



PUBLIC HEALTH

Danielle Pettit-Majewski, BS, MPH, Director

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

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
December 20, 2023
MEETING MINUTES
4:00 pm

Call to Order: Bonnie Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Roll Call: Bonnie D. Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA; Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP; Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD

Staff: Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Director; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Fiscal Manager; Rob Thul, Environmental Health Manager; Roberta Sloat, Clinical Services Manager; Brycen Myers, Health Educator; Susan Szmyrgala, Dietitian; Alissa Sotzen, Account Clerk I; Susan Denny, Secretary II

Others Present: David VanCompernelle, Assistant County Attorney

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Wallace to approve the November 15, 2023 meeting minutes with date correction; seconded by Wellington. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: January 17, 2024 in Conference Room 203-B at 4:00 pm in the Health and Human Services Building.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: None

Staff Updates:

Roberta Sloat, Clinical Services Manager introduced three new staff: Dental Assistant Jessica Erhart, hired in August 2023, Brycen Myers, Health Educator for Integrated Testing Services (ITS), and Susan Szmyrgala, Public Health Dietitian, both hired on December 4, 2023. All provided a short summary of their backgrounds and experiences.

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):

- **IHHS Integration and Alignment:** Pettit-Majewski informed the BOH there was no new information to report from the state on the alignment although she expects more information to be provided over the holidays. She has had conversations with several contacts at the state and expects to be invited as a focus group participant to review the plan and provide feedback on impacts to local public health services in communities as well as other factors especially regarding maintaining the public health workforce. Rubin

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asked if BOH members would be interested in reaching out to elected officials to increase awareness of potential impacts of the alignment on the role of local boards of health and boards of supervisors. Pettit-Majewski responded with concerns about funding issues and the role of the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC). Fixmer-Oraiz expressed appreciation for information provided by Pettit-Majewski on the alignment and that information was forwarded to lobbyists and legislators in the recent BOS legislative session. Bosch expressed support for Rubin to draft a letter to elected officials. More discussion regarding infrastructure, budget and revenue impacts, potential code changes and affected services followed. Rubin will draft a letter for BOH review to send to elected officials focusing on impacts to Boards of Health and Boards of Supervisors.

- **Johnson County Public Health FY23 Annual Report:** Pettit-Majewski provided an overview of the report and included highlights throughout the year such as new staff, new positions approved, volunteer contributions, awards, ITS staff training, division initiatives, and progress with Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) reaccreditation. Pettit-Majewski will present highlights of the report to the BOS as well. Sarah Grunewaldt, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator will facilitate distribution of the report to other local boards of health, community partners, etc. The report will also be available on the Johnson County Public Health website. Pettit-Majewski will also reach out to contacts who will provide the report in public health forums.

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000:

- **23-26 RFA CHAMP Software (updated):** Meyer updated the BOH with additional expenses requested in order to meet the increased number of licenses needed. Pettit-Majewski added there was also an update to the subscription agreement period which has now added a five-year option in addition to the three-year option discussed at the November BOH meeting. She suggested assessing after the first quarter of 2024 to determine which subscription offer will be the best choice. Pricing increased from \$24,648 to \$31,142 for the first year, which includes \$11,100 for implementation and training for the requested twenty-three user licenses. The first-year subscription offers a twenty percent discount and the option to prepay a minimum of two additional years and up to five years to lock in the quoted price without increased cost of living adjustments. The quoted offer allows JCPH to pay for the first year initially and subsequent years by the end of the first quarter of 2024 and honor the prepayment agreed amount for subsequent years.

Motion by Bosch to approve proceeding with implementing CHAMP Software with additional licenses and assessing if we can afford to prepay for subsequent years at the end of Q1 in 2024; seconded by Wellington. The motion passed unanimously.

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

OTHER

- **23-24 RFA FY25 JCPH Budget:** Meyer identified a correction in county tax dollars numbers and summarized changes in the budget projections as well as highlighting line items of interest. She described percentage increases due to factors such as Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) guidelines, COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment), additional retirement contribution options, health insurance projections, and grant impacts. Meyer suggested the BOH could approve the budget as is or ask for line item adjustments. Meyer and Pettit-Majewski responded to questions by BOH members and BOS liaison.

Motion by Wellington to approve FY25 Budget; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

- **23-25 Letter Re: UIHC and Mercy Iowa City Merger:** Wellington and Wallace presented a

letter in support of maintaining Mercy Hospital as a community resource for health and the merger by a local entity. Wallace suggested reaching out to Lynette Marshall, Director of the Center for Development who is involved in the planning of the role of Mercy Hospital. Discussion about the future of Mercy Hospital and forwarding the letter to media outlets in support of a local health center and including the Des Moines Register in a press release issued by JCPH on behalf of the BOH followed.

Motion by Bosch to approve sending the letter as written supporting UIHC and Mercy Iowa City Merger as written including the Des Moines Register and Lynette Marshall; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: None

Members, Board of Health: Wallace reported he met with Lynette Marshall and two of her senior vice presidents along with Margaret Reese, a former Mercy Foundation member, to discuss name recommendations for people with a strong commitment to community involvement to participate as community committee members. Barbara Wilson, University of Iowa President requested the meeting.

Wellington reported she was stopped in the hall and asked about having increased numbers of immigrants resettling in the Johnson County area and how to facilitate cooperation between healthcare clinics providing care for immigrants with Johnson County care to coordinate care. She asked if JCPH is seeing an increase in people arriving, what is the status and are there plans. Bosch reported she is now a USA Boxing official and is seeing their mailing list including boxing, fencing and karate and noted they are working to bring immunization clinics to where those events are taking place.

Board of Supervisors Liaison: Fixmer-Oraiz reported starting on the budget season and looking forward to JCPH presenting and updating immigrant status and would look forward to issues being brought to the BOS.

Director: Pettit-Majewski highlighted division activities from the narrative provided in the packet. Pettit-Majewski responded to comments and concerns regarding immigrants in Johnson County services and support, especially affordable housing.

Rubin adjourned the meeting at 4:58 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

January 17, 2024

Signature on File

Date

Bonnie Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA, Chair

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II