.

Director:

Jarvis reminded BOH members of vaccine updates through social media, such as Vaccine Watch Wednesday on the JCPH Facebook page and other community updates by Vileta, Bechtel, Kelly Smith, Public Health RN and BOS staff Krista Burich.

Jarvis reported for Domain 4, Environmental Health food program is experiencing weekly changes for inspectors in the field. In Domain 8, Health Path Clinic (HPC) has added two new providers and continues to progress. Wallace congratulated Klefstad on HPC progress.

Wallace adjourned the meeting at 5:11 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

February 17, 2021

Date

Signature on File

Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II