

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

June 28, 2023

The meeting of the Black Hawk County Board of Health was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair, Dr. Disa Cornish. Members attending: Kingsley Botchway (virtual), Dr. Adam Roise, Rosario Garcia Fino and Attorney, Heather Prendergast (virtual). Absent: Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington. A quorum was met.

Others present in person: Kaitlin Emrich, Megan Olmstead, and Matthew Verbraken.

Others present via video conferencing: William Aukes, Jenna Deiphouse, Gabbi DeWitt, Bethany Fratzke, Teresa King, Micah Knebel, Racheal Mayer, Sarah Mergenthaler, Jared Parmater, Lori Rottinghaus, Toki Selby, Lisa Sesterhenn, Rebecca Smith, Michelle Wiedner, and Tonya Wilder.

Unless otherwise noted, all actions were approved unanimously.

I. Approval of Agenda – For Vote

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Dr. Roise moved, and Ms. Garcia Fino seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

II. Approval of Minutes\* For Vote

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Ms. Garcia Fino moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to approve the Board of Health Minutes for the Regular Meeting May 31, 2023. Motion carried.

III. Public Comments – No comments.

IV. Teresa King presented Pathways Behavioral FY23 Services Report

*Summary*: Integrated Provider Network Grant – Substance Use & Problem Gambling

- Workplaces-engaged in communication to consider revising or adding policies regarding problem gambling in the workplace-in person and phone outreach and provided toolkits
- School Policies (Drug & Alcohol) in schools to revise or strengthen, but typically does not go over well with the school districts
  - Prime for Life 420 program
  - Botvin LifeSkills (Elementary, Middle and Highschool)
  - Generation Rx: safe practice when using opioids
  - Community Partnership Grant (Tobacco/Nicotine)
    - ISTEP (Iowa Students for Tobacco Education and Prevention) Chapters
    - Educate community members who influence and connect with youth
    - Tobacco/Nicotine Free Policy Adoption (businesses, community events, schools, parks, etc.)
    - Smoke Free Homes (rental properties)
  - Increase the number of users to Quitline Iowa & My Life My Quit (MLMQ)
  - Implement the Ask, Advise, Refer (AAR) protocol within provider practices programs

- State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant
  - Increase awareness of stimulant and opioid use disorders in Service Area 8
  - Media Campaign Distribution- three different media platforms
    - “See the Person” media campaign
    - Bus ad on Black Hawk County MET bus
    - KWWL TV Commercial
  - Media Campaign: “Every Day is Drug Take Back Day”
  - Naloxone – “Be Prepared to Save a Life”
  - Opioid toolkit: “Tackling Opioids Through Prevention for Athletes” will be implemented
  - Promotion of Tele-Naloxone and Community Based Pharmacy Programs- goal to provide access to naloxone services and technical assistance to businesses, pharmacies, and school district personnel
  - Community Based Policy Change – build community capacity to address the needs and impacts of drug endangered children and their families through a minimum of two Core Drug Endangered Children approach trainings

Discussion: Dr. Roise asked what kind of policy changes are being advocated. Ms. King stated vaping has become the biggest problems identified by administrators (especially after detectors were installed). There is not clear protocol on what happens when a student gets caught with tobacco or vaping device and there is a need to have clear guidance on consequences and consistency with enforcing to all students.

Dr. Roise asked how much of the intervention is about intervention vs. punishment. Ms. King stated the programs are geared towards treatment and cessation and support vs. punishment.

Dr. Cornish asked if there was a more specific goal with the integrated provider network, Gen Rx program. Ms. King stated that the three trainings in the community indicate the risk of opioids and have met goal in quarter three.

V. Rebecca Smith presented Syphilis in Black Hawk County

*Summary*

- Nationally, the rates of Syphilis (All Stages) have been increasing
- Black Hawk County Syphilis (All Stages) rate per 100,000 population has been above the state’s Syphilis (All Stages) rate in the last 3 years
- On the state level, Syphilis (All Stages) case counts in females have increased by 260% from 2017 to 2022
- Syphilis is treatable and congenital syphilis can be averted
- Recommend opt-out testing at the third trimester and delivery for pregnant women in Black Hawk County per CDC screening recommendations
- Local providers have been sent new protocols in a letter form by Black Hawk County Public Health

Discussion: Dr. Cornish asked if the stage at diagnosis matches Black Hawk County vs. statewide or nationally. Ms. Smith stated no data on this available at the time but can investigate.

VI. Personnel Request\* - Kaitlin Emrich – For Vote

Discussion: Ms. Emrich explained the request to convert a vacant health educator position from the Community Health program to a community health worker specifically for the nutrition program. She clarified that the program focus of the position would not change. She also explained the difference in the roles and how the program has shifted so this change will better fit the needs of the program. Previously, the program had two health educators which both supported the program. One of those roles has changed to a Community Program Coordinator. This will not cause any negative impact with the programs.

Action: Dr. Roise moved, and Ms. Garcia Fino seconded to approve the elimination of a vacant Health Educator (GS14) position in the Community Health program and replace with a Community Health Worker (GS12) position with a cost savings of \$4,200. Motion carried.

VII. Request for Proposal & Set Public Hearing for July 26, 2023, at 7:30am – Mobile Clinic (ARPA Funds) \* For Vote – Matthew Verbraken

Discussion: Dr. Cornish asked if more information will be provided at the public hearing itself. Mr. Verbraken said that the bids will be sent out to three vendors then, once bids are received, the team will conduct a bid review and score each bid. This will be brought to the board at the Public Hearing.

Action: Ms. Garcia moved, and Dr. Roise seconded to authorize the department to seek proposals for a mobile health clinic unit and to set a public hearing for the mobile health clinic unit Request For Proposal on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 7:30am during the regular Board of Health Meeting. Motion carried.

VIII. Financials – *Matthew Verbraken*

A. Disbursements\* – For Vote

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

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

B. Mr. Verbraken presented the Financial Report (new format presented that matches the state format) as of 06/23/2023 to the board.

Discussion: Ms. Emrich stated that the budget may need amended based on where the funding is allocated to.

IX. 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. Contract (Renewal) 5884CRC10 – FY 2024 – Iowa Get Screened: Colorectal Cancer Program, Iowa Department of HHS
- B. Contract (Extension) FY2023 – Registered Nurse Home Health Care Services, MercyOne Waterloo Medical Center
- C. Cooperative Agreement (Renewal) August 1, 2023 – May 31, 2026 – Septic Tank Pumper Inspections, Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- D. Contract (Renewal) – FY2024 – Care For Yourself – Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program, Iowa Department of HHS
- E. Contract 28E-2023-PTT-07 – Amendment 1 – Pool & Tattoo Inspection, Iowa Department of HHS

- F. Contract (Amendment 1) – FY2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative: Implementation Phase, Iowa Department of HHS

Discussion: No discussion.

Action: Dr. Roise moved, and Ms. Garcia Fino seconded to approve items A-F as presented on the grants and contracts memo. Motion Carried.

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

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

Summary:

- Administration
  - ARPA Funds: Mobile Clinic RFP is progressing, no update on space needs with Pinecrest Building
  - Unspent COVID-19 Response grant funds - contract extensions are pending at the state level
    - Digital Sign- installed at Pinecrest
    - Conference Room Tech Upgrades – all done except Rm 201 (Chapel)
    - Software Training ongoing, PowerPoint in July
  - Communications Plan update
  - Workforce Development Plan – next steps after staff assessments completed in last year
  - Trainings completed:
    - Incident Command Training
    - Active Shooter Awareness Training
    - Professional Development Trainings starting 6/28/23-06/30/23 (Offered to all county departments)
    - Out of State Conferences/Trainings attended:
      - STD Engage Conference in New Orleans - Athena Speller
      - Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Conference in Virginia Beach- Jenna Diephouse & Ameera Tahir
      - GIS training: Prediction and Machine Learning – Aaron Reinke & Rachael Mayer
  - Office Space adjustments for FY24, no vacant offices available
  - Vacancies (10), 3 filled that will start in July
    - Administrative Aide I – filled, start date July 10
    - Community Health Worker-Temp – interviews scheduled
    - Community Health Worker – Nutrition- scheduling interviews
    - Dental Hygienist (2) – One filled, start date July 3, 2023
    - Director – pending recruitment
    - Emergency Preparedness Specialist- filled, start date July 10, 2023
    - Registered Dental Assistant – pending interviews
    - Public Health Nurse/LPN (2) – still open
- Operations
  - Community Health

- Iowa HHS is closing the Iowa WISEWOMAN contract end of 9/30/2023, FY24 Budget will be amended
- Software program Signify is transitioning to IowaConnected (1<sup>st</sup> Five and Child Health Programs)
- Family Engagement Group- working on policies and procedures
- Green Iowa Americorps Service Members- recruiting for Fall
- Disease Surveillance
  - Review COVID After Action Report with incident command team
  - Transitioning Emergency Preparedness program to the Emergency Preparedness Specialist
  - Tabletop exercise completed with Mindy Benson, Black Hawk County Emergency Management Coordinator
  - Providing feedback to transition to state-provided disease investigation software (IDSS) in 2024Vaccine
  - Mpox vaccination: eligibility remains the same
- Environmental Health
  - Busy Summer Temporary Licensing Season
  - Farmers Market inspections completed
  - Septic, Wells inspections continue
  - PFAS testing private well water (Grants to Counties) – recommending reverse osmosis and providing education to those with positive PFAS tests
  - Food Safety trainings to specific communities/restaurants
  - Elevated blood levels, investigations and follow up, events and outreach this summer
- Public Health Center
  - Childcare Nurse Consulting implemented handwashing & toothbrushing presentation at daycare centers, exploring initiatives to encourage participation in education sessions, and health and safety checks
  - Rapid Test for HIV and Syphilis in July (partnering with HHS)
  - Focus is on daily operations, currently have four vacancies in the clinic

Discussion: No discussion.

- XII. Next Board of Health Meeting: Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 7:30am, 1407 Independence Ave. Room 420, Waterloo, IA.
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT -  
Ms. Garcia Fino moved and Dr. Roise seconded to adjourn at 8:43am. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Megan Olmstead, Secretary

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Chair, Dr. Wesley Pilkington