

# BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

## TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

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**Monday November 28, 2022 – 12:00 P.M.**  
**Meeting held via Zoom - Tama Co. Annex Building**

**Due to heightened potential public health risks related to the COVID-19 virus, all Tama County Board of Health meetings will be held electronically through ZOOM or by phone conference until further notice.**

**Present:** Sally Custer – via Zoom                      Chris Behrens                      Jolynn Harger  
Lori Johnson                      Sherry Parks, PA-C, via Zoom                      Mick Ferris – via Zoom  
Bill Faircloth – via phone                      Dr. Polly Hineman, via Zoom                      Shannon Zoffka

**Absent:** Heather Bombei

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Parks, Chair, at 12:10 p.m.

Sherry Parks read the following statement:

Per Iowa Code, Chapter 21.8, Electronic Meetings, the Tama County Board of Health will conduct meetings via zoom or by phone conference due to circumstances where such a meeting in person is impossible or impractical.

Dr. Hineman moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Mick Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Micki Ferris moved to accept the Minutes of the November 28, 2022 meeting as presented. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Reports:**

#### **Environmental Report:**

Chris reported that one person that applied for a grant for a new septic system, received \$22,000. There are a couple others that applied who grants are still pending.

Chris will be attending the IOWWA Conference in January for a couple of days. It is held in Des Moines.

#### **Director's Report**

*Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement (QAPI):* The next meeting is in December.

*Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA):* Shannon is continuing to work on tallying the surveys.

*Supporting Kids in Prevention (SKIP):* SKIP meetings continue to be held monthly via Zoom. STC High Schoolers are working on a new logo for SKIP. The November meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

*Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP):* Meetings continue to be offered virtually and in person.

The POD (Point of Distribution) Workbook was updated and submitted prior to the deadline. The purpose of the Workbook is to plan for and identify viable POD locations in our County for various public health emergencies.

Shannon, Penny and Chris completed NIMS coursework for PIO (Public Information Officer), as directed by the Coalition.

We belong to Region 1 Central Iowa Healthcare Coalition for our emergency preparedness along with 13 other counties. These regions were created by the State. Our Coalition discussed the State's Pandemic Resiliency Initiative Grant at meetings and decided that we were not interested in participating in the grant/initiative as a group. The funds from the Grant have been allocated to Marion County, who has hired individuals to assist with the grant objectives. The Coalition had hired the company, All Clear, to assist all 14 County Health Departments to

develop and update public health plans so we have continuity in our Coalition in case of an emergency. All the counties in the Coalition want to continue to stick with the plan we developed by utilizing All Clear. We could work with Marion County on a plan if we choose. We were informed at the last Coalition meeting that IHHS has contacted BOH members in certain counties in our Coalition with questions regarding not going with the grant/initiative.

*Human Resources:* Multiple meetings are being held by the County Safety and HR departments regarding the new website being built.

Shannon and Lori attended a training provided by the County regarding Conflict Resolution.

*Communicable Disease:* There were no communicable disease cases in October. There was 3 animal bites in October.

*Public Health:* The Mobile Food Pantry served 185 households, which included 589 individuals, in October.

Shannon attended a Succession Planning Workshop in Newton. This was hosted by IHHS for Region 6 Directors. This was brought about because during the Pandemic there were a high number of Directors that resigned.

We will be working to identify critical positions in the Agency and succession planning for each of those positions.

Vision screenings were completed at MICA Head Start.

Our School Immunization Audits were completed on time.

We have hosted 8 Coffee Talks so far. Attendance has been anywhere from 1 to 7 people. There are four more talks scheduled through the remainder of the year. Topics covered are Influenza, Flu Shots and why they are important, and where they are available, Winter Safety, Energy Assistance, and services provided by our Agency.

Our 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House was held on November 9<sup>th</sup>. 135 people attended.

We have met with the design team for the mobile unit to clarify layout and needs. The unit will support vaccination clinics, could be used as a POD site, basic first aid, and bringing the Nest program and other Clinics to rural towns in the County.

*COVID:* Tama County has continued to have a low transmission rate. We were notified by the State that we currently have a long-term care in outbreak status in the County.

*Maternal Health Program:*

Nest Class was held on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The topic was the Period of Purple Crying. 11 families were in attendance.

Flyers have been posted and distributed throughout the County to advertise Nest class dates and topics. They were also distributed via email to various groups as there seemed to be some confusion from neighboring counties about what the Nest provides for education.

Our Agency routinely advertises and promotes activities via Facebook. We have pages for Tama County Public Health & Home Care, SKIP, and Maternal Health & Nest. We also advertise in the local newspapers, through flier distribution, and radio and billboards when funding allows.

*Home Health:*

We are preparing for a switch to OASIS E on January 1, 2023. The nurses will watch educational webinars each week for the next four weeks. Annette Lee will be onsite to offer further education to the nurses on the changes and updates to OASIS.

Penny Tyynismaa attended a two day training on OASIS E in Des Moines and then sat for the Certificate for OASIS Specialist clinical exam and passed. She received her COS-C designation. To achieve the COS-C designation, an individual must successfully complete a timed 100 item exam. This exam is the only nationally standardized test

that strictly evaluates a clinician's knowledge of CMS OASIS guidelines. This is a very big accomplishment and we are very proud of Penny.

**Waiver:** October: Four patients were served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver. There were 7 Maternal Health Home visits in October.

**Financial Report:**

Admissions decreased for the month of October. Skilled Nurse visits decreased. Home Health Aide visits and hours also decreased for the month of October. Our revenue increased for the month of October.

We are purchasing a rebuilt 2017 Chrysler Van from K&K Auto Body for \$10,000.

The Medicare Cost Report has been reviewed by our CPA and submitted to Medicare last Tuesday.

Beth Miller came and did her audit. It took a little longer than usual because of the extra COVID money that we received.

Shannon gave an explanation of the ARF Funds that we received. These funds had to be disbursed to certain areas. These funds came about due to COVID.

Micki Ferris moved to approve the Financial Report. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

A. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Contract with Health Partners. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Memorandum of Understanding with East Central Iowa "Network Partners" with Mercy Medical Center – Hall Perrine Cancer Center. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Facility Credentialing and Re-Credentialing Application with United Healthcare. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Molina Healthcare of Iowa, Inc. Home and Community Based Provider Services Agreement. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Molina Healthcare of Iowa, Inc. Hospital Services Agreement (for Home health Services). Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize Assistant Director to sign Re-Credentialing Facility Application for Wellmark, Inc. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Future Meeting Dates:** After discussion, the next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, December 19, 2022 at Noon due to the office being closed for Christmas on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant