

**BLACK HAWK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

April 27, 2022

The meeting of the Black Hawk County Board of Health was called to order at 7:31 a.m. by Chair, Rev. Dr. Mary Robinson. Members present: Dr. Disa Cornish (via video conferencing), Dr. Wesley Pilkington (via video conferencing), Dr. Adam Roise, Attorney Mike Treinen and Attorney Heather Prendergrast. Absent: Kingsley Botchway. A quorum was met.

Others present in person: Dr. Nafissa Cisse Egbuonye, Kaitlin Emrich, Bethany Fratzke, Andy Milone, Megan Olmstead, and Jared Parmater.

Others present via video conferencing: Jenna Diephouse, Micah Knebel, Linda Laylin, Rachael Mayer, Joshua Pikora, Aaron Reinke, Lori Rottinghaus, Toki Selby, Lisa Sesterhenn, Tonya Wilder, and Bridgett Wood.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

I. Approval of Agenda – For Vote

Discussion: None

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

II. Approval of Minutes\* For Vote

Discussion: None

Action: Dr. Cornish moved and Dr. Roise seconded to approve the Board of Health Minutes for March 30, 2022. Motion carried.

III. Amendment of January 26, 2022, Board of Health Minutes and February 23, 2022, Board of Health Minutes.

Discussion: None

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to amend the Board of Health Minutes from January 26, 2022, and February 23, 2022, to provide that action taken on item I. It was moved by Dr. Roise and seconded by Dr. Pilkington. Motion carried.

IV. Public Comments – No comments

V. Public Hearing-Lead-Based Paint Proposed Regulation\* 7:35am

- A. Dr. Cornish moved and Dr. Roise seconded to Open Public Hearing and receive all written and oral comments. Motion carried.

No oral comments or written comments received.

B. Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to close the Public Hearing at 7:38am. Motion carried.

VI. RESOLUTION: To adopt and submit to the Board of Supervisors for approval as Black Hawk County Health Regulation the proposed regulation entitled "Lead-Based Paint Regulation"

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to a roll call vote to pass the Lead-Based Paint Regulation to be submitted the Board of Supervisors for approval. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote was taken by Secretary, Megan Olmstead.

Chair, Rev. Dr. Mary Robinson: Aye; Vice Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington: Aye; Dr. Adam Roise; Aye; Dr. Disa Cornish: Aye; Mr. Kingsley Botchway: Absent. Motion passes.

VII. Dr. Cisse Egbuonye presented the PHAB Accreditation Plaque to the Board.

VIII. Public Health Nurses Week Proclamation was presented by Dr. Cisse Egbuonye and requested the Board of Health to Proclaim National Nurses week for the Black Hawk County Public Health Nurses.

Discussion: The board agreed to proclaim National Nurses Week and will recommend the Board of Supervisors to proclaim National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2022.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Pilkington seconded to approve and proclaim National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2022, for the Black Hawk County Public Health Nurses and recommend to the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors to proclaim National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2022, for the Black Hawk County Public Health Nurses. Motion carried.

IX. Health Department & COVID-19 Update

*Summary of Health Department Update presented by Dr. Cisse Egbuonye*

- Environmental Health busy season with temporary food licenses
- Working on grant reports, end of year reports, and new grants
- Successful applicant for the 1<sup>st</sup> Five Program (5-year grant cycle)
- Recruitment challenges with Environmental Health and Clinic vacancies
- Co-facilitated with IDPH a Quality Improvement training for the health department staff
- Strategic Plan implementation process will be presented by June meeting
- Encourage department staff to take time for themselves for work life balance

Discussion: Dr. Pilkington stated that the salary assessment that the Human Resources Director suggested to the Board of Supervisors recently was a good idea because job seekers are moving out of state for higher pay and better benefits.

Dr. Cisse Egbuonye agreed that compensation is a factor in filling vacancies, and this will be important data to evaluate the current pay structure. Will refer to Supervisor Laylin on the status of completing the compensation assessment.

Supervisor Laylin stated the last formal compensation assessment was completed in the 1980's. This is a good idea to assess current salaries and benefits to see where the county stands against other entities. Some of the Supervisors think that the county is competitive with salary and benefits.

Rev. Dr. Robinson stated that once the analysis is completed, best practices should be considered. Supervisor Laylin agreed that if action needs to be taken based on the results of the assessment, best practices should be considered.

Dr. Pilkington encouraged the supervisors to offer more attractive options like student loan forgiveness. Supervisor Laylin agreed that the board needs to be more proactive with salaries and benefits packages.

*Summary of COVID-19 Update presented by Mr. Pikora*

- Black Hawk County is currently at the Low community level with <200 new cases per 100k over the last 7 days, < 10 new admissions per 100k over the last 7 days, <10% 7-day average of staffed and patient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients.
- Current case numbers: 32,678 positive individuals, 32,829 recoveries, rates over last 7 days: 25 cases per 100k, 4 new covid admissions per 100k, 1.6% occupied inpatient beds, 475 deaths (very low levels per CDC metrics)
- Vaccines: Ages 12+ 71.7% - one dose administered, 67.3% fully vaccinated, continually increase each week; Ages 5-11 - 27.6% one dose administered, 23.9% fully vaccinated
- 4/18/22- Federal mask mandate was lifted for public transportation
- Removed COVID-19 banner at the top of the Black Hawk County Public Health website and replaced it with a widget that links to the CDC website for data updates

Discussion: Dr. Roise asked about the availability of Paxlovid in the county.

Mr. Pikora said there has been an increase in availability over the last few months. A prescription is still required to dispense the therapeutic drug and there is a locator tool available that he will send to Dr. Roise.

Dr. Roise asked if there will be any formal communication sent out.

Mr. Pikora said will work with the communication strategist on forming a plan once there is more availability.

Dr. Roise said that since the drug has a limited supply, he is not sure how aggressive the communication needs to be right now.

Dr. Pilkington stated that the federal pharmacy partners have been notified of the supply increase and availability coming soon.

X. Electronic Communication Policy was presented by Dr. Cisse Egbuonye - For Vote

Discussion: The board discussed "Banning People" page five under the Common Practice section. The board agreed that that in section E, the word "repeated" would be removed and there would be a process developed on "Banning People" from the social media sights to ensure unbiased decisions.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Pilkington seconded to approve the Electronics Communication Policy with the suggested edit to remove the word "repeated" on page five under Common Practice, letter E and that there will be a standard operating procedure created to determine the process of banning individuals from the social media sites when allowed. The board requested to review the standard operating procedure when completed. Motion carried.

XI. Purchase of Software – For Vote

Discussion: none

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Pilkington seconded to authorize the Public Health Director as signatory for the implementation of the Software as a Service (SaaS) solution for Tableau and to authorize payment for the SaaS solution with an annual subscription cost of \$3,000 funded with Local Public Health Services Grant (IDPH). Motion carried.

XII. Financials – *Bridgett Wood*

A. Disbursements\* – For Vote

Discussion: Ms. Wood reviewed the disbursements with the board.

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Cornish seconded to approve to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

B. Ms. Wood presented the Financial Report as of 04/22/2022 to the Board.

Discussion: None

XIII. Consent Agenda: Grants and Contracts\* - *Dr. Cisse Egbuonye* – 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 FY23 - Care for Yourself – Iowa Department of Public Health Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Services, IDPH
- B. Application FY23 - Immunization Services, IDPH
- C. Request for Proposal FFY23 - Child and Adolescent Health and Oral Health Programs, IDPH
- D. Memorandum of Understanding (New), Academic Health Department Partnership, University of Iowa College of Public Health
- E. Contract (New) 2022 Project Period 05/01/22-12/31/22 – After Action Report, Coll Consulting
- F. Service Agreement (New) Preventative Maintenance for Vaccine Refrigeration, Ross Refrigeration
- G. Memorandum of Understanding (Amendment 1) - Tuberculosis Direct Observed Therapy, IDPH
- H. Contract (Amendment 3E) – Care for Yourself WISEWOMAN Program, IDPH
- I. Contract (Amendment 4) – Iowa Get Screened: Colorectal Cancer Program, IDPH

Discussion: Dr. Cisse Egbuonye stated that item C is a complex grant and will help the department increase community engagement. The new MOU in item D is to create the academic health department model, which was made possible by University of Iowa College of Public Health being awarded ARPA funds through IDPH. Black Hawk, Johnson, and Linn counties are participants with this partnership which will support our workforce development.

Dr. Cisse Egbuonye stated for item E, bids were sent out to prepare an after-action report for COVID-19 analysis.

Ms. Emrich confirmed that three proposals were received, and four independent scorers were received. Coll was selected.

Dr. Cisse Egbuonye stated that information will be gathered internally, from external partners, and the vulnerable communities.

Dr. Cornish asked why the funding for item H was reduced. Bethany Fratzke will obtain that information and follow up.

Action: Dr. Cornish moved and Dr. Roise seconded to approve items A-I as presented on the grants and contracts memo. Motion carried.

XIV. For Information Only

A. IDPH and DHS Alignment Organization Chart was presented by Dr. Cisse Egbuonye

Discussion: Dr. Cisse Egbuonye reviewed the new alignment organization chart with the board. The alignment of IDPH and DHS will be effective July 1, 2022. It will be called Health and Human Services. This does not affect the local health departments. It may affect the state board of health. The concern is how much authority and influence this will have over local public health entities.

B. Legislative Update was presented by Lisa Sesterhenn.

Summary:

- 4/14/22 - Biden-Harris Administration Releases Agency Equity Action Plans to Advance Equity and Racial Justice Across the Federal Government
  - More than 90 federal agencies, including all Cabinet-level agencies, are releasing the first-ever Equity Action Plans that lay out more than 300 concrete strategies and commitments to address the systemic barriers in our nation's policies and programs that hold too many underserved communities back from prosperity, dignity, and equality
- The 100th day in the Iowa legislature has come and gone and Iowa lawmakers are at an impasse for many bills.
  - Disagreements on policy bills, such as the education package, are holding up the budget talks.
  - Ethanol bill was just passed by the Iowa Senate on 4/26/22
  - Bill HF2298 - requirements against COVID-19 immunizations for enrollment in K-12 schools, colleges, or childcare centers was placed as unfinished business and removed from the debate calendar
  - Bill HF2545 is dead and would have widely banned vaccinations and mask mandates for businesses, governmental entities, and schools.
    - A scaled-down version as an amendment to other legislation is an indication that some form of the bill could be alive and/or be part of an end of session discussion.
  - Bill HF2431 - Home-Based Food Businesses was approved by the House 66-25. It has been added to the Senate debate calendar.
  - Bill HF2412 - Radon testing and mitigation in schools is awaiting the governor's signature.

Discussion: No discussion

C. Board of Supervisors Update was provided by Supervisor, Linda Laylin

*Summary of Update:*

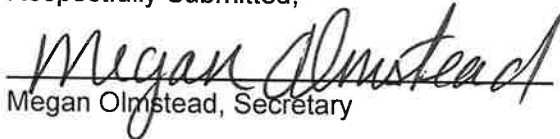
- She congratulated the department on achieving PHAB accreditation, thanked the department for all the hard work it took to obtain this, and stated she was looking forward to seeing the plaque in person at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.
- Building assessment update: Board of Supervisors will be meeting again with Envision on May 10, 2022, to clarify some questions each side had. This project will be funded partially by ARPA funds. Hoping for a unanimous decision to move forward with Phase I, which includes the clinic at the health department.
- Meeting with chief auditor and others to discuss ARPA requirements to ensure the county follows the documentation requirements

XV. Next Regular Board of Health Meeting: Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 7:30am, 1407 Independence Ave. Waterloo, IA.

XVI. Adjournment – For Vote

Action: Dr. Roise moved and Dr. Pilkington seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 a.m.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Megan Olmstead, Secretary

  
Rev. Dr. Mary Robinson, Chair