



## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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

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

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

**May 18, 2022**

### **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; Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD VIA ZOOM: Bonnie D. Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA; MS; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP

**Staff:** Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Director; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Fiscal Manager; Ethan Turben-Fuhrman, Environmental Specialist; Jennifer Miller, Disease Prevention Specialist; Debbie Ackerman, Data Specialist; Susan Vileta, Health Educator; Jake Riley, Disease Prevention Specialist; Karrey Shannon, Community Health RN; Alissa Sotzen, Account Clerk I; Susan Denny, Secretary II.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Rubin to approve the April 20, 2022 meeting minutes; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Regular Meeting Date and Time:** June 15, 2022 at 4:00 pm in Conference Room 203 at the Health and Human Services Building.

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

**New Employee Introductions:** Jarvis introduced Karrey Shannon, Community Health RN, effective April 25, 2022. Jarvis reported Jamie Gade, formerly Community Health Planner has accepted the position of Public Health Systems Analyst effective April 18, 2022. Lacina introduced Ethan Turben-Fuhrman, Environmental Health Specialist, Watershed Program, effective May 9, 2022. Pettit-Majewski reported Mike Casella, Environmental Health Specialist, Food Program has accepted the position of Performance Improvement and Accreditation Coordinator beginning June 6, 2022. Casella will report directly to the Public Health Director.

**DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):**

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- **COVID-19 Art Program:** Hannah Tice, CDC Public Health Associate presented a power point slideshow highlighting initiatives using art to promote vaccine confidence. The program was inspired by national campaigns around the country. She provided descriptions of participating artists and how they were able to create partnerships with community organizations to provide education and promote vaccine confidence. BOH members expressed their support for the project and offered ideas for continued exhibits.
- **COVID-19 Modeling:** Jake Riley presented a draft report focusing on impacts of the COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing (CICT) program in Johnson County from June 14, 2020 through December 31, 2021. The report is intended as a guide to aid in planning and preparation for future situations. He identified the main objective of the report as quantifying the impact of the CICT program at JCPH by modifying a COVIDTracer Advanced tool model, developed by the CDC in conjunction with local CICT and vaccination data. Riley stressed the importance of regarding the model as an estimate. He summarized results of the analysis with estimated averted cases of COVID-19 resulting from the CICT program and impacts of Johnson County's high vaccination rate. Riley will be adding a discussion and observation sections to the report. BOH members encouraged Riley to consider publication of the report. Discussion of outreach and benefits of the research including distribution to elected officials, Iowa Department of Public Health, local Boards of Health and Iowa Hospital Association. BOH members offered additional suggestions for further analysis and publication ideas.
- **Admin Update – Financial Reports:** Kristin Meyer provided an overview of budget revenue and authorized spending (expense report) reports developed with input from the Johnson County financial department as well as the Board of Health finance committee. Meyer meets with the BOH finance committee monthly prior to BOH meetings.
- **COVID-19 Update:** Sam Jarvis reported COVID-19 cases continued to increase through March and April, but Johnson County is still in the medium risk category. The federal government is releasing additional free rapid test kits to the public while JCPH continues to distribute Test Iowa PCR test kits. Jarvis reported on current quarantine recommendations, status of children's vaccinations and partnerships with United Way and other organizations sharing information. Rubin asked if there has been any discussion of COVID-19 vaccination content or combining flu and COVID-19 vaccinations this winter. Jarvis is not aware of any new developments. BOH members and Jarvis discussed possible booster options, vaccination combinations and variants expected in the fall.
- **BOH Legal Authority:** Pettit-Majewski, Rose, Rubin, Wallace, Pat Heiden, BOS liaison; and Laura Shramek, HR contributed to determining the delineation of authority between the Board of Health and the Board of Supervisors. Rose provided a draft MOU to clarify the authority of the Board of Health regarding hiring, firing and salary and how this interacts with the authority of the Board of Supervisors. Rose cited Iowa Code 137 and a legal precedent to illustrate how BOH authority and BOS authority functions regarding the adoption of the Johnson County Employee Handbook. The MOU recommends the BOH reviews updates, amendments and current policies in the handbook at least annually for evaluation. Signatories listed on the MOU include the BOH Chair, JCPH Director, BOS Chair and the director of Human resources. Rose requested that the MOU be add to the June 15, 2022 BOH meeting agenda as a voting item. Rose responded to comments and questions. Pettit-Majewski and Rose would monitor any amendments to the handbook of concern to the BOH for review.
- **Johnson County Handbook Review:** Pettit-Majewski asked BOH members to review the current Johnson County Employee Handbook for the June BOH meeting. Pettit-Majewski also asked if BOH members would like to see amendments to the handbook once a year for review, or as changes are made. Rose responded to questions about frequency and importance of amendments, language and procedure.

- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) County Health Rankings:** Pettit-Majewski shared the 2022 Iowa County Health Rankings and Roadmaps report compiled by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The report compared rankings for all ninety-nine Iowa counties for health outcomes and health factors to illustrate current overall health by county. Johnson County health outcomes ranked number six in the state and number five in health factors. Pettit-Majewski pointed out mental and physical health data compared to prior years is skewed due to the impact of the pandemic.
- **Maternal Health, Child Health and I-Smile Grant Updates:** Pettit-Majewski provided updates on JCPH grant application submittals for Maternal Health (MH) due September 25, 2022, Child Health (CH) and I-Smile grants due June 15, 2022. These grants are now part of a five County Service Area (CSA).
- **July BOH Meeting Date:** Pettit-Majewski reported she will be attending the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) 360 Summit in Atlanta, GA on the scheduled July 20, 2022 BOH meeting date. She asked BOH members if they would consider moving the meeting date or meeting without her or by Zoom. A poll will be sent to BOH members with alternative dates to be decided at the June meeting.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

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

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

- **22-20 RFA Telligen Grant:** Jarvis presented a request to submit an application for the Telligen Community Initiative (TCI) Award. The award is approximately fifty thousand dollars. Priorities for funding include healthcare capacity, social determinants of health and healthcare workforce development. Jamie Gade, Public Health Systems Analyst is taking charge to process the application and will create a process to implement the Community Context Assessment (CCA). Gade will work with Information Systems GIS programmers to create a map index of health outcomes. Jarvis responded to questions and comments from BOH members addressing matching funds, budget impacts and possible expansion to a state or national model.
- **Motion** by Pollock to approve the application for Telligen Grant; seconded by Wellington. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Reports / Inquiries:**

**County Attorney:** None

**Members, Board of Health:** Wallace and a number of JCPH staff attended the Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA) annual Public Health Conference of Iowa (PHCI) in early May; formerly the Governor's Conference. He noted Pettit-Majewski and Deborah Thompson, Chair of the IPHA Advocacy Committee gave a superb presentation on being a public health voter and political determinants of health.

**Director:** Pettit-Majewski reported JCPH launched a self-reporting site for citizens to report COVID-19 self-test results to obtain actual disease numbers. Chuck Dufano, WIC Coordinator, is exploring options for off-site clinic locations in Johnson County to increase client accessibility. Clinical Services dietitians are addressing concerns with the formula shortages. A total of thirty clients, including seven first time clients received vaccinations at a clinic held at the Catholic Worker House with Rebecca Nielsen, Emergency Preparedness Planner and Beth Hora, Public Health RN. Interviews will be held on May 27 for the vacant Clinical Services Manager position.

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Wallace adjourned the meeting at 5:29 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

June 15, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signature on File

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Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair

Submitted by:  
Susan Denny  
Secretary II