

HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

November 20th, 2024, 12:30 p.m.
Public Health Conference Room

Minutes

Attendance: Board Members –Lois Roth, Debra Savage, Tyler Moeller (virtual)

Staff –Katie Reuter, Mike Dawson, Amy Martin

Guests – Greg Moeller, Steve Detrick, Hayden Douglas

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

- **Minutes** –Roth made a motion to approve the 10/23/2024 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. Reuter asked if RUSS provides any other environmental testing such as radon or lead; RUSS doesn't offer any of these services.
- **Public Comment--**
 - A. Steve 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. Specific information was requested on noise level.
- **Public Health Report-**
 - A. October Board of Health Report was reviewed in detail and printed copies were distributed to the Board.
 - B. Budget was reviewed; expense and revenue reports attached. Expenses were up considerably this month due to the cost of vaccines, specifically the covid 19 vaccine. \$34,432.59 remains in the budget for private pay vaccines as of 10/31/2024. Vaccines costs were budgeted at \$128,000 for FY 25. In FY 24, vaccine costs were initially budgeted at \$110,000, but that line item was amended resulting in an increase to \$220,000 with \$197, 099.46 spent. Reuter has currently put reordering of covid on hold, and states we are faced with amending the budget or no longer providing this service to residents. Moeller who is current BOS chair, recommends setting a time to ask for a budget amendment.
 - C. Amy Martin gave a detailed report on Senior Health programming including a report on the implementation of Happy Feet, Stepping On Program and upcoming Walk with Ease. Project Power was also discussed; this is a program offered through the ADA at no cost to the department with the potential to earn a stipend for recruitment of participants; stipend would be used to fund future programming.

D. Pertussis cases continue; this is a nationwide problem. Measles cases are on the rise nationwide due to decreased rates of immunizations. Iowa has no reported cases, but both Illinois and Minnesota do. Reuter discussed what disease investigation entails and the amount of time it takes.

E. Reuter discussed the case of Lassa Fever in Iowa. IHHS is performing all of the surveillance, and 1 resident of Henry County is currently under surveillance. The disease investigation and monitoring has consumed significant state resources, but no additional burden is felt at the local health department.

F. Thirteen off-site flu clinics were held in October and 1 in November.

- **Old Business-**

A. Reuter reviewed request for technology training for seniors. The Mt Pleasant library no longer offers classes due to poor attendance, will occasionally help on a case by case basis. Public health will not exclude implementing a program in the future.

- **New Business-**

A. T. Moeller and Roth will have terms ending on 12/31/2024. Both have expressed interest in continuing for another term. Applications from the county website were distributed.

- **Announcements and Adjournment –**

The next meeting was set for January 8th, 2024, at 12:30pm in the Public Health conference room. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.