

**BUTLER COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE  
COURTHOUSE, BOX 325  
ALLISON, IA 50602**

Telephone (319) 267-2934

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
August 9, 2022**

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

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

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

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

The updated Financial Report was distributed. Chris Showalter made a motion to approve the following claims: 6-30-22, 7-19-22, 8-2-22, and 8-16-22; this was seconded by Deb Gayer. Motion carried.

Misty Kroeze gave the Environmental Health Report. See attached notes. Environmental Health Auditor reports were distributed. Discussion held re: well driller and possible license revocation. Per Board recommendation, will give written warning and continue to document. Will revoke license if problems continue. Deb Gayer made a motion to hire seasonal help for 12-15 hours per week to begin with. Chris Showalter seconded this motion.

Jennifer Becker gave the Program Updates as follows:

\*The new grant year is underway for all of the State Grants. All contracts have been signed. Year end reports for the fiscal year just completed have been submitted. The LPHS grant billing is different this year from prior years. Tammy is working on this, as we now bill for actual time spent instead of visits.

\*There is a mandatory LPHS Grant meeting in Cedar Rapids on September 13<sup>th</sup>, which Jennifer will be attending.

\*Communicable Disease: We have had 3 cases of cryptosporidiosis since our last meeting, and 1 case of E. coli.

\*Multiple dog bite cases have been reported and needed follow up this summer, at least one per week, and sometimes 2 or 3 cases. There was also a case of a stray cat biting a little girl. The little girl was started on rabies vaccine at the ER where she went for treatment.

\*Covid cases in the Long-Term Care facilities are increasing. We have 3 facilities in outbreak status right now. Only one facility has ill residents, the other 2 are staff only, at this point.

\*We were notified 2 weeks ago that the Dumont Care Center will be closing on October 3<sup>rd</sup> due to staffing problems. Residents and staff will be transferred to other ABCM facilities.

\*We added an activity to our LPHS claim so that we can bill for everything related to the Board of Health. BOH Support is a billable activity, but we need approval so we can officially claim it. Chris Showalter made a motion to approve adding Local Board of Health Support to the LPHS Grant workplan. This was seconded by Joyce Dickes. Motion carried.

\*The annual sub-fund agreement was approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 21, 2022. The Board of Health now needs to approve this agreement. Chris Showalter made a motion to approve this agreement, and Deb Gayer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Only changes include the dates and the amount of money the Board of Supervisors agree to put into our budget for FY 2022-2023. The amount for FY 2022-2023 is \$315,257.00. The Sub-fund was signed by Deb Gayer.

\*The Board of Supervisors have approved an increase in mileage, effective July 1, 2022. The rate is currently \$0.575 per mile. The wording states that the County mileage rate will be \$.05 less than the Federal Rate.

\*We have been super busy with home visits in the past month or so. The staff made 526 home visits in June, which is up from 491 visits in May. In July, we only made 426 visits, but we didn't take any referrals for the last 2 weeks of the month due to staff shortage.

The Building Update was presented by Jennifer and Chris Showalter. The General Contractor has been awarded. Chris has been made the Signatory Authority. Steege Construction was awarded the contract. Chris signed the contract, and sent it in. He has been looking over purchase agreements. They look good. Plans are to break ground by the end of the month. Heat is to be turned back on in Chris' building by October. The Building must be enclosed by November. Project is to be completed in May so that the agency can move into the new building in June.

Staff Updates were presented by Jennifer Becker.

\*One of our Home Care Aides, Jaime Johnson, filed unemployment against us, even though she was not able to perform home visits yet. We were instructed by the Auditor's office to put her back to work, even if it is not performing visits. She has been in the office sorting and filing. She will be having her other hip replaced on August 22, and will be off for another 12 weeks, but she hopes she will be able to come into the office to work after 4-6 weeks. She was instructed that we would have to have a release from her surgeon before she would be able to work again.

\*A PRN home care aide was hired last Friday. Kathy Heeren is a former home care who works part time in the Aplington School kitchen. She is willing to help out in the afternoons as needed. The preemployment background checks are being done now, and then we will be able to start the orientation process. She has to complete all of the current orientation requirements, even though she used to work for us.

\*Home Care Aide Benefit changes have been discussed, and the Public Health Addendum to the County Handbook has been updated to reflect the changes in the benefits the Home Care Aides are eligible to receive. Greg Barnett approved these changes by email. Deb Gayer made a motion to approve the Addendum for Public Health, including the changes in Home Care Aide benefits, and this was seconded by Joyce Dickes. These benefit changes will go into effect September 1, 2022.

\* Mackenzie Gillen had her baby girl on July 20<sup>th</sup>, and will be off on maternity leave until October 3, 2022.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 11th at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Tammy Fleshner, for



Joyce Dickes