

**BUTLER COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE
COURTHOUSE, BOX 325
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**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
December 13, 2022**

BOH Members Present: Greg Barnett, Deb Gayer, Chris Showalter, Dr. Lindstrom
Others Present: Jennifer Becker, Misty Kroeze, Tammy Fleshner
Absent: Joyce Dickes

The regular meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. at the EOC Meeting Room by Greg Barnett. No public comment was heard.

Deb Gayer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, and this was seconded by Chris Showalter. Motion carried.

Chris Showalter made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, and this was seconded by Deb Gayer. Motion carried.

The updated Financial Report was distributed. Deb Gayer made a motion to approve the following claims: 10-25-22, 11-1-22, 11-15-22, 11-29-22, 12-6-22, 12-13-22 and 12-20-22, and this was seconded by Chris Showalter.

Misty Kroeze gave the Environmental Health Report. See attached notes. She then presented her Budget proposal for FY 23-24. Chris Showalter made a motion to approve the budget proposal as presented, and this was seconded by Dr. Lindstrom. Misty stated that Becky Schrage is currently working about 12 hours per week, and she is doing well.

Jennifer Becker gave the Program Updates as follows:

1. Chris Showalter and Dr. Lindstrom's terms on the Board of Health both expire 12-31-22. Jennifer asked if they would consider renewing their terms, and they both agreed. She will take this information to the Board of Supervisors for official reappointment.
2. The new Immunization freezer is up and running well. The new thermometer that alerts us by text if the temperatures are out of range is working, but it has not sent out any alerts, as the freezer and refrigerator are staying in range. We received a survey from the IDPH Immunization Bureau last week, asking what big products we need. We requested a new purpose-built freezer (to cover the cost of the new freezer we already have), and an alerting thermometer (to cover the cost of the one we already purchased). Per the instructions of the survey, we also requested an ultracold freezer. It was strongly encouraged that we purchase an ultracold freezer. The survey has been submitted, but we have not heard anything back yet.
3. Nancy Hemann has assembled Quit Kits to be distributed to the middle and high schools in the county after the first of the year. These kits will be given to the Guidance Counselors to distribute to students or staff who express interest in stopping using tobacco products and vape. After discussion, the Board of Health suggested that she distribute kits to the Elementary Schools as well, as the upper elementary students are vaping.
4. Nancy Hemann also works with the Care for Yourself Program. She has filled 59 of the 100 slots allotted for the year. Last week she had a young, uninsured woman who was able to get a mammogram through the CFY program. This woman was diagnosed with breast cancer, and Nancy worked with her to get Presumptive Medicaid, so that she could start treatments immediately instead of waiting until after January 15th, when she would be eligible for insurance through her employer.
5. Four buildings within 3 school districts have had 10% of their students out due to illness. Symptoms include running nose, sore throat, cough, fever, abdominal pain and vomiting. Several have been diagnosed with Influenza A. This started last week already, and has continued this week. I have been providing education to the school nurse or principal about stopping transmission, but Christmas break might be needed to stop it completely.

6. We have one Long Term Care facility that has been under a COVID outbreak since November 18, 2022, but their last positive resident is due to come out of isolation tomorrow.
7. They have no new positive cases since December 6, 2022. A total of 11 residents and 3 staff were ill, but none critically.
8. Immunization Card Audits were completed and submitted to the Iowa Department of Public Health by the deadline.
9. Visit stats were then given. 482 home visits were made in October, and 458 were made in November. We have remained at full staff since Kenzee returned from maternity leave early October, but now have one of the aides off due to Covid. She will be able to return to work next Monday. Until then, PRN Aide staff is picking up extra patients, and the nurses are also giving baths as needed.
10. There have been no new dog or cat bites since our last meeting, and we have had no new reportable diseases reported to us!

The building is completely framed, including the interior walls. Chris Showalter reported that the steel has been put on the roof. They have started hanging sheetrock, and the electrician has started roughing in the electrical. Jennifer stated that the bulletin board outside of our office has pictures of the progress.

Jennifer then presented the FY 23-24 Budget. Due to an injury, Joyce was unable to attend today's meeting, but she did review the budget and approved it. The budget proposal is as realistic as possible. Everything possible has been cut with the exception of wage increases. A comparison was made between a 5% increase and a 3% increase. The smaller increase would only save the agency less than \$10,000. Utilities have also been added to the expenditures, which has never been in the budget before. The revenue budget is almost the same. The decrease in revenue reflects the decrease in preparedness dollars from Iowa Department of Public Health. The grant allocations are what we are receiving for the current year. We won't know the actual amounts for FY 23-24 until the grant applications are released in February and March. Discussion followed regarding the Cost of Living Increase being 8.7%. The Compensation Board is to meet in the next few weeks. The building insurance is currently covered by Chris Showalter and the EMA Budget. Greg Barnett recommended that another nurse be hired, as any small leave of absence creates staffing issues. Chris Showalter made a motion to approve the budget with the addition of another RN, and a minimum of 5% wage increase, depending on the recommendations from the Compensation Board. This was seconded by Deb Gayer. Tammy and Jennifer will rework the budget with the additional RN, and send it to the Board members for an electronic vote.

Greg Barnett then asked that Jennifer Becker prepare a statement regarding the Carbon Pipelines and how they relate to Public Health concerns. Jennifer will work on a draft, and send it out for approval. Chris Showalter stated that he has samples from other counties and will send them to Jennifer. We will also need to have our County Attorney look at it before it is publicized.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, February 14th, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Tammy Fleshner, for



Joyce Dickes