

**BUTLER COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE
610 OAK STREET
ALLISON, IA 50602**

Telephone (319) 346-6575

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
April 8, 2025**

BOH Members Present: Joyce Dikes, Deb Gayer, Dr. Lindstrom

Absent: Greg Barnett and Chris Showalter

Others Present: Jennifer Becker, Kari Coates, Jennifer Nichols, Misty Kofron, Tiffany Stanbrough

Visitors: Carla Miller and Wendy Noel from North Iowa Community Action Organization (NICAO)

The regular meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. at the EMA Meeting Room by Deb Gayer. No public comment was heard.

The staff from North Iowa Community Action Organization (NIACO) gave reports on programs that they provide for Butler County residents.

Joyce Dikes made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and this was seconded by Dr. Lindstrom. Motion carried.

Dr. Lindstrom made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, and this was seconded by Joyce Dikes. Motion carried.

The updated Financial Report was distributed. Joyce Dikes made a motion to approve the following claims: 3/4/25, 3/11/25, 3/18/25, 3/25/25, 4/1/25, 4/8/25 and 4/15/25 this was seconded by Dr. Lindstrom.

Misty Kofron gave the Environmental Health Report. See attached notes.

Kari Coates gave the EMS update. They got a second response vehicle. EMS class is still going well, only class that NIACC has going. SIM truck came last night 4/7/25 which is basically an ER set up. Students got good exposure on what to expect. A cadaver lab was offered to EMS and Public Health and had a good turnout, 22 people took advantage of the opportunity, it gives a person a different perspective on injuries, traumas and medical conditions and is a great educational experience. We have an official Peer to Peer Support Group in Butler County, policies and procedures were discussed at the meeting last month and we will continue to have meetings. There is a clinical director that specializes in mental health and has taken the front-line staff. Great progress has been made and helped us retain our front-line staff. There is a remote possibility of Butler County EMS doing an advanced EMT class this fall.

Jennifer Becker gave the Program Updates as follows:

1. Grants- Immunization grant was submitted in mid-February, and we are receiving level funding for FY 26, that amount is \$8,585. LPHS grant, the current grant is for 5 years, and FY 26 will be year 3. I have submitted parts of the grant application that were due, and the budget will be submitted in August. Our grant amount for FY 26 is \$43,978. The grant must be split by 75% to community care and 25% to individual care. Care for Yourself grant, the application has been released, and we were awarded 200 spots and \$3,600 for outreach. We were also given Worth and Winnebago counties to manage, which brings our total to 9 counties.
2. Child Passenger Safety- With Tammy Fleshner retiring, the full-time car seat technician is not available as often as she was before. Tammy is willing to come to the office but there

are also times when she won't be available. Kara Powers has offered to become a car seat tech, and we are working with Tammy for when that training will be available.

3. Communicable Diseases- Since our last meeting we have had one case of cryptosporidiosis. I have followed one dog bite and I'm currently following 2 cat bites. Our TB patient finished his medication on March 27, 2025. He has a follow up visit with the infectious disease doctor tomorrow via telehealth. He doesn't have the equipment or ability to complete a telehealth visit so I will go out to his house and assist him with the visit.
4. Home Health- In February, the nurses made 183 visits, 170 visits in March. HCAs made 186 visits in February and 192 visits in March. Physical therapy there were 33 visits in February and 21 in March. Occupational therapy there were 20 visits February and only 6 in March. No speech therapy visits in either month.

The staff update was given by Jennifer Becker as follows: I was able to hire a PRN HCA. She started on March 31, 2025, and is currently in her orientation period. She started completing her skill check off list in the patients' home with RN observation. She is from Dumont and will be ready to go on her own next week.

Policy review was handed out by Jennifer Becker: On January 1st a new policy was required for Medicare. The policy outlines how we will ensure that we have the capacity to meet the needs of the patients that are referred to us. It states we will look at the patients' needs at the time of the referral, what our case load is at the time of the referral and the level of acuity of our current patients. We also need to look at our staff capacity and what the staff's current skill level is and if we can meet the needs of the patient based on their needs versus our skills. This policy was adapted from Floyd County Public Health. Deb Gayer made motion to approve the policy and this was approved by Joyce Dickes and seconded by Dr. Lindstrom.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, at 4:00 p.m. Joyce Dickes made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Lindstrom seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Tiffany Stanbrough, for



Joyce Dickes