**Porter County Board of Health**

Tuesday September 6, 2022

Room 102A

**In Attendance:** Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Dr. Maria Stamp, Martin Moeller, Dr. Derek Gasper, Terry Wuletich, Dr. Patrick Fleming, Dr. Linda Boxum, Kathy Lemmon and Suzanne Phelps

Absent: none

Martin Moeller called the meeting to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kathy Lemmon made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 19, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Dr. Patrick Fleming. All were in favor. Motion carries.

**Announcements:**

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 4, 2022 in the basement of 5/3 Bank located at 56 S Washington in Valparaiso.

**New Business:**

A copy of the submitted 2023 budget was provided to the Board. We made minor changes to the line items but kept the totals the same per the County Council.

* Health General Fund 1159 - We removed the line item for rebinding records as we have not used it and the vital records books are currently in good shape. We increased vehicle repair & maintenance, and dues & subscriptions. We are focusing on staff development this year and would like staff to join different organizations that relate to their job duties. We also increased Contractual Services to provide for additional funds for Dave Hollenbeck.
* Local Health Main 1168 and the Trust Fund 1206, we focused more on hourly pay and removed some of the line items that we have not used.
* The Antabuse fund 2102 was reduced to bring it in line with what we are receiving as this a fee based fund.
* Emergency Preparedness 8119 has been reduced. Last year we were responsible for paying the contract for the area coordinator and that position was eliminated.
* Immunization Grant 8205 will remain the same.
* COVID vaccine grant 8911 funds earned by giving COVID vaccines.
* COVID testing grant 8912 – we put some money into overtime in case staff are required to work over a holiday.
* CoAg school liaison grant 8913 – medical services were added to help with needs the schools may have (lice treatment). We removed motor vehicles, as we cannot use the grant to pay for the expense. The mobile unit will be purchased out of 1159 General Fund.

A motion to recommend the budget to the Council was made by Dr. Derek Gasper. Seconded by Dr. Linda Boxum. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vehicle wrap for nursing vehicle. We had mask removed from the nurse and included our new motto. Better Health…Better Future! The back bumper has NITCO displayed as they are sponsoring the wrap. Dave advised that we should check with the Commissioners. We may need to implement guidelines as to who can sponsor and have a contract in place prior to putting it on the vehicle. Dr. Linda Boxum made a motion to approve the wrap once we have a contract and approvals. Seconded by Terry Wuletich. All in favor. Motion carries.

A copy of the Governors Public Health Commission Report was distributed. Indiana is in the bottom in almost every Public Health category. While Indiana fairs well in cost of living and schools, the state consistently ranks poorly for public health, unnecessary suffering, loss productivity and weaker communities. Smoking rate in IN is also very high. Economic development and jobs have been a priority. There is a difference within the state also. The Life expectancy has a difference of 7 years depending on the county where you reside. There may also be a change in the governance of the Board of Health in the future.

When the nurses did the survey with Porter County schools’ they expressed a need for toiletry items. We decide to do a toiletry drive for the schools. We received a great response and nursing staff will be bringing them to the schools in the next few weeks. Fluoride is still a need in the county. Once we have a mobile unit we would like to work with a local dentist to offer this at various sites throughout the county.

John Pisowicz contract is from 7/1/22 to 6/30/23. The grant agreement was received with the eliminated regional coordinator and the amount was changed to $86,000. We will have to revisit the contract to reflect the new total. We also have expenditures for emergency preparedness that have been coming from other funds including training, storage and supplies.

Dr. Stamp is very excited about what we can offer with the Health Department. RN working with the schools, new vehicles and more visibility in the community. We have funding that we have not had in the past. Rn’s went to Lafayette to look at their mobile unit.

FDA approved COVID bivalent booster. We have received the Moderna, which is for ages 18 and up. We are looking to see how we can get Pfizer, which is for 12 and up. We hope to start administering on Friday September 9, 2022. Bivalent is for booster only not for the primary series. Patients can have bivalent 2 months after primary series or booster.

Kathy Lemmon made a motion to approve the claims and receipts for July. Seconded by Dr. Linda Boxum. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Suzanne Phelps made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dr. Patrick Fleming. All in favor. Motion carries.