

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

Monday October 23, 2023 – 12:00 P.M.
Meeting held at Tama County Annex Building and via Zoom

Members Present: Sally Custer Micki Ferris Curt Hilmer – via Zoom
Lori Johnson Jolynn Harger
Chris Behrens Sherry Parks – via Zoom

Members Absent: Dr. Polly Hineman Casey Schmidt Shannon Zoffka

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Parks, Chairman at 12:05 p.m.

Micki Ferris moved to accept the Agenda as presented. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Micki Ferris moved to accept the Minutes of the September 25, 2023 as presented. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Environmental Report:

Chris Behrens explained the new form that was included in the Board packet. This form is sent into the state quarterly, and is a summary of his activities.

Chris has done a couple of water tests this month and has a half dozen more septic's that are going to be put in before it gets too cold.

Director's Report - 10 Essential Public Health Services Framework – given by Lori Johnson

1. *Assess and Monitor population health status, factors that influence health and community needs and assets*
 - CHA CHIP—submitted to the State and is available on our website.
 - Food Pantry: September: Households 126, Individuals 327, New Households 27
2. *Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population*
 - Communicable Disease Investigations Started in September: 1 Campy
 - Active & Latent TB Cases: 1 current latent case, 4 exposures with follow-up
 - Animal Bites: October – 5 Dog Bites
 - Immunizations Given: 2
3. *Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it*
 - Social Media Strategy: Teens greatest driving risks, fall prevention exercises, sepsis awareness, family communication plans for disasters, Medicare scams, car seat safety, staff updates, Breast Cancer Awareness Open House
 - Posts: 8
 - Coffee Talks: 6 sites were scheduled in September; 3 were new sites with 25 attendees, 1 site cancelled, the other 2 sites had one attendee
 - Breast Cancer Open House/Coffee October 25th
 - December 12th we will be hosting a movie day at the Wieting Theatre for seniors 60+, more details to come. This supports socialization in our senior population.
4. *Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health*
 - Maternal Health: no new news

- Nest: 10 attendees, topic in October was Childhood illnesses, Tylenol and Ibuprofen dosing.
 - SKIP: Meeting held September 28th, next meeting in November.
 - NEI3A/COA: changing to Mom's Meals
5. *Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health*
 - School Immunization Audits have begun and will be completed by the October 27th guideline.
 6. *Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health*
 - PHEP: Workgroup meeting covered new process for pre -approvals on project funds, upcoming tabletop exercises and plans for Stop the Bleed kits.
 - Completed Bridge Access Enrollment for COVID vaccine
 - NIMS notebook updated
 7. *Assure and effective system that enables access to the individual services and care need to be health*
 - Home Health: 38% of referrals were admitted to home health services in September
 - Beth Eberle officially began her duties as the Aide Supervisor on October 2nd
 8. *Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce*
 - Claire and Kelly will attend OASIS Training on October 25th and 26th
 - Beth and all of the Aides attended the Iowa Care Conference in Ankeny October 9th and 10th
 9. *Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research and continuous quality improvement*
 - QAPI: no new news.
 10. *Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health*
 - 2nd HRSA report submitted for 2nd payment received

Waiver: September: Three patients were served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver. There were 0 Maternal Health Home visits in September.

Financial Report:

Admissions decreased for the month of September. Skilled Nurse visits decreased for September. Health Aide visits and hours decreased for the month of September. Our revenue decreased for the month of September.

Lori and Penny Tyynismaa attended the Board of Supervisors meeting this morning and shared with them:

Recently, we have seen an increase in clients being sent home inappropriately. One of our nurses went to admit a patient and found them covered in bile, stool and urine and their bed was soaking and covered as well. Our nurse cleaned them and called the ambulance to send them back to the hospital. This client should have been admitted to a nursing home instead of being sent home. There was no local family who could assist this person in their home. Some families don't have advocates to help them to assure that they receive the services that they need.

Another client was to be admitted and it was found that they too were having irregular breathing, our nurse went in and sent them back to the hospital. This person had bilateral pulmonary embolisms.

Insurance companies are promoting their perks, but when it comes to the coverage that the client needs, they are not necessarily willing to pay for the services that they should be receiving to promote recovery. Insurances are denying skilled nursing home stays for more intense therapies and continuous nursing care, then limiting the number of home care nursing and therapy visits, requesting notes after 1 visit to justify any services. Even when physicians are requesting nursing services for IV's or complex wound care, these orders are being denied and additional requests and clinical documentation must be sent. We are unable to bill insurance if a patient is not

admitted to home care services and is sent back to the hospital. That is when county funds are utilized, to assist those who lack the medical understanding but need additional assistance.

Sally Custer moved to approve the Financial Report. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Contract #5884BT186, Amendment #3, Public Health 6 Year Emergency Response, COVID-19 and Influenza Outreach Bridge Access Program Grant, Period: September 15, 2023 – December 31, 2024, in the amount of \$15,961. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Contract #5884NT486, Amendment #21, Emergency Response Multi-Year Program, CADE COVID (\$9,400) and Confinement (7,691) Grant total amount reverted of \$17,091. (For FY 23) Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Contract #5884BT186, Amendment #2, Emergency Response Multi-Year , CADE COVID (\$9,400) and Confinement (\$7,961), Total Amendment of \$17,091 for period July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. (For FY 24) Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Contract #5884AW86, Grants to Counties, FY 24 Contract. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize Assistant Director/CDO to sign Change Order Form for Vehicle Tracking Subscription removing 2012 Black Malibu. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize Assistant Director/CFO to sign Better Doctor Verification for Blue Cross Clients. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Micki Ferris moved to Approve & Authorize Assistant Director/CFO to Approve Account Increase with Verizon to change Data Plan from 2G to Unlimited Data for I-PADS. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: The Mid-Iowa Community Action September Board of Health Newsletter was sent in the Board packet to members.

Public Comment: None.

Future Meeting Dates: The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, November 27, 2023 at Noon. A hybrid option is still being offered as well as in person meeting at the Public Health office.

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant

The full Zoom recording is available. It is available by request.