

Health Board Minutes
July 19th, 2022
Members present in person at the Health Department

Members Present:

Linda Bauer
Michael Day
Thomas Martin
Cindy Rose
Catherine Rountree
James Zimmerly

Staff Present:

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

Dr. Michael Day presided over the meeting. He called the meeting to order at 5 pm.

Approval of Minutes from May 17th, 2022

ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion to approve the minutes from the May 17th meeting passed unanimously.

Dr. Norman Oestrike

- a. Department Updates
 - I. Dr. Oestrike announced that one of the department's full-time nurses, Lauren Spicer, resigned in June. He stated that the department will be putting out advertisements soon to fill the position. He mentioned that in the past the position has been hard to fill due to the low pay, and Lauren had cited that as her reason for resignation.
 - II. The department is moving forward with scheduling upgrades to the building to make it ADA compliant.

2023 Budget-Report Mailed

- a. Amended Budget
 - I. Judy Hess stated that she and Taylor Hardesty had attended a meeting with the auditor's office to discuss the budget. From that meeting the amended budget was created.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion to approve the amended 2023 budget 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. Paramedicine Program
 - I. Cindy Rose asked for more information regarding the paramedicine program Corey Frost listed in his report. Since he was at a conference and was absent, she stated she would ask him at the next meeting.

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

Nursing- Seleh Settle – Report Mailed

- a. Monkeypox
 - I. Seleh Settle said there are currently no cases of Monkeypox in Brown County, and there are steps in place should that occur. Testing kits have been distributed to the department and training has been conducted on how to collect the sample and send it to the state lab. Seleh said if an outbreak happened, she would work closely with the state's epidemiology department.

- II. Dr. Day stated that a common misconception about monkeypox is that it is only a sexually transmitted disease, but his understanding is that it spreads by any form of close contact. Se Leah agreed with that statement.
- b. COVID Testing
 - I. Cathy Rountree inquired why the department and other surrounding counties had eliminated PCR testing at their sites.
 - II. Se Leah said that across the state the demand was declining, therefore the state began shifting to home testing. From the state, the department received rapid home tests for disbursement. PCR tests are still performed at participating pharmacies, doctor's offices, and some of the larger county health departments.
 - III. Jim Zimmerly asked how the home tests are affecting the county's case numbers. Se Leah said that unfortunately since there is no way to trace a home test, the numbers may not be as accurate as they were previously.

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. Septic Season
 - I. Ernie Reed announced that septic season is in full swing, and he is very busy. The previous week he had performed over 40 inspections. By July in previous years, the department issued about 50 permits, but in the present year they have already issued 79. Roughly 60% of those permits are for new construction, with the rest being repairs.
 - II. Jim Zimmerly asked if most of the systems installed are Presby systems. Ernie confirmed that most of the systems installed are, but they also have a drip irrigation system being installed this year. A drip irrigation system can be installed up to a 25% slope while a Presby can only be installed up to 15% slope. A drip irrigation system is significantly more expensive and requires costly monthly maintenance, so it is not often installed.
 - III. Jim said that he would be interested in shadowing John or Ernie on some inspections, and Ernie said that would be great.

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

Old Business

- a. House Bill #1245
 - I. Ernie confirmed that House Bill 1245 will take effect July 1st, 2023. Cindy Rose asked if the department's attorney, John Reames, could review the bill and provide his legal opinion on how this will affect the department. John Kennard stated that John Reames is already reviewing the bill and should be able to provide guidance soon. Cindy said she would be interested in having his legal opinion by the next meeting. John said he will relay the urgency and will also invite John Reames to the next meeting so he can answer any questions the board may have. Dr. Day said he would like a copy of the attorney's written opinion in the next board packet prior to the meeting so the board can review it and prepare questions.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion to adjourn meeting at approximately 5:30 pm passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Norman Oestrike, MD
Health Officer

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