

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

Monday August 26, 2024 – 12:00 P.M.
Meeting held at Tama County Annex Building and via Zoom

Members Present:	Sally Custer Lori Johnson Shannon Zoffka	Micki Ferris Jolynn Harger	Sherry Parks, PA-C – via Zoom Dr. Hineman – via Zoom
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Members Absent: Curt Hilmer Chris Behrens Casey Schmidt

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Parks, Chairman at 12:04 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 July 22, 2024 meeting as presented. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

Environmental Report:

Chris was not present at today's meeting, but his report was included in the packet.

Dr. Hineman said that she had received Chris' attendance response email. She wondered though if he was going to try and attend the Board meetings quarterly. Shannon said that she believed so. He will try and attend in September. His schedule at his other job varies and rotates days, so he could be here once a quarter.

Director's Report - 10 Essential Public Health Services Framework – Shannon Zoffka

1. *Assess and Monitor population health status, factors that influence health and community needs and assets*
 - Food Pantry: 158 Households served, 492 Individuals, 0 New Households for July
2. *Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population*
 - Communicable Disease Investigations Started in July: 1
 - Active & Latent TB Cases: 8 current latent cases, 1 case transferred to Tama from Black Hawk County
 - Animal Bites: 3 (2 dogs, 1 cat)
 - Immunizations Given: 2 in July

Discussion was held about the number of TB cases, as Micki Ferris asked if that number is high. Shannon said that yes it is higher than previous, most of the cases are from immigrant population. They are latent and not active cases though.

3. *Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it*
 - Social Media Strategy: Ground Water Information, Heat Safety, Fireworks Safety, Severe Weather Information, Alert Iowa Information, Hydration Information, Rules of the Road, Food Safety (grilling and after power outage), Sun Safety, County Fair Schedule
 - Posts: 28
 - Coffee Talks: 5 sites scheduled, 1 postponed due to COVID outbreak, 16 total attendees.

4. *Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health*

- Maternal Health: 9 Facebook posts. No new news.
- Nest: 14 attendees, topic covered Screen Time and alternative activities
- SKIP: No new news. Next meeting is in August. 6 Facebook posts
- NEI3A/COA: The Senior Center in Tama is under staff changes and restructuring

5. *Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health*

- Shannon gave an update on the cooling/warming station discussion from the last meeting. She sent an email to all the city clerks in Tama County. She only received one response. It was from the Gladbrook City Clerk. Shannon has a copy of the guidelines that Polk County uses and it listed libraries as cooling/warming stations so she sent an email to the libraries and city clerks office in Tama County asking them questions about availability, affordability, and even the possibility of having a station there. She received 8 responses from libraries and 4 from city clerks. Polk County's warming/cooling stations operate under the EMA. Shannon contacted Zach Woods, our Public Health/EMS Healthcare Coalition Coordinator, as she didn't want to step on the toes of the Tama County EMA Coordinator. She also looked at the Tama County EMA website and there is a 300 page document in draft form dated 2022-2027 that addresses this issue. Chelsea and Elberon said there is no plan, Garwin said there is no interest in starting one, Lincoln and Montour said there is no need, and Tama Library said there is limited hours. No response received from Traer, Dysart, Vining, City of Tama or Toledo. Shannon thought that maybe we could share information in a letter of support, that way we are not stepping on toes. Does the Board want Shannon to contact City Mayors? Micki thought it would be a good idea to have a document sent out to Mayors that lists guidelines, things to think about, and they could put it on their Agenda to discuss at a Council meeting. The letter could be sent to Ryan Goodenbour and could be a joint letter from both EMA and the Board of Health. Dr. Hineman said that this affects the most vulnerable citizens of our county (young and old), so she would like the letter to be "strongly worded" to speak for those people. That's what she wants the Board to do and she will help promote if needed. Shannon will draft a letter and will send it to the Board of Health for review. She will ask the EMA Director if he would like to be included.

6. *Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health*

- PHEP: coalition meetings for public health and all services continue as scheduled, information sharing meetings continue, an in-person coalition meeting is scheduled for September in Ames
- Essential Services Advisory Council meetings continued weekly.
- Shannon attended a NACCHO sponsored webinar - Measles preparedness tabletop exercise

Dr. Hineman asked if there were any Syphilis cases in Iowa. Shannon said that those cases go to the state, so she only knows about one if we are taking care of the patient in the home. Dr. Hineman asked Sherry Parks if her office had been getting information about Syphilis cases. Sherry said that she had seen information, but nothing on testing. Dr. Hineman said that women are not getting prenatal care and so this is not getting caught with normal prenatal testing. The babies are being born with Congenital Syphilis. Most healthcare providers have not seen a case of Syphilis in the past so it is not on their radar to be aware of and watch for.

Shannon said that the state STI office would email that information to Health Care Providers in our County.

7. *Assure and effective system that enables access to the individual services and care need to be health*
 - Foot Clinics continue monthly, we are working to have set dates and locations and decrease the number of homes we go to for foot care as the demand increases in communities
 - Blood Pressure clinics on hold as the senior center is having staffing changes
 - Home Health: 44% of referrals were admitted in July.

8. *Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce*
 - Nurse Aide meeting in August: moved to the 28th
 - Homemaker Home Health Aide hours: follow-up from July meeting we lost 6 clients in the past few months that were heavy care and respite as well. They were receiving services up to 3 times a week for bathing and additional homemaking and respite. They are either discharged to a long-term care facility or hospice. We have a family who receives services for 2 individuals in the home that we had to put on hold until they complied with needed actions for treatment of a bed bug infestation. Another family has been canceling services regularly as they are upset that we have asked, for the second time, that they kennel or restrict their dogs access to staff during visits as it has bitten 4 staff people.
 - We are participating in “Public Health Wins” a nation-wide survey of individual workers at governmental public health agencies. It captures individual public health workers’ perspective on key issues such as workforce engagement and morale, training needs, and addressing public health issues. This is the 4th round of Public Health Wins surveys, there are 600 total agencies participating in this round. The anonymous survey will be released to staff in September and results will be made available in 2025.

9. *Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research and continuous quality improvement.*
 - QAPI: Meeting scheduled August 29th
 - Shannon and Lori attended the Home Health 2025 Proposed Rules Webinar, hosted by Annette Lee, this webinar highlighted potential changes coming to conditions of participation, payment models, and OASIS changes

10. *Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health.*
 - Shannon attended the Public Health Regional Meeting in Nevada on July 24
 - SF2385 Division VII discusses Electronic Meetings and changes made. (page 32 of Senate File 2385 and the Iowa Public Information Board’s Advisory Opinion included in BOH packet) It says that electronic meetings shall be provided.
 - VFC Contract renewed

Discussion was held about updating our Board meeting emails by sending a Zoom link with a calendar invite that can put the meeting directly on the email calendar.

Board members expressed that they liked having the reports on the screen at the meeting.

The question was asked if Board members would like to continue getting paper packets or if they would prefer them sent by email. It was stated that the Board liked getting paper packets.

Waiver: July: Three patients were served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver. There was 1 Maternal Health Home visits in July.

Financial Report:

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

We have been working with our new IT provider to get each workstation set up so that can be worked on remotely without having to go to each machine.

Rick Watts, former IT provider, has been disabled as a user.

Micki Ferris moved to approve the Financial Report. Dr. Hineman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Central Iowa Healthcare Coalition PHEP/CRI/EMS Fiscal/Billing Procedures (7/16/24). Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Infusion Nursing Services Agreement with UnityPoint at Home. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Dr. Hineman moved to Approve & Authorize CEO/Executive Director to sign Corporate Portrait Photography Services Agreement with Kailey's Photography. Mick Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Dr. Hineman moved to approve the RN Quarterly Audit. Discussion was held. Micki Ferris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Future Meeting Dates: The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, September 23, 2024 at Noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant

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