

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

Telephone (319) 346-6575

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
August 27, 2024**

BOH Members Present: Greg Barnett, Joyce Dickes, Dr. Lindstrom, Deb Gayer, Chris Showalter

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

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.

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

Deb Gayer 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: 6/25/24, 6/28/24, 7/9/24, 7/16/24, 7/23/24, 7/30/24, 8/6/24, 8/13/24, 8/20/24, 8/27/24, 9/3/24 and this was seconded by Deb Gayer.

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

Kari Coates gave the EMS update. She is getting ready for the vote at the November 5<sup>th</sup> election. Brochures have been created with the proper verbiage and shares a lot of information about the VOTE essential service and what we are asking for, why we are asking, and how much we are asking for. Power point presentations have been created to share with city councils and town halls regarding the vote. Regarding numbers we have responded to 77 being the first to respond only, 80 transports, 40 of them being the sole transport and the other 40 with somebody else transporting. Less than 7% were cancelled. What we are doing is working. I have been receiving positive feedback. The only negative is from dispatchers that we don't have enough of us and would like to see more at nights and weekends. With the expansion vote, we should be able to do weekends and nights. That will be determined after the vote. The EMT class had a 100% pass rate out of the 9 students. Five students have taken and passed the National Registry test and 3 have taken it once and rescheduling another test to be taken and 1 not taken yet. Would like to start another class in January. Exciting news, we are hosting a blood drive celebrating the 1 year since grand opening.

Jennifer Becker gave the Program Updates as follows:

1. For year 23-24 home health, we made a total of 1,688 skilled nursing visits, 2,272 home care aide visits, 179 physical therapy visits, 72 occupational therapy visits, 0 speech therapy visits, 390 homemaker visits and 273 non billable skilled nursing visits. For July, we made 140 skilled nursing visits, 187 home care aide visits, 7 physical therapy visits, 7 occupational visits, 0 speech therapy visits, 42 homemaker visits, and 23 non billable skilled nursing visits.
2. Immunizations: The end of the summer push for kindergarten, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade required immunizations has seen a slight increase in the number of kids we are seeing during our immunization clinics. Most kids are given their immunizations at their well child appointments at their primary care provider, but we still have a few who utilize our office for their immunization needs
3. Immunization Audits: Mckenzie has contacted the school nurses already and will be conducting the audits at the end of September.

4. Medical Examiner Investigator: Tammy will be retiring at the end of the year but continues to be the other MEI. Mckenzie has completed her required training is now orienting with Tammy and myself. Tammy is working out if she could remain PRN for MEI after she retires. Mckenzie and I spent the day at the IOSME on August 13<sup>th</sup>. We were able to view 5 autopsies and toured the state ME office. We also heard about future plans for the IOSME. It was a great experience.
5. Disease Investigation: We've had 2 cryptosporidiosis and 1 campylobacter case since our last meeting. I was also contacted by Iowa Department of Public Health while I was off during my mom's death and funeral about a case of tularemia, which we've never had in Butler County. The state ended up investigating the case for me since I was not available, but I would have liked to have investigated it since it was something new. Last week, I was notified of 2 people who live in Butler County having contact with monkey pox. There was nothing for me to do about it because the county where the case lives was doing all the contact follow up. Apparently, they were exposed to someone at work. I am currently following 2 dog bite cases.
6. Tuberculosis: Finally, as you know we have an active tuberculosis (TB) case in Butler County. This is the first time in at least 30 years that we have had a case of TB disease. He was diagnosed at the end of June and began treatment on June 28<sup>th</sup>. We have been seeing him daily, Monday through Friday to directly observe him taking his medications and we will continue that until the end of March. We have also had to collect sputum samples from him every 2 weeks from July 1<sup>st</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. He had to remain in isolation until the sputum samples came back that no TB was detected. I was able to release him from isolation on August 16<sup>th</sup>, he was thrilled, and I was happy because that meant that I no longer had to wear an N95 in his home. Along with treating the patient we also had to contact anyone that he would have been in contact within the 8-10 weeks prior to being diagnosed. There were healthcare workers that were exposed due to him being hospitalized at Waverly Health Center in mid-May, Waverly Health Center was notified for the exposure, but it was up to them to follow up with their employees who were exposed. In addition to the healthcare workers there were 8 people who met the criteria for being a case. There were 3 household contacts that lived in Black Hawk County and Butler County Public Health followed up with those people. The other 5 that live in Butler County were our responsibility and required us to draw blood on all 5 of them and for me to drive the blood to the State Hygienic Lab in Coralville. 2 of these 5 ended up being positive for latent TB and will now need to take 6 month of rifampin which I will have to dispense to them monthly. The 3 that were negative this time around will need to be drawn again on October 14<sup>th</sup>. It's been interesting and a real learning experience. We are being reimbursed from the Iowa Department of Public Health in the amount of \$1,800 but that will not come close to how much this will cost, just the 3 days in June that I worked on this case it cost \$981.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Chris Showalter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Deb Gayer seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Tiffany Stanbrough, for



Joyce Dickes