

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

Telephone (319) 346-6575

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
October 10, 2023**

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

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

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

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

The updated Financial Report was distributed. Joyce Dickes made a motion to approve the following claims: 8-22-23, 8-29-23, 9-5-23, 9-12-23, 9-19-23, 9-26-23, 10-3-23, 10-10-23 and 10-17-23, and this was seconded by Dr. Lindstrom.

Misty Day gave the Environmental Health Report. See attached notes. The Grants to Counties Policies and Procedures Update was presented, discussed, and signed by Greg Barnett.

Kari Coates introduced herself as the new Butler County EMS Coordinator, sharing her background in EMS and Butler County. She outlined her goals for the future of this program, including becoming an EMT Instructor and starting a Peer to Peer Support Group. She is learning the administrative side of this position, and has met with the Board of Supervisors, City Council Members, EMS Services and Dispatchers. She will be visiting Dispatching centers from the counties surrounding Butler County so that she can understand and possibly make recommendations for a better system. She is now a member of all of the EMS Services in the County, and when she responds with their truck and driver, that service is able to bill for the call. She started responding to EMS calls on September 28, 2023. She has had 8 responses so far, acting as a first responder and has transported 1 patient to the hospital with the Dumont service. She wants to be seen as a resource to the EMS Services, to assist them, and not to take over. She is in the process of obtaining 22 new AEDs for law enforcement through the Helmsley grant. The current AEDs will be disbursed throughout the County once they have been confirmed that they are in working order and not recalled.

Jennifer Becker gave the Program Updates as follows:

1. The Department of Inspection and Appeals (Medicare Surveyors) arrived yesterday (October 9th) around noon for our every 3-year survey. They have made 3 home visits so far, and are reviewing charts and policies / procedures. They should be here through Wednesday or Thursday.
2. Visits numbers were given to the Board of Health – 435 in August, up from 337 in July, and 377 in September.
3. The Community Health Needs Assessment is due the end of November. A survey will be distributed to the public in October and early November, with the data compiled and submitted to IDPH.
4. Nancy Hemann delivered mini footballs and mini volleyballs to the schools in our service area so that the cheerleaders or players could throw them out during the games. These balls had the BCC logo and our phone number on them. The North Butler Announcers mentioned us by name and gave a little information about our agency, along with our contact information.

5. The Immunization Card Audits for the schools will be finished tomorrow by MacKenzie Gillen. The daycare audits will be finished next Wednesday. These are due to the State by the end of October.
6. Communicable Disease investigations have been busy the past two months. We are currently following two infants infected with E. coli. These infants were both from the same daycare. They have been excluded from daycare until they can give 2 negative stool samples separated by 24 hours. One of the infant's father has also become infected. He is not excluded from work because his job does not involve child care, food service or healthcare. The infants have each given 6 stool samples, with the first one being negative last Friday. Hopefully they will be cleared soon. We have also had 4 campylobacter cases in the past month and 1 cryptosporidiosis case. Jennifer has also followed up on 4 animal bites (3 dogs & 1 cat) since last meeting.
7. The State of Iowa is wrapping up the Alignment assessment, and expect to have the final report by the end of October.

Jennifer then gave the Staff Update. Lonna and Tammy have both voiced their intentions to retire in the near future. Lonna plans to retire in May, 2024, and Tammy plans to leave in January, 2025. Jennifer expressed her concern that she will have difficulty finding replacements. She would like to advertise as soon as possible. She would like someone hired by January 2024 for Tammy's position, so that they would have a full year to learn all of the annual duties including the Medicare Cost Report, Budget preparation, etc. She is also very concerned about the low starting wage for nurses. Permission was grant to start advertising.

The EMS Coordinator Budget was also discussed. Tammy will contact Leslie Groen, Auditor as to whether that will be its' own Department or part of another budget – Public Health or Sheriff's Department, as it currently is.

The meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, December 12th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss FY 24-25 Budget. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Tammy Fleshner, for



Joyce Dickes