



PUBLIC HEALTH

Sam Jarvis, Acting 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

March 17, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

4:00 pm

Call to Order: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

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

Staff: Sam Jarvis, Acting Director; Kate Klefstad, Clinical Services Manager; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Business Manager; James Bechtel, Systems Analyst; Alissa Sotzen, Clerk II, Susan Denny, Secretary II. VIA TELECONFERENCE: Kathryn Edel, Health Educator; Sarah Dirks, Adolescent & Women's Health Coordinator

Others Present: Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney, Roger Bruner, Water Quality Bureau Supervisor, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bosch to approve the February 17, 2021 meeting minutes; seconded by Izakovic. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: April 21, 2021 in Conference Room 203 at the Health and Human Services Building.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: None

New Employee Introductions: None

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):

- **Impaired Waterways:** Roger Bruner, Water Quality Bureau Supervisor, Iowa DNR Lacina introduced Bruner to follow-up on a previous impaired waterway discussion. Bruner provided background on impaired waterways from a DNR perspective and presented a slideshow to explain how the DNR constructs the impaired waters list. He began by providing background on water quality standards, timeframes for evaluating data and how the data is evaluated, and interaction with the Environmental Protection Act (EPA). He described how water quality standards are determined by designated uses, specific criteria, and anti-degradation. Bruner

explained how the DNR assesses this information using a combination of classes such as water contact recreation, aquatic life protection, drinking water, and human health protection. He gave examples of class combinations applied to specific types of waterways. Pollock asked about Class C rated drinking water segments in a moving body of water such as the Iowa River. Bruner responded the location of a Class C segment is centered on the location of the water withdrawal pipe location. He explained how bodies of water can have multiple uses, and each of those uses is assessed. If one of the uses does not meet the criteria it is assigned, it will be considered impaired. The other uses could be supported, and most are, but if one is impaired the segment is impaired. He provided examples to illustrate how this is determined, stressing the level of magnitude is not part of the assessment process related to the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Impaired Water's List, otherwise known as the 303-D list (referring to the 303 section of the CWA) includes various categories pertaining to assessment of water bodies. He used a chart in the slideshow to explain the time period for data collection and comparison which is then summarized and reported every two years to the EPA. Other information on sampling and data can be found in the DNR methodology document found on the DNR and EPA websites. Bruner continued discussing criteria values for assessing data and using a 10% rule for finding impaired waters and drinking water classifications. To be removed from the impaired waters list requires "good cause" as written in the Federal rules; generally reviewing more recent data showing improvement. The list of impaired waters segments are entered into another DNR group where a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) report is created for that watershed. Once created, the TMDL goes through a public comment period and sent to the EPA for approval in the state. The report is also called a Watershed Improvement Plan. Further sampling of the impaired waters segment will determine the causes and sources of the impairment. Values are developed for the waterway so it can meet water quality standards. Bruner explained how this process also affects some other permitting processes such as point source discharges into streams, he added this does not apply to non-point sources, which are exempt in the CWA. Iowa specifically requires that improvements to water quality data must be evident over two continued improvement cycles (four years) before a segment can be de-listed. The most common reasons for removal of a segment from the impaired list are the preparation and approval of a TMDL, and more recent data showing improvement in water quality conditions. De-listings are reviewed and scrutinized by the U.S. EPA (Region 7). He listed common reasons and gave examples for impairment including indicator bacteria, algae, fish kills, etc. Pollock commented that Bruner did a good job explaining how assessments are carried out. He would like to hear more about what is and can be done to improvement water quality and prevention and what public health could do to influence better water quality. Pollock added this discussion could be followed-up. Bruner responded the CWA is involved with point sources and gave some historical perspective and examples such as waste from slaughterhouses being dumped in waterways. He believes we've come a long way in improving point source water quality. He pointed out that as science develops, issues previously unknown are being revealed. Wallace suggested another presentation focusing on mitigation efforts to address Pollock's question. Bosch would like to know what work is being done currently in Johnson County to address impaired waterways. Bruner responded impairments specific to Johnson County pertain to recreational impairments and are based from beach-monitoring. He also pointed out that by and large the impairments identified in Iowa are minimal, the vast majority being indicator bacteria related and new research is showing other indicators that might be more useful. Members thanked Bruner for his presentation and Lacina for arranging it.

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000:

- **21-03 Title X Supplemental Funding Request & Year-end Spending:** Klefstad and Dirks Klefstad explained the request is for two purchases over \$3,000. Both expenditures are offset by grant funds (\$67,201.14) awarded by Title X Family Planning grant for operational and growth expenses and do not require additional county funds. The first is a pre-pay cost for a yearly subscription for Ahlers Electronic Health Record (EHR) for \$12,900, the other is Cultural Competency Training in a three-part live training covering trauma informed care, cultural humility, and improvement of outcomes for people of color and LGBTQ+ people for \$6,000. Pollock asked if the prepay subscription will be for July 1, 2021 forward for the year, and would it be an expense that fell within the FY21 budget or the FY22 budget. Klefstad will check the actual subscription start dates, but clarified it should not matter if it crosses over fiscal years. The prepay expense would have occurred within the FY22 Family Planning Council of Iowa (FPCI) Title X budget, but potentially also in the FY21 county budget. The grant year for these funds is April 1, 2021 to March 30, 2022. Bosch asked about the capability of the EHR to communicate with other programs such as EPIC. Klefstad responded that no, the Ahlers EHR was created specifically for Title X clinics to safeguard information from other EHR's for complete confidentiality. Pollock asked about supplies and expenses for the remaining grant funds. Klefstad responded much of the remaining funds would go toward promotional expenses, purchases of medical equipment, contraceptives, and other operational expenses.

Motion by Pollock to approve Title X Supplemental Funding Expenses of \$12,900 for the Ahlers EHR plus \$6,000 for Cultural Competency Training; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

- **21-04 Qualtrics:** Bechtel and Meyer Bechtel presented a slide show to illustrate examples of uses and potential for the program as part of JCPH infrastructure moving forward. The current service license expires April 9, 2021. Renewal until April 9, 2022 is \$39,100. Bechtel explained how the program applies to the 10 Essential Public Health Services, especially regarding information technology systems that are current and meet privacy standards. He illustrated how the program aligns with JCPH Workforce Development and Strategic Planning goals and the concept of Foundational Infrastructure and its application to JCPH Accreditation. Bechtel showed examples of how Qualtrics assisted with the COVID-19 response and analytics. He summarized the major functions and abilities for JCPH including: accessible web-based survey tools, sensitive data/information collection, workflows, unlimited JCPH users in the new contract year, and analysis. Wallace added the cost for the program is also off-set by FEMA and not in the JCPH budget.

Motion by Bosch to approve expenditure for Qualtrics program; seconded by Izakovic. The motion passed unanimously.

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

OTHER

- **Response to Rubin:** Healthy People Goals and the JCPH ITS Program – Edel Edel reminded the BOH members that she was following up on a question that Rubin had from a previous meeting regarding sexually transmitted infections, as an objective in Healthy People 2030. Edel affirmed it is an objective of HP2030 related to Integrated Testing Services (ITS) work. Reduction of the Syphilis rate, specifically in females is another goal, as is a 90% reduction rate

of HIV on a national scale by 2030 by increasing the number of individuals who know their HIV status. Infectious disease goal reducing the rate of acute Hepatitis C nationally and also a reduction in the number of deaths associated with HEP-C. Edel provided a link for more information. Wallace stated the information Edel provided will be in the minutes for Rubin to review and thanked Edel for the update.

- **21-05 Spring Budget Amendment:** Jarvis and Meyer

Jarvis noted that Cares Act Funding was the largest increase in revenue. He summarized various revenue and expense increases. The proposed amendment represents a total of \$399,048 in revenues and \$384,665 in expenses. Meyer added that the Qualtrics purchase expense will be shown in the budget, but will be expensed to FEMA. She clarified that the FEMA reimbursements do not come directly to JCPH, but is added to the Johnson County general revenue funds. FEMA revenue will not show on our budget, but those expenses are being tracked.

Motion by Bosch to approve the Spring Budget Amendment; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Director's Update:** Wallace opened discussion on Dave Koch's resignation as Director of JCPH, noting all BOH members received the letter of resignation. He added this is not unexpected and he has been in communication with Koch over the last several months. He noted Koch has been struggling with recuperation from a bicycle accident nearly five months ago. Koch will be focusing on his recovery.

Motion by Pollock to (reluctantly) accept the resignation of Dave Koch, Director of JCPH; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

Wallace has been communicating with Human Resources (HR) in the last few weeks, has constructed a search timeline, and streamlined the process since the last director's search, three years ago. Wallace has provided BOH members with the process and would like members to review and provide feedback. Wallace discussed how the previous director's search included three separate, five member panels; reviewing the job description, candidate questions, and review of applications. HR advised Wallace the panels are not necessary for the new search. BOH members will review candidate questions in more depth later in the spring. He welcomed questions pertaining to the timeline from members and asked that members check their calendars for availability during the process, especially for the week of June 7, 2021 and June 28, 2021, the first and second round interviews. Izakovic will not be available for those dates in person, but will be able to participate by ZOOM. Wallace added Rod Sullivan, BOS, will be asked to sit-in when available as the BOS liaison. Bosch asked if Wallace will be sending the previous director job description and candidate questions. Wallace responded yes, and the BOH will be reviewing and approving the job description before advertising. He added HR feels the previous candidate questions are also still valid, but will also be reviewed and approved. Pollock asked if while the position is posted, would qualified applicant submittals be passed on as they were received and not all at once at the end of the posting. Wallace replied yes, and HR will inform BOH members of accepted applications as well as applications HR has not accepted. Pollock also asked about previous steps in the process that HR considered unnecessary. Wallace responded that previously, for example, the job description had not been recently reviewed. HR feels there are very few changes to the most recent job description, though they will ask for a review regardless. The

questions for BOH members to ask candidates also will be reviewed, but HR felt those would not need extensive changes. Screening candidates has been allocated to the BOH. Pollock summarized that the recent director's search experience will expedite the current search process. Wallace agreed.

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: None

Members, Board of Health:

Pollock thanked Bechtel for the most in-depth presentation on a survey tool he has ever experienced.

Wallace, as a member of the Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA) board, is involved with the upcoming Public Health Conference of Iowa, during Public Health Week the first full week of April. He encouraged BOH members and staff to look at the presentations, all by Zoom.

Director:

Jarvis highlighted Domain 3, Lacina and staff were able to participate in the University of Iowa Field Experience course (via Zoom) with Dr. Patricia Quinlisk and Dr. Michael Pintella, regarding Food & Health and Nuisance programs for students of University of Iowa College of Public Health. Jarvis was pleased that activities prior to the pandemic, such as this, are now starting to resume. He also mentioned the work the COVID Equity Workgroup in reaching out to Community Partners to get thoughts, feelings and concerns on the complexities of the vaccine campaign. JCPH has funding that has allowed for the creation of mini grants to be awarded to members of this group, to help with vaccine hesitancy and access. He noted the Free Medical Clinic and University of Iowa Mobile Clinic are recipients of some of these grant funds.

Domain 5, Bechtel was asked to be part of the Epidemic Development Committee to work with strategic plans.

Klefstad, responded to an earlier question from Pollock regarding the Ahlers Electronic Health Record subscription purchase date; purchased last year in May, pre-purchasing will also fall within the FY21 budget period.

Wallace adjourned the meeting at 5:20 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

April 21, 2021

Date

Signature on File

Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II