

BLACK HAWK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
MINUTES

April 26, 2023

The meeting of the Black Hawk County Board of Health was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington. Members attending: Vice-Chair, Dr. Disa Cornish, Kingsley Botchway, Dr. Adam Roise, Rosario Garcia Fino (virtual) and Attorney, Heather Prendergast. Absent: None. A quorum was met.

Others present in person: Kaitlin Emrich, Brenda Hostetler, Anna Knapp (arrived at 8:07am), Sarah Mergenthaler, Megan Olmstead, Jared Parmater, Lisa Sesterhenn, Matthew Verbraken, Tonya Wilder, and Emily Wilson.

Others present via video conferencing: William Aukes, Jenna Deiphouse, Gabbi DeWitt, Amanda Fesenmeyer, Bethany Fratzke, Micah Knebel, Aaron Reinke, Lori Rottinghaus, Toki Selby, and Michelle Weidner.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

I. Approval of Agenda – For Vote

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Dr. Roise moved, and Mr. Botchway seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

II. Approval of Minutes* For Vote

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Mr. Botchway moved and Ms. Garcia Fino seconded to approve the Board of Health Minutes for the Special Meeting March 8, 2023 and Regular Meeting March 22, 2023. Motion carried.

III. Public Comments – No comments.

IV. Tonya Wilder presented Brenda Hostetler with the 25 Years of Service Award.

V. Sarah Mergenthaler introduced a new hire, Emily Wilson, Disease Prevention Specialist.

VI. Black Hawk County Board of Health Position Statement: All forms of bias including racism, is a public health crisis* – For Vote – Kaitlin Emrich & Lisa Sesterhenn

Discussion: Ms. Emrich stated that there are two options to select from in the memo provided to the board. Ms. Sesterhenn reviewed each option to address health equity and enable the advocacy committee to use position statements. Research was completed on other similar position statements with NACCHO and other local public health agencies. There are only two local public health agencies in Iowa that have this type of position statement.

The board discussed option one and option two. The board agreed that option one would be their preferred option.

Action: Mr. Botchway moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to approve the Position Statement: All Forms of bias including racism, is a public health crisis option one as presented to the board. Motion carried.

VII. RESOLUTION: Confirming name and brand of Black Hawk County Public Health*

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Mr. Botchway motioned to approve the name and brand of Black Hawk County Public Health; Dr. Cornish seconded. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Dr. Wesley Pilkington, Dr. Disa Cornish, Kingsley Botchway, Dr. Adam Roise, and Rosario Garcia Fino.

Nays: None

Absent: None

Ayes: 5 Nays: None

Resolution adopted.

VIII. Well Setback Variance Request: 6101 Gilbertville Rd., Gilbertville, IA 50634*- For Vote

Mr. Parmater reviewed the request with the board. The DNR has approved this setback. Mr. Parmater notes there are no issues and would recommend the board to approve the setback after reviewing the request.

Discussion: Dr. Roise asked about moving the lagoon. Mr. Parmater stated the department does not regulate the lagoon but can find out if needed; very confident this is a safe setback and very low risk of ground water contamination.

Action: Mr. Botchway moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to approve the well setback variance request as presented for 6101 Gilbertville Rd., Gilbertville, IA 50634. Motion carried.

IX. Financials – *Matthew Verbraken*

A. Disbursements* – For Vote

Discussion: Mr. Verbraken reviewed the disbursements with the board.

Action: Dr. Roise moved, and Mr. Botchway seconded to approve paying the bills as presented. Motion carried.

B. Mr. Verbraken presented the Financial Report of 04/21/2023 to the board.

Discussion: No discussion.

X. Consent Agenda: Grants and Contracts* - *Kaitlin Emrich, Deputy Director – For Vote*

The following items will be acted upon by vote on a single MOTION, without separate discussion, unless someone from the board or the public requests that a specific item be considered separately.

- A. Application (Renewal) FY24 Care for Yourself Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Services, Iowa HHS

- B. Memorandum of Understanding (New) Veggie Voucher Host Site Collaboration, University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Center for Energy Environmental Education (CEEE)
- C. Contract (Renewal) 5884BT107 – FY24 – Public Health 6-Year Emergency Response, Iowa HHS
- D. Data Sharing Agreement (Renewal) 588DSA022-52, Project Period: 04/30/23-04/29/28, IDPH (7/1/23-Iowa HHS)
- E. Service Agreement (New) SERV5883CD11 Black Hawk, Data Request, Iowa HHS
- F. Contract (Amendment 2) MOU-2023-TB03 – Tuberculosis Direct Observed Therapy (DOT), Iowa HHS
- G. Contract (Amendment 3) MOU-2023-TB03 – Tuberculosis Direct Observed Therapy (DOT), Iowa HHS
- H. Contract (Amendment 4) MOU-2023-TB03 – Tuberculosis Direct Observed Therapy (DOT), Iowa HHS
- I. Contract (Amendment 4) 5883CAH11 – FY23 – Child & Adolescent Health and Oral Health Programs, Iowa HHS
- J. Contract (Amendment 30) 5885BT407 – FY23 – Emergency Response Multi-Year Program, Iowa HHS

Discussion: Ms. Emrich reviewed item B. This will be amended to strike the matching funds for veggie vouchers and continue to promote the program and distribute the vouchers to qualified participants.

Action: Mr. Botchway moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to approve items A-J as presented on the grants and contracts memo (Item B amended as stated above and final approval by legal counsel) Motion carried.

XI. Board of Supervisors Update presented by Chris Schwartz – *Supervisor Schwartz was not in attendance.*

XII. Public Health update was presented by Interim Director, Kaitlin Emrich

Summary:

- Administration ARPA update
 - Van has been purchased for the Oral Health team to haul equipment
 - Mobile clinic was approved for purchase on 4/11/2023
 - County space utilization committee has added Public Health to their priorities
 - Application for ARPA was submitted and approved but waiting on two alternate options to move forward
 - Supervisor Schwartz has prioritized Public Health space
 - Continue to look for office space for additional positions approved for FY24. Potential solutions include asking county policy committee to look at telework as an option. County does not currently have a telework policy. Additional options are also being looked at.
- COVID-19 response funds, winding down by end of FY23
 - Digital Outdoor sign – Pinecrest Building, all approvals completed
 - Conference Room technology upgrades- had some setbacks but should be completed soon
 - Video highlighting public health services
 - Few projects have filed extensions
- State reorganization signed by Gov. Reynolds, House File 514 04/04/2023
 - Eliminates 204 FTE state government positions and eliminates the state board of health which aligns with state agency reorganization, including the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services merger and other departments that are being brought in.
 - Watching closely for the impact on local health agencies. There may be focus on local public health reorganization next year by the legislature
- All Staff Meeting 04/14/23 - University of Iowa Public Health academic partners shared preliminary results with staff on core competency survey

- Other agenda items were:
 - Launch of QI Culture self-assessment.
 - County safety coordinator provided staff update
 - Presentation of I-Smile program
- Vacancies: RN, LPN, Dental Hygienist, Community Health Worker (Temp), and Emergency Preparedness Specialist. Administrative Aide I position is also open. This position was due to the retirement of Becky Clark after 33 years of service.
- Community Health - Family Engagement project -- The Child and Adolescent Health (CAH) Grant requires recruitment of community members. First topic will be to review agency's Informing work with newly enrolled Medicaid families as part of the Care for Kids program. Part of the CAH grant funds will be used to compensate participants.
- Nutrition team working on summer gardens; waiting on grant proposals through Schoitz, the state, and the Physical Activity Access grant
- Disease Surveillance: TB cases increased to 12 active cases. Back in December it was 8 and is now 3x yearly average. Team is stretched thin with 2 RNs and one LPN covering current case load including 3 eDot, 2 daily window pediatric exposed, 8 weekly visits, and 40-42 LTBI monitoring for completion.
- Lockbox harm reduction - anticipating installation at Pathways, Northeast Iowa Food Bank, UnityPoint, and Elevate this spring
- COVID-19 After Action Report released 04/18/23 which provides lessons learned and recommendations about response. Part of recommendation is training staff on NIMS roles. Working on updating roles and chart and taking more advanced classes this summer
- Well Ordinance adopted by Board of Supervisors on 04/11/23
- Environmental Health busy with food inspections, well water testing and inspections, septic inspections, mosquito surveillance
 - 80 letters to homeowners for PFAS private well testing covered with Grants to Counties grant funds
 - Healthy Homes program which partners with Waterloo Community Development is busy with home and lead inspections despite some vacancies with Waterloo Community Development.
 - Food safety focused on retail standards 8 and 9
- In the Public Health Center, STI program re-evaluating workflows. Also working on offering later hours for clinic one day per week to extend access but will need to figure out building clinic security
 - Services at ACE-SAP canceled due to an impasse with insurance. ACE-SAP will continue to refer for services
 - Student shadowing in May – Oral Health

Dr. Pilkington asked for more information about lock boxes.

Ms. Emrich reviewed the lock box program, which was piloted in Linn County, that proved to be successful. Discussion on adding information on where to get Narcan kits in lockboxes. Unable to include Narcan kits in lockboxes due to the boxes not being temperature controlled.

Dr. Pilkington noted that there is currently a fentanyl bill that was recently passed. Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition is against the bill. Dr. Pilkington advised to keep an eye on the bill and any potential impact on harm reduction strategies. Cannot include certain items in the lockboxes.

Dr. Cornish asked about updates on meningococcal disease. Ms. Emrich noted there were no updates.

XIII. Communications Update presented by Gabbi DeWitt

Summary:

- 50 people attend community partners meeting during public health week to focus on community health workers and networking with all community health workers in the community
- 11 events already attended in April
- Neighborhood lead program outreach
- Upcoming events:
 - Attending college events for sexual health education
 - Pathways event for teens and parents
 - Resource Fair – Hispanic Community
- Congolese women's event- May
- Souttown magazine ads will now include an article along with the ad. This month is about sexual health testing and screening services, and May will have an article on food licensing.

XIV. Legislative and Strategic Plan Updates presented by Lisa Sesterhenn & Jared Parmater

Summary:

Lisa Sesterhenn provided summary:

- Legislative session ends Friday, April 28, 2023, but expected to go into next week
- IPHA has registered against bills and most of them were passed in some shape or form; exceptions: HF303 relating to powers and duties applicable to state of disaster and public health disasters and immunization information on a medical examiner investigation form.
- Signed or will be signed
 - HF661- annual statewide licenses for establishments offering the sale of food.
 - SF538 – Act relating to prohibited activities regarding gender transition procedures relative to minors and including effective date and applicability provisions SF 482 – an Act prohibiting persons from entering single and multiple occupancy restrooms or changing areas and other facilities in elementary and secondary schools that do not correspond with the person's biological sex and including effective date provisions.315 – raw milk
 - HF595 - Fentanyl omnibus Provides greater availability of naloxone. Test strips are not part of the final bill.
 - HF496- Education Omnibus: (parents' rights) limitations on HPV education, gender identity, library materials, other items relating to parental rights

Jared Parmater reviewed Environmental Health related bills

- SF315: A bill for an act relating to raw milk, by providing for the production of raw milk at certain dairies, the manufacture of products using raw milk, and the labeling and distribution of raw milk and manufactured products and making penalties applicable. (Formerly SSB 1107.) Effective date: 07/01/2023 - Expect to pass with regulations: no more than 10 animals, frequent testing required (of the animals)
 - Public Health is against this due to food safety, however there are families that have testified the benefits of raw milk
- Splash/spray pads will now require licensing
- Tattoos licensing update: no longer require High School Diploma or equivalent; many in the industry do not agree
- Farmers market updating to a statewide licensing, but along with this update is a change in home food licensing which opens what a home food establishment can cook and sell out of their homes. Black Hawk County food inspectors will do their best to educate those who obtain licensing on how to prepare food in their homes the safest way possible
- Fines will now be assessed for sewage time of transfer without proper documentation
- Possibility of several environmental health programs transferring from Iowa Department of Health and Human Services to Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals

Discussion: Mr. Botchway inquired if raw milk is cheaper. Mr. Parmater does not believe it will be cheaper since it is such a niche item and cannot be sold in stores.

Mr. Botchway asked if there would be a way to get a republican legislature to attend board of health meetings to better understand why these bills are being passed. Mr. Parmater states this really proves the need for advocacy for public health.

Dr Pilkington asked who is interested in raw milk. Mr. Parmater stated that there were mothers that testified how raw milk has benefited their families' lives and was much more well received than the regulatory attendees.

Mr. Botchway stated that engaging with legislatures to advocate has been challenging in all areas.

Ms. Emrich stated that the department is planning on engaging with legislatures in some type of forum before the next session starts. The department had attended Public Health Day on the Hill and spoke to Rep. Giddens earlier this year.

Dr. Roise added that in the past, forums have not been well attended. Mr. Botchway would like to find a way to reach out to the legislators to gauge interest in attending any kind of meeting or forum to learn more about the rural areas they represent and also for them to hear about advocacy for public health.

Ms. Sesterhenn noted that the original vision of the advocacy committee was to include board of health representation. Ms. Sesterhenn asked if one or two board of health members would like to be involved to let either Ms. Emrich or her know.

XV. Local Public Health Services FY24 Workplan Review* presented by Lisa Sesterhenn

Ms. Sesterhenn reviewed the workplan that was included in the board packet

- 100% of the grant funds are now being used for population health in Black Hawk which is ahead of where the state is asking. Iowa Health and Human Services is asking for all local public health to move to 100% population funding by FY27.
- Required areas of work and objectives remain the same as FY23. FY23 was the first year that the grant was structured to report on the objectives and activities
- Few activities were added and some removed that better describe how the funds are being utilized, but the work remains the same
- Three additional objectives are required area of work #3 strengthen public health infrastructure. The objectives (last three on the sheet) are to support workforce, QI, and building infrastructure for public health. Doing the work but this year's workplan clearly states that these are objectives and activities that the department is accountable for

No discussion or questions.

XVI. Next Board of Health Meeting: Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at 7:30am, 1407 Independence Ave. Room 420, Waterloo, IA.

XVII. The board moved into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:36am, moved by Ms. Garcia Fino and seconded by Mr. Botchway. Motion carried.

A. RESOLUTION-that pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Open Meetings Law, by the Authority of the Code of Iowa, Chapter 21.5(1)(i) the Black Hawk County Board of Health shall proceed into closed session.

- To discuss the professional competency of individuals whose appointment, hiring or performance is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and the individual requests a closed session.

B. MOTION-that the Board of Health meeting in closed session be adjourned.

8:36am: Mr. Botchway moved, and Dr. Cornish seconded to adjourn closed session to discuss and select the finalists for the Director of Public Health Position. Motion carried.

XVIII. Mr. Botchway moved, and Dr. Roise moved to authorize Baker Tilly to coordinate finalist interviews for the Public Health Director position. Motion carried.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT - For Vote

Mr. Botchway moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:31AM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Megan Olmstead, Secretary


Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington