

Health Board Minutes  
March 15, 2022  
Members present in person at the Health Department and on Zoom

**Members Present:**

Linda Bauer  
Michael Day (via Zoom)  
Thomi Elmore  
Cynthia Rose  
Catherine Rountree  
James Zimmerly

**Staff Present:**

Corey Frost  
Taylor Hardesty  
Jennifer Heller  
Judy Hess  
John Kennard  
Ernie Reed  
Seleah Settle  
Dr. Norman Oestrike, Health Officer

**Guests Present:**

Melissa Sarnecki  
Leyla Davis  
Bill Todd

**Approval of Minutes from January 18, 2022**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the amended minutes to include the word “over” from the January 18 meeting passed unanimously. The amendment now states that Dr. Oestrike presided “over” the meeting.

**2021 Annual Report-Report Mailed**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the 2021 annual report passed unanimously.

**Front Office- Judy Hess and Taylor Hardesty – Report Mailed**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the front office report passed unanimously.

**Emergency Preparedness-Corey Frost– Report Mailed**

- a. COVID Response
  - I. Corey had an after-action review meeting to identify strengths and weaknesses within the department’s COVID response and a full report will be generated. He believes it went very well and many strengths were identified.
  - II. All community affiliates were invited to the meeting and were provided a survey. Most members did not attend but did submit the survey via email.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the emergency preparedness report passed unanimously.

**Nursing- Seleah Settle – Report Mailed**

- a. COVID
  - I. Seleah stated roughly 57% of the Brown County population is fully vaccinated.
  - II. The state is transitioning from their color code system to the CDC’S rating system. The county is currently green which is the lowest risk level. Seleah said the rate of positive cases has decreased significantly.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the nursing report passed unanimously.

**Environmental Health –Jennifer Heller – Report Mailed**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the environmental health report passed unanimously.

### **Environmental Health-John Kennard & Ernie Reed-Report Mailed**

#### **a. Environmental Complaints**

- I. Jim Zimmerly inquired what the enforcement process is for septic failures.
- II. John Kennard explained that a violation letter is drafted and approved by the attorney before being sent out via certified mail. The homeowner is also referred to the South-Central Community Action Program, which offers grants and assistance for qualified residents.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to approve the environmental health report passed unanimously.

### **Recovery & Wellness Coalition-Melissa Sarnecki & Leyla Davis**

#### **a. Services and Events**

- I. Melissa Sarnecki gave a presentation that listed all the services the coalition provides.
- II. The coalition previously released a comprehensive treatment guide which contained various recovery and treatment resources.
- III. They released a naloxone awareness campaign and provided posters to naloxone carriers so residents can easily identify where to acquire it. All these locations also carry fentanyl test strips.
- IV. August 31<sup>st</sup> is overdose awareness day, and September an addiction awareness event is held called Hope Fest.
- V. The coalition received a large grant that will help provide addiction and mental health services within the jail system.
- VI. Thomi asked if the coalition had a pamphlet of all their services to be distributed. Melissa said they do not have one, but if one is created, she will provide it to the department.

### **Recovery & Wellness Coalition-Bill Todd**

#### **a. Grant for Addiction Services**

- I. Bill Todd spoke more in depth about the grant the coalition received for addiction services within the jail. He referred anyone with additional questions to read the article about it in the newspaper.

### **New Business**

#### **a. Illegal Burn Concerns**

- I. Thomi expressed to the board that recently the number of illegal burns and out of control brush fires have increased. Solid Waste has a burn ordinance, but it is currently not being enforced, and fines are not being issued. With large illegal burns, the amount of carbon monoxide released into the atmosphere is environmentally harmful.
- II. Due to the lack of enforcement, Thomi would like to get all the involved departments together in a committee to review and discuss the current ordinance and possibly discuss a revision if needed. This committee would include solid waste, the health department, the sheriff's department, and all the fire departments.
- III. Within this committee she would like to look at the ordinance in depth, and make sure all departments are giving consistent information. In the past, people have gotten permission from dispatch to do an illegal burn and the fire departments are not being notified. Residents should be contacting their local fire department to inquire if the weather conditions are suitable for burning.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to form a group of affiliated agencies to discuss the current burn ordinance passed. Cindy Rose abstained.

#### **b. Disaster Plans**

- I. Cindy inquired if plans are being made for various natural disasters.
- II. Corey said he has several plans already made for different kinds of catastrophic events. These plans also include EMS and the fire departments, so all departments know their role if a disaster occurs.

- III. Cindy asked if Brown County has any bomb shelters. Corey said bomb shelters are all over the state but most of their locations are not disclosed.
- IV. Corey stated that if anyone is interested in getting emergency alerts on their phone, they can sign up to receive them through a link on the health department's website, through the Emergency Preparedness tab.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Motion to adjourn meeting at approximately 7 pm passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Norman Oestrike, MD  
Health Officer

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