

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

January 8th, 2025, 12:30 p.m.
Public Health Conference Room

Minutes

Attendance: Board Members –Lois Roth, Debra Savage, Tyler Moeller (virtual), Matt Kludnt, Mike Hampton

Staff –Katie Reuter, Mike Dawson

Guests –Steve Detrick, Melanie Patton, Bryan Messer

Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by Roth at 12:30.

- **Minutes** –Hampton made a motion to approve the 11/20/2024 minutes, Savage seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.
- **Environmental Report** – Dawson reviewed the statistics and handouts were provided. No complaints were received this month.
- **Public Comment--**
 - A. Detrick states he would like a position statement from the Board of Health in relation to the health effects of wind turbines to aid the Planning and Zoning committee which has a work session scheduled tonight. Specific information was requested on noise level, shadow flicker, impact on water and wells and environmental impact. Detrick commented that a position statement from Clinton County BOH had been sent to review. Reuter states the matter will be discussed in “New Business.”
- **Public Health Report-**
 - A. December Board of Health Report was reviewed in detail and printed copies were distributed to the Board. Reuter reviewed meeting with BOS in December to request a budget amendment for vaccines which was granted. Reuter and Hampton expressed gratefulness for that generosity and consideration of citizens’ health. Expenses were under budget this month, but revenue was also under budgeted amount. As of 12/31/2024, total expenses were \$464,196.69 (53% of budgeted expenses) with total revenue totaling \$276,633 (56% of total budgeted revenue). Update given regarding cuts to Milestones funding, Public Health Office hours meeting with Dr. Kruse and Ken Sharp at IHHS, Avian influenza testing, Thrive Iowa and statistics about local public health administrator turnover.
- **Reappointment of members:**
 - Lois Roth and Dr. Tyler Moeller have both requested to continue on the Board of Health for an additional term of 3 years.

- **Nomination of chairperson and vice chairperson:**
 - Lois Roth was nominated to remain the chairperson for a term of 12 months to expire on 12/31/2025. Mike Hampton was nominated to remain as vice chairperson for a term of 12 months to expire on 12/31/2025. A motion was made by Klundt to approve Roth and Hampton as chairperson and vice chairperson. The motion was seconded by Savage. The motion was approved unanimously.
- **Signatory Authority-**
 - A. Reuter requested renewal of signatory authority for amounts up to \$5,000 with the exception of vaccine purchases due to the cost of the vaccine purchases often totaling over \$5,000. The Board signed a delegation form to reflect this.
- **Budget-**

Reuter reviews the County Compensation Board gave recommendations to increase pay to county employees up to 10% for FY 26. Reuter gave 2 different budget options. The first option was for a 10% increase in employee compensation. Detrick, a county supervisor present during the meeting commented that the Supervisors did not intend to grant 10% raises. Reuter presented an alternate budget reflecting a 5% increase in compensation for employees. Each line item was reviewed. Reuter posed the question to the Board if they would suggest a modest reduction in the immunization budget to \$190,000. The Board recommended continuing with \$200,000 budgeted for vaccines after discussion. Reuter discussed rising costs of vaccines, decreasing Medicaid reimbursement for influenza vaccines and changing recommendations from ACIP. Line items for mileage and education were discussed. Reuter discussed that the budget for mileage had been decreased from \$8,500 in FY 24 to \$1,000 in FY 25. Also due to claims being posted late for FY 24, mileage and cell phone reimbursements were added to FY 25 expenses which totaled over the allocated amount for FY 25. Reuter, Hampton and Klundt discussed the need to increase funding for education. Reuter reports 2 senior staff are retiring in under 2 years, and there needs to be a way to develop the workforce. The current budget leaves no room for staff to attend educational conferences. Nursing staff also cover the cost of their own licensure. Hampton and Klundt both stressed and recognized the importance of developing staff, also commenting on how it helped with staff retention and satisfaction. Hampton and supervisor, Detrick, commented on using the county car to help reduce reimbursement to staff for mileage. Reuter expressed concern about the functionality of the car and cleanliness. Problems with the car were reported, and the maintenance person took care of it. Revenue was reviewed. Comment made by Detrick that the salaries are lower than average because the benefits package is impressive. Detrick states our benefits are better than

other counties. After discussion, the motion was made by Klundt to approve the budget with a 5% raise for staff. The motion was seconded by Roth. Moeller typed “aye” in the chat, and the motion was passed unanimously.

- **Review bylaws and conflict of interest statement-**
 - A. Reuter revised the Bylaws to reflect changes in Iowa Code allowing the medical director serving to be a MD, DO, ARNP or PA. Also removed electing a secretary as the Director is tasked with taking minutes, filing minutes, posting agendas. Motion made by Klundt to approve the updates, seconded by Roth. Motion passed unanimously. Conflict of interest statements reviewed and signed by attendees. Moeller states he will visit the office in the future to sign.
- **Old Business-**
 - A. None.
- **New Business-**
 - A. An updated job description was requested for Kelly Carr, Community Outreach Coordinator. Change was made to request a shift from hourly to salary employee. Roth made a motion to approve the change which was seconded by Klundt. Motion passed unanimously.
 - B. An updated job description was requested for April Riley. She was classified as a Direct Care Worker. Requested to change job classification and description to Community Health Worker/Administrative Assistant. Discussed w/ Board that April had completed coursework and certification through Southeastern Community College to attain this certification. She also maintains certification as a Child Passenger Safety Technician. Motion made by Roth to approve change, seconded by Klundt and passed unanimously.
 - C. Request by Supervisor Detrick for the BOH to write a position statement about the CWES project-
 - i. Detrick states he has come before the Board to request a position statement regarding the CWES project. He provides a statement written by Clinton County BOH. Reuter states that she contacted Clinton County PH Director and was told the Clinton County BOH signed the statement after a presentation by a citizens group against wind energy. Reuter reached out to that group and reviewed information provided. The Board did not wish to provide a statement at the last meeting on 11/20/2024. Detrick and community member Patton commented. Reuter shared that the literature reviewed does not find sufficient evidence linking wind turbines to health problems. The Board discussed if a statement should be given. Reuter drafted a position statement which was reviewed and signed by the Board.

- **Announcements and Adjournment –**

The next meeting was set for February 12th, 2025, at 12:30pm in the Public Health conference room. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.