



## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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**Danielle Pettit-Majewski, BS, MPH, 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**

**August 18, 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; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS, MHA; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP; Via Teleconference: Tatiana Izakovic, MD; ABSENT: Bonnie D. Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA

**Staff:** Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Director; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; Kate Klefstad, Clinical Services Manager; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Business Manager; Alissa Sotzen, Account Clerk I; Hannah Tice, PHAP Associate; Susan Denny, Secretary II

**Others Present:** Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Bosch to approve the July 21, 2021 meeting minutes; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Regular Meeting Date and Time:** September 15, 2021 in Conference Room 203 at 4:00 pm in the Health and Human Services Building.

**Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues:** None

**New Employee Introductions:** Crystal Fernandez. Klefstad reported Crystal Fernandez, Clinical Services Dental Assistant started on August 2, 2021. She informed the BOH Crystal was currently in a clinic and unable to meet in person, but will attend the September meeting for introductions.

**DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):**

- **Vaccine Confidence:** Hannah Tice, CDC, PHAP reported on her Deployment to the Vaccine Confidence Demand Team; a 90 day assignment in Indiana working with the State and Jurisdictional Support and Insights Unit to encourage vaccine confidence. Tice presented her report in a Power Point slideshow divided into three areas: 1. Team Overview/definitions, 2. Indiana Rapid Community Assessment (RCA), and 3. Insights Unit. She described vaccine response dynamics for behaviors ranging from refusal to passive acceptance to proactive demand. The Vaccine Confidence Team provided direct support using strike teams, partnerships, and staff. They provided guidance through vaccine confidence boot camps, communication toolkits, and community assessments as well as behavioral insights through profiling, reporting, and data collection tools. Tice described how the Indiana RCA divided into three teams, working in three counties using informal meetings with business, elected officials, faith leaders, as well as, interviews with health department, hospital, community leaders, schools, farming and Hispanic community leaders. Access challenges included too few vaccination sites, low recommendations from physicians, and limited capacity for pharmacies. Informational challenges included COVID fatigue, unclear guidance and disconnection resulting in overwhelmed local public health staff. As well as, an unresponsive state and district government. Tice summarized solutions to alleviate challenges; such as collaborating with the National Guard to vaccinate dairy farm workers. She explained how the team reported on insights, did analysis on vaccine confidence and developed a code book to examine multiple factors. Tice and Jarvis responded to comments and questions from BOH members regarding lack of physicians recommending vaccinations, success with 1:1 conversations and possible outcomes if FDA approval for COVID-19 vaccines succeed. Discussion continued regarding barriers in Iowa for increasing vaccine confidence and mask mandate restrictions. Rose addressed possible legal outcomes challenging state mask restrictions and Board of Health authority. She pointed out legislative intent does not usurp BOH and BOS ability to issue a mask mandate, but does curtail how far it could reach and would likely result in a legal challenge from the state. Rose will research options related to school entry immunization requirements adding COVID-19 vaccines and opt-outs at the request of Dr. Wallace for discussion at a future BOH meeting. Rose responded to Pollock's question about state universities policy and explained they are considered an administrative agencies governed by the Board of Regents. Also discussed vaccination age restrictions for teenagers, parental consent, masks required in schools through dress code adjustments, and reinstating a mask mandate.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Expenditures Over \$3,000:**

- **21-11 CS Office Update – Single to Double:** Klefstad explained the expenditure will be to adjust office space to function as a double occupancy due to increased staff numbers. Pollock asked about the cost overlay for the project and whether those numbers were firm or likely to increase, and whether the project is able to use repurposed equipment. Klefstad explained some repurposed furniture from the third floor storage might be used. Bid estimates were not completely firm. Pollock asked if Klefstad had considered a three to five year growth plan to anticipate space and staff needs. She explained space is a problem and hopes eventually to acquire more offices in the adjacent DHS hall. Pollock recommended anticipating space needs when adding additional personnel and obtaining solid bid quotes to avoid increased expense requests.

**Motion** by Pollock to approve Office Update with a 20% Expense Contingency; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

**Applications, Contracts and Agreements:** None

**OTHER**

**Reports / Inquiries:**

**County Attorney:** Rose noted for the BOH members and JCPH staff, any threatening or obscene mail related to mask or COVID-19 issues should be reported to the County Attorney's offices. She is willing to talk further with members and staff about the legal avenues. Rose re-emphasized to BOH members that although she believes they still have the authority to enact another mask mandate, there are now different legal considerations that would need to be discussed.

**Members, Board of Health:** Dr. Wallace welcomed Pettit-Majewski, the new Director of Public Health on behalf of the BOH.

**Director's Report:** Jarvis highlighted Service Area #1: Jamie Huntley coordinated multiple departments and staff to complete the Bi-Annual County Wellness Survey and extended the time frame for an additional two weeks for an increased response. Completion rate was 96.3%. Service Area #2: The Mosquito Surveillance contract was extended. Disease Prevention Specialists continue to investigate COVID-19 cases and increases in the Delta variant, especially among unvaccinated populations and affecting schools and daycares as well. Service Area #8: Amelia Slaichert, DPS conducted workforce training at last month's all-staff meeting to share vaccine confidence resources. The Administrative division met with the director of the Affordable Housing Coalition. Pollock asked Jarvis for an update on Learfield radio advertising proposal. Jarvis reported the proposal is no longer being considered due to lack of funding. Wallace added Jarvis will be part of the United Way sponsored COVID-19 update on August 19, 2021 with Dr. Stephen Scheckel, MD, VP Medical Affairs CMO, Mercy Hospital and Dr. Daniel Diekema, MD, Clinical Professor Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, at 1:00 pm.

Wallace adjourned the meeting at 5:02 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

September 17, 2021

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Date

Signature on File

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Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair

Submitted by:  
Susan Denny  
Secretary II