

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

TAMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH & HOME CARE

Monday June 29, 2026 – 12:00 P.M.

Meeting held at Tama County Annex Building and via Zoom

**Members
Present:**

Micki Ferris

Lori Johnson

Kelly Purk

Sherri Vesely – via Zoom

Sherry Parks – via Zoom

Jolynn Harger

Curt Hilmer – via Zoom

LeeAnna Kriegel

Chris Behrens

Robin Riffle

Sally Custer

Heather Bombei – via Zoom

Members Absent: Richard Arp

The meeting was called to order by Micki Ferris, Vice-Chair at 12:08 p.m.

Sally Custer moved to approve the Agenda. Sherri Vesely seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Sherri Vesely moved to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2026 meeting as presented. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of RV Rental: Lori shared that Kylee Cibula toured the RV and felt it would work for the mental health services she would be providing. Lori then reached out to the Insurance Liaison, who advised that this type of agreement may not be allowable because it could be considered private use of a public asset. The matter would need to be reviewed by the Risk Pool for a determination. The Board of Health could approve the rental; however, the final decision would be made by the Board of Supervisors.

The Board discussed the possibility of selling the RV, as some Board members reported hearing concerns from the public about the RV remaining in storage and depreciating in value.

Sherry Parks joined the meeting at 12:20 p.m. and assumed Chair duties.

Sherry Parks asked whether there was a required length of time the RV must be retained to avoid a penalty. Lori stated that she would look into it.

Sherry Parks stated that she wanted to ensure the Board was following open meeting laws, including that only Board members may speak during Board of Health meetings unless a member of the public is addressed by a Board member or has an item on the agenda. Members of the public are also welcome to speak during the Public Comment portion near the end of the meeting.

Reports:

Environmental Report:

Chris referred Board members to his report and asked if there were any questions.

Chris explained his overage of hours and the amount of training hours he has completed for the year. He stated that his position requires him to attend a certain number of trainings each year and that he also attends additional trainings to maintain his certifications.

Chris presented the Board with a spreadsheet listing the trainings he would like to attend next year. He also presented an email statement from the State Environmental Health Consultant supporting his attendance at the trainings and explaining that participation should not be optional, but necessary to maintain competency and compliance and to protect the health and safety of residents.

Chris also reviewed the 2026 Iowa Environmental Health Survey results, which showed that his wages and hours are lower than those of Environmental Health Officers in other counties. Discussion was held. Sherry Parks stated that she felt Chris should go to the Board of Supervisors and explain why he needs an increase in hours. It was

also suggested that, at the next meeting with the Board of Supervisors, the Board explain that the increase in regulations has resulted in Chris needing additional hours for his position.

Micki Ferris moved to allow Chris to attend the trainings listed on the spreadsheet. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report - May 21, 2026 - June 18, 2026

Mission Statement: To promote healthy lifestyles, prevent diseases, protect the environment, and assist people to safely reside in their homes as long as possible.

Vision Statement: Healthy and safe Tama County communities.

1. Budget Report

	Expense	Revenue
May 2026 Budgeted (FY 26)	\$124,565.40	
May 2026 (FY 26)		\$54,193.94
Difference		\$70,371.46
FY 2025 Budgeted	\$2,275,547.00	\$848,028.34 to \$922,508.34
FY 2025 Actual	\$1,984,162.10	\$711,855.26
Difference	\$291,384.90	\$136,173.08
FY 2026 Budgeted	\$1,778,108.00	\$851,074.88 to \$971,174.88
FY 2026 Actual YTD	\$1,639,416.37	\$622,884.63
Difference	\$138,691.63	\$228,190.25

2. Public Health Core Services Framework

Tama County Public Health & Home Care provides services across five core areas: Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention; Communicable & Infectious Disease Control; Environmental Public Health; Emergency Preparedness & Response; and Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health.

a. Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention

- Foot Clinics (30.25 hours) -

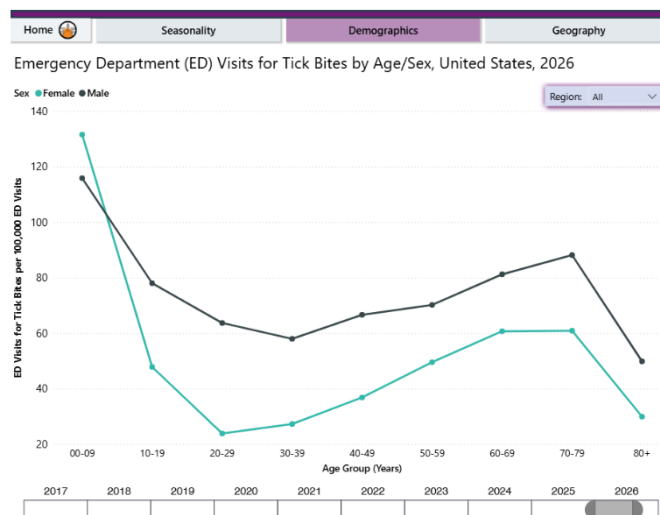
Sites:	# Attended
• Office	• 1
• Traer	• 4
• Tama/Toledo	• 7
• Gladbrook	• 9

- Gloria attended the Ag Safety Day, May 22nd, and provided information regarding sun safety. Approximately 60 3rd grade students attended.
- Coffee Talks Topic for Quarter – Stress & Stress Management, Skin Care Awareness/Prevention, Dementia & Alzheimer's – 4 presentations scheduled at Kiwanis, Gladbrook Independent Living, Sunrise Hill Assisted Living and Meskwaki Senior Center. Twenty-seven attended.
- Social Media Strategy: Mental Health Awareness Month – numerous posts; Hot cars; Bat in the office; Stroke Info; SMP Medicare Resources; Avian Flu; Hantavirus; Brody graduation; Police week; ISU Extension posts; Wind Safety; Bladder Cancer Awareness Month; RN day (most popular post); Watch vs Warning; Star Wars Day; and Skin Cancer
- Posted educational information regarding the Avian Flu. Monthly posts will be done to meet grant requirements, along with fliers and billboards from now until the end of October.

b. Communicable & Infectious Disease Control

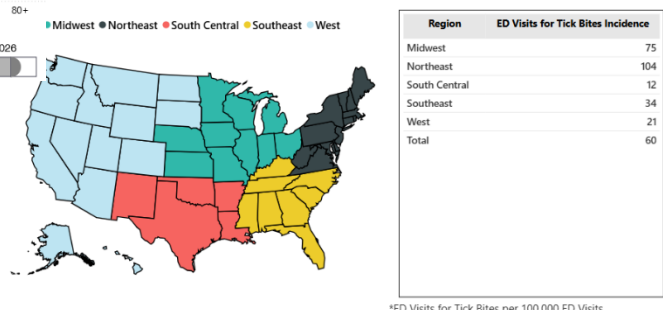
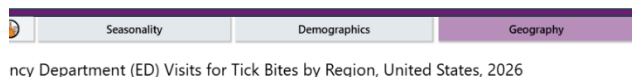
- Communicable Disease Investigations: 1 Shigellosis
- Active & Latent TB Cases: 2 latent.
- Animal Bites: 4 in May.
- Immunizations Given: 1 patient; 5 immunizations for the month of May

c. Environmental Public Health



CDC is reporting an increase in tick bites. For our Midwest Region, they have seen 75 emergency room visits for tick bite incidents. Highest incidence are females age 0 – 9 years of age.

Screwworm has been confirmed in Texas on June 3rd, with the first US animal case in the current outbreak of screwworm. No locally acquired human infestations have been reported. Infestations by these can be very painful, foul-smelling wounds in animals



and people, if not treated early. They can lead to extensive tissue damage and potentially death.

Environmental Report from Chris included in packet

d. Emergency Preparedness & Response

Attended PHEP/CIHCC meeting

Updated NIMS Training Information

Worked with EMS Association regarding their funding allocation through PHEP grant dollars.

Approved Elberon AED

ACLS/PALS DART Bag with Windows 10 Tablet

Approved AED for Clutier

OWL Equipment

\$9,098 was added to the available funds for the 6-year Emergency Response grant to be used before Nov 13, 2026. This is the Influenza A/H5N1 (avian flu) response. The purpose of this grant is to educate dairy, poultry, and swine farmworkers regarding the importance of receiving the influenza vaccine and to investigate and respond to avian influenza detections in animals and persons within Iowa. We have submitted a milestone report to the grant outlining some of our ideas for promoting these efforts in our county. Billboards will be put up this fall encouraging workers to receive their flu vaccine.

Tabletop Exercise was held May 21st.

Essential Services Meeting was held May 21st at the Toledo Fire Station.

5. Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health

- Maternal Health & Child Wellness classes are now available via Zoom as well as continuing to be in person.
- Maternal Health: 2 visits provided in May
- The family cabinet received donations and families have been taking advantage of the items. This has been put on hold for now.

Immunization Activity – 7/1/25 to 6/5/26

Immunization	Trade name	VFC	<1 Yr	1 yr	2 hrs	3 – 5 yrs	6 yrs	7- 10 yrs	11 – 12 yrs	13 – 18 yrs	19 – 24 yrs	25 – 44 yrs	45 – 64 yrs	65+ yrs	Total
Varicella	Varivax	Yes				1		1				1			3
Td/Tdap	Adacel	Yes						1	4		1	1			7
Polio	IPOL	Yes						1				2			3
PneumoAdult-PneumoConjugate	Prevnar 20	Yes		1											1
MMR	MMR II	Yes		1								3			4
Meningo	Menveo	Yes							4	1					5
Influenza-sesnl	FluLaval Trivalent P-free	Yes								1	1	3	5	5	15
HPV	Gardasil 9	Yes							3						3
Hep B	Engerix-B Adult	Yes									3	3			6
Influenza -sesnl	Fluarix Trivalent P-free	No								1	2	3	23	5	34
	Total			2		1		3	11	3	7	16	28	10	81
	Patient Count			1		1		1	4	2	3	8	28	10	58

Maternal Child Health (Nest) Education – 7/1/25 to 6/18/26

Month	Attendance	Topic	Speaker
July	11	Importance of Reading to Your Child	Kris Collins
August	15	MICA/HeadStart	April Farley, MICA
September	13	Infant/Child Choking	Gloria Duggan

October	10	Screen Time	Gloria Duggan
November	9	Safe Sleep	Gloria Duggan
December	13	Gift Giving	Gloria Duggan
January	10	Family Routines	Cherly Bruene, ISU
February	13	Postpartum Mental Health	CAPS
March	16	Nutrition	Sierra Stevens, WIC
April	12	Breastfeeding	Angela Ablaberdieva, WIC
May	14	Children's Mental Health	Gwen Doland
June	16	Summer Safety	Shelley Lechnir, YMCA

Other Organizational Updates:

- LeeAnna and Lori attended District 3 HHS Alignment meeting June 4th. Cerro Gordo is going to apply to be the lead agency. They have 30 staff within their office and felt they could take on these additional duties. Their board has voted to submit for the RFP. Will meet again in September.
- Finance Committee meeting – 061626
- Updated fliers were posted in all of the Tama County communities.
- BOS meetings attended
 - Update on Decertification
 - Budget Amendments – approved
 - 10% sequestration withheld was released
- Policies have been reviewed and training done with nurses. Information sent to Advisory Board for their review. Meeting to be held June 24th.
- Family movie passes were disbursed to five child care centers for Child Abuse Prevention Awareness and to encourage a family centered event.
- CAPS has found a different location, with more space, for their program instead of one of our offices
- Training on eGold Faxing system was done by Missy, Jolynn, and Lori.
- Suspended iPads no longer needed.
- Working with CSS to clear off old computers and move documents and hardware as needed on 7/2.
- Home Health: All clients have been transitioned from Medicare/Medicaid certification status and have either transferred to another agency, discharged completely or are continuing on with a new payer/program. Attended event Saturday regarding services for Veterans at the Tama-Toledo Country Club.

Tama County Public Health Home Health & Home Care

We Offer:

- ✓ Skilled Nursing Services
- ✓ IV Therapy
- ✓ Home Health Aide
- ✓ Homemaker
- ✓ Respite Service
- ✓ Maternal/Child Wellness Program
- ✓ Foot Clinic Services

We Accept:

- ✓ Veteran's Administration
- ✓ Select Private Insurances
- ✓ Private Pay with Sliding Fee Scale available

Supporting independence and safety at home
for the ones you love ❤️

Call 641-484-4788

For more information or to set up a time for a Nurse to speak with you about what services Tama County Public Health & Home Care can offer you.



Grants

Grants for FY 26	Reward Amount	Expense Incurred	Balance
Local Public Health Grant	\$52,580	\$52,580	-0-
PHEP	\$33,000	\$16,705.13	\$16,294.87
	\$8,500 EMS	\$5,075.35 EMS	\$3,424.65 EMS
Iowa Private Well Program (Grants to Counties)	\$26,654.00	\$12,455.81	\$14,198.19

Grants for FY 26	Reward Amount	Expense Incurred	Balance
I4 Immunizations	\$9,100.00	\$9,100.00	-0-
6-year Emergency Response	\$9,098.00	\$728.48	\$8,369.62 (will be spent with August's claim)

Lori followed up with an email sent to Board members asking the if the date of Wednesday, July 22nd at Noon worked to have a Work Session with the Board of Supervisors. A majority of the Board members said that date would work.

Waiver: There was one person served under the Frail and Elderly Waiver in May. There were 2 Maternal Health Home visits in May.

Financial Report:

Admissions remained the same for the month of May. Skilled Nurse visits decreased for May. Home Health Aide visits and hours decreased for the month of May. Our revenue increased for the month of May.

Sherry Parks questioned why some of the balances on the A/R Report were pretty old. Lori said that there was delayed insurance payments and some denials that needed to be worked on.

Micki Ferris moved to approve the Financial Report. Sherri Vesely seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

A. Discussion of Qualifications/Job Description of Director

Sherry Parks stated that she asked for this item to be placed on the Agenda again because she feels the Board needs to make a decision regarding the position.

Micki Ferris stated that she liked the way the proposed job description for the Director position was written. She said that not requiring an RN degree would allow for more options if no RN candidates apply. Sherry Parks stated that she liked the idea of keeping the position open to other candidates if needed, but that she would prefer to have an RN in the position. Sherri Vesely questioned who would provide services if an RN was out sick. Sherry Parks stated that Richard Arp had sent her a message indicating that he thought an RN would be the best option for this position.

Sherry Parks stated that the proposed wage for the Director position was too high given the reduced responsibilities, noting that the position would currently pay \$100,000 after six months of employment. She stated that she was thinking of a starting wage in the \$80,000 range.

Micki Ferris asked what had been allocated for the position. Lori stated that her wages were factored into the budget as the wages for this position.

Sherry Parks stated that Board members should come to the next meeting with ideas for the position so it can be advertised.

Curt Hilmer stated that he thought it would be better for the Board of Health to come to the Work Session with the Board of Supervisors with a plan and wage scale for the Director position.

B. Discussion/Possible Action of Starting Wage for Director Position – tabled until next meeting

C. Designate a Hiring Committee for the Director Position - tabled until next meeting

New Business:

A. Discussion/Action on Designating an Official Agenda Posting Location

Due to new legislation that has passed the Board of Health must designate where their Agenda will be posted. Motion by Micki Ferris to designate the bulletin board in the hallway at the North Annex and the Tama County Public Health & Home Care website under Board of Health meetings to be the designated posting locations. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Discussion/Action – A Place for Mom
This item was tabled until a future meeting

- C. Action to proceed with Advertising for the Director position – this item was tabled until a future meeting.

- D. Discussion/Approval of Contracts Signed

- A. A Place for Mom – tabled until a future meeting
- B. Letter of Authorization (LOA)/Number Portability Form with eGoldFax for 250 pages (signed 6/17/26). Discussion was held regarding increasing the plan limit to 750 pages. Motion by Micki Ferris to increase the plan to 750 pages a month. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. RSM US, LLP for Medicare Cost Report Services (signed 06/17/26). Motion by Micki Ferris to approve this contract. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Approve Finance Committee Recommendations

- a. 3% Wage Increase
- b. Retire Wage Scales
- c. Clinical Manager/Registered Nurse/Public Health Nurse Positions
- d. Office Assistant I & II
- e. Environmental Health Specialist
- f. Interim Director
- g. Clinical Manager Wage Difference
- h. Salaried Positions
- i. Minimum Service Hour
- j. Foot Clinic Charge

Micki Ferris moved to approve the Finance Committee Recommendations. Sally Custer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- F. Approve Advisory Board Recommendations

- a. Attachment A – Policy Adoption
- b. Attachment B – Policy Reviews
- c. Attachment C – Slight Policy Revisions
- d. Attachment D – Policy Revisions
- e. Attachment E – Policy Retirements

After discussion, because of meeting time restraints and members not having enough time to view the policies, this item was tabled until a future meeting.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: Public Comment was made by Kelly Purk.

Future Meeting Dates: After discussion, the next Board of Health meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at Noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jolynn Harger, Executive/Financial Assistant