



PUBLIC HEALTH

Danielle Pettit-Majewski, BS, MPH, Director

Board of Health
Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP
Vice Chair, Zachary J. Pollock, PharmD, MS
Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS
Chair, Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD
Michelle Weckmann, MS, MD

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

February 19, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

4:00 pm

Call to Order: Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm.

Roll Call: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP; Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD;
ABSENT: Michelle Weckmann, MS, MD; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS

Staff: Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Director; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; Rob Thul, Environmental Health Manager; Matt Waldschmidt, Fiscal Manager; Roberta Sloat, Clinical Services Manager; Sarah Grunewaldt, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator; Karrey Shannon, Community Health RN; Cole Kruse, Public Health Systems Analyst; Lisa Parlato, Chronic Disease Prevention Specialist; Giselle Coreas, Health Planner; Alissa Sotzen, Grants Analyst; Susan Denny, Secretary II

Others Present: David VanCompernelle, Assistant County Attorney, Mandi Remington, BOS via Teams

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bosch to approve the January 15, 2025 meeting minutes; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: March 26, 2025 in Conference Room 203 at 4:00 pm in the Health and Human Services Building.

Pettit-Majewski acknowledged Mandi Remington, Board of Supervisors (BOS) and informed the BOH she will be the liaison for the BOH. Remington joined the meeting via Teams.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: None

Staff Updates: Jamie Gade, Social Determinants of Health Coordinator introduced Cole Kruse, Public Health Systems Analyst as of February 10, 2025 to join the Healthy JoCo Team. Kruse

was previously a student intern in the Community Health division. Kruse gave a brief summary of his background and experience.

Financial Update: Pettit-Majewski notified the BOH at the BOS meeting today voted no to two of the requests made by JCPH in the FY26 Budget. The new Public Health RN position and six thousand dollars for exercise equipment for the wellness room were both denied. She attributes the denials to changes and uncertainties in the budgeting process currently.

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S):

- **AI Policy Updates:** Sarah Grunewaldt, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator updated the BOH on the status of the JCPH AI policy. Grunewaldt suggested the policy be reviewed again in six months. She has been attending webinars and trainings and believes our policy for the most part is on pace, adding other agencies in the state consider our policy too stringent. She believes the JCPH AI policy may be the only policy that has been adopted at this level. Pettit-Majewski commented that she shared the policy with other BOH directors and Grunewaldt shared it with group virtual meetings. Discussion of how AI is being used for such purposes as vaccine promotion, grant writing, interview questions, etc. followed.

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000: None

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

- **RFA 25-04:** Community Health asked the BOH to approve application through the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) for the Blood Diseases and Disorders Education Program 2025-2026 Community Subcontract Program. The fifty-thousand-dollar award would be used for outreach programs in the community to increase blood donor numbers, especially from diverse communities. Karrey Shannon, Community Health RN met with the UIHC DeGowin Blood Center about their challenges to maintain a stable blood supply. Jarvis and Shannon responded to questions and comments from the BOH.

Motion by Wallace to approve applying for the NHLBI Blood Diseases and Disorders Education Program 2025-2026 Community Subcontract Program award; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

- **RFA 25-05:** AARP Community Challenge Flagship Grant. Jamie Gade, Social Determinants of Health Coordinator, explained if awarded, the project would begin in June 2025 ending in December 2025. Funds would be used to develop workshops and sessions promoting Credible Mind mental health website and provide support for an additional year. Connecting older adults as well as adolescents in the community through the Credible Mind mental health tool. Gade explained her team is asking for approximately twenty-one thousand dollars. The maximum request is twenty-five thousand dollars. Gade responded to BOH comments. More discussion followed regarding intergenerational connections.

Motion by Bosch to approve application to the AARP Community Challenge Flagship Grant; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

- **Staff Recognition:** Wellington opened the discussion asking what the BOH can do to

to recognize staff and show them they are appreciated. Ideas proposed included board members writing monthly thank-you notes to individual staff, gift cards, participating in clinics and programs and other informal ways to appreciate staff for their work and contributions.

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: None

Members, Board of Health: Wallace will be attending the Public Health Conference of Iowa March 31-April 2, 2025. Bosch proposed creating a policy paper encouraging medical schools to teach more about treatment of measles and other vaccine preventable diseases not seen commonly. Discussion continued on educating the community on the results of declining vaccination rates. Pettit-Majewski suggested using social media posts. Wellington asked about creating an agenda item addressing education on disease risk possibly for the March meeting. Pettit-Majewski will add an agenda item for emerging infectious diseases for next month's meeting. More discussion of the number of potential emerging vaccines and working with the University of Iowa College of Public Health on public health risks and inviting former BOH member Bonnie Rubin as a guest speaker.

Director: Pettit-Majewski reminded BOH members to respond to an email she sent regarding position papers that are being written; specifically one on reproductive justice which Bosch is involved with and extended the invitation to other BOH members if they are interested. She will be attending a legislative forum on February 20, 2025 which will include a number of state bills making it easier not to vaccinate. Currently all that is required to opt out of school vaccinations is to date and sign the child's name versus a more complicated process to prove children are vaccinated. Discussion on simplifying the pro-vaccination process followed.

Motion by Bosch to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

Wellington adjourned the meeting at 5:19 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

March 26, 2025

Date

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II

Signature on File

Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD; BOH Chair