

## Porter County Board of Health-Special Session-2024 Budget

Tuesday June 20, 2023

Commissioners Chambers

### Full Version of Minutes

**In Attendance:** Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Dr. Maria Stamp, Dr. Patrick Fleming, Jessica Jepsen, Terry Wuletich, Dr. Linda Boxum, Dr. Ronald Michael, Robyn Lane

**Absent:** Kathy Lemmon

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Dr. Linda Boxum call the meeting to order and leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Boxum: Thank you all for joining us on an extra meeting on this beautiful evening. So this meeting was called for special budget approval that was required to us by the auditors, so I will hand over that discussion to the board.

Sheila Paul: We have it from here.

Dr. Boxum: Thank you.

Sheila Paul: so as you all know from my email, the auditors told us on June 1 that we have to have the budget submitted by the end of June. Of course it requires board approval to do that. So this is just the 2024 preliminary budget. Of course we all that with health first funding, this might change. The auditors are aware of that and they are okay with that. So this is just a preliminary budget at this time so we can present it to the auditors. Do you want me to go through this in detail, do you have questions from when you looked at it?

Dr. Boxum: I have no questions.

Sheila Paul: So I will just kind of go through what the different funds are really quick. The health fund, is the primary fund we work out of. Health maintenance is one of the funds that comes from the state department of health, along with the trust fund. This is a grant that we receive for our emergency preparedness. This one here is an immunization grant that we received. This one here is a supplemental grant that we received. I'm sorry if it's a little bit squished, I just wanted to get it all on here for you. As you'll notice, there are lots of places that show increases and decreases, the decrease is because we just really haven't been using it consistently. The increases are all for outreach for the most part. This is our Covid testing grant. We are no long receiving this, you'll notice we are certainly less in that this year. This is our workforce development for school liaison. This is our new lead grant that hadn't been updated that last time you saw it last, and this is how we broke it down. It is pretty similar to the last one. We just added another equipment line that the county counsel approved at the last meeting to purchase equipment for lead testing. So that's all we got.

Dr. Boxum: Pretty straight forward. Motion to approve this budget and to pass forward to the county auditor. Dr. Fleming?

Dr. Fleming: Eye

Terry Wuletich: I second.

Dr. Boxum: thank you Mrs. Wuletich

Dr. Boxum: Approve? Doctor.

Dr. Ronald Michael: Pardon?

Dr. Boxum: We are voting. Yay or nay?

Dr. Michael: Yay, its fine.

Dr. Boxum: Okay. So I think we have 7-0 to approve. I mean 6, you're right. We are down a person.

Sheila Paul: Terrific.

Dr. Boxum: So that is all we had on the budget, I mean on the agenda but do we have anymore to add?

Dr. Stamp: yes, one other thing. So hopefully you all had a chance to read your emails today. I am very sad to tell you that Sheila Paul, our administrator for the past couple of years is leaving us to join the Indiana Department of Health in the regional administrator which is a new position that was set up by the wonderful legislation that we have from the state. But unfortunately it take Sheila away from us. So I have according to our employee handbook, and HR, I have chosen to promote from within so I'd like to appoint Carrie Gschwind as our next health department Administrator. She has been with us almost five years in the foods division. I think all of you have had a chance to meet her. She is a remarkable visionary, a leader, a great manager of people and will do wonderful at this time at this position. I am really happy to announce that. However, I understand that we also need to have a confirmation by the board as Jessica brought up at in a return email, if you've had a chance to see that. So the next time we can put that on the agenda is in August. So in this situation then, we will go ahead and place Carrie as the interim health department Administrator until we can have it on the agenda for a vote. So she will get started with Sheila this week and learn the ropes and this is a really good time to get involved. So please welcome Carrie and I am excited to work with her.

"Applause"

Dr. Boxum: I have to say that I was upset to read today that we are going to be losing Sheila, but then as I was reading the first person who came to mind to replace her at that position was Carrie so as much as I am disappointed, I am so proud and happy for you. I could not think of a better person to fit that role.

Jessica Jepsen: In the meantime, I'd like to make a comment. I think I love Carrie's energy, I want to make sure that we don't lose you, I want to make sure you are properly supported in the process. We have a monumental path in reasonability as a board. I would like to see Carrie's credentials and where she's been so that then we as a board can know if we need to give her more support and tools in her tool belt and resources that might be, I am not sure what your background is, as far as wellness programing and things of that nature, so if we could have that and in the meantime, before our next meeting.

Dr. Stamp: So, looking for a copy of her CD?

Dave Hollenbeck: Yes.

Jessica Jepsen: Yes, just what your background is and your strong suits and so forth, and if you want to just send us bullet points of where we might be able to support you, that's our job. So.

Robyn Lane: Are we still going to be able to utilize Sheila?

Dr. Stamp: Maybe Sheila should explain her new role?

Robyn Lane: I would like an explanation because it does seem like a very new position and I am not sure what the purpose of it is.

Sheila Paul: So the department of health has created a team of subject matter experts who are in different regions of the state. And so within that team is an administrator, and my role will be to support local health department and be there to kind of be a liaison between local health department and the state department of health. To get them answers when they need it, and quickly guide them to the right people and the right resources. And then under that position are several other positions. I don't have an exhausted list but it includes an attorney, emergency preparedness, food safety, environmental, public health nurse, school liaison and quality, data analyst, and possibly a couple of others in there. So diffidently, that is the great thing about the fact that I am taking this position, is Carrie can call me anytime and say hey what about this or hey how about this. It's not like I'm just disappearing and she won't be able to contact me. I am not moving.

Dr. Stamp: I guess I should have specified that that she took the northern regional position because there are three within the state. So she could have disappeared and gone to a southern regional position but she will be in the northern regional position.

Dr. Stamp: And how greatly that speaks to you and this health department, that you were chosen out of all the counties and the health department, to be one of the three leaders in this state, it just speaks so much to you and to all who work at this health department. I am super proud of you.

Sheila Paul: Thank you so much.

Dave Hollenbeck: We are only letting her go if she promises to answer our calls first.

Sheila Paul: This is being recorded I don't think so.

Dr. Boxum: Congratulation.

Dr. Fleming: That is phenomenal. It's hard to see you go.

Dr. Boxum: And congratulations Carrie. So at this time we can open up for public comment. I know there is a sign in somewhere. Where is it?

Demetrious Lewis: It's up there, right up there.

Dr. Boxum: Alright, thank you. So we are going to limit this to three minutes.

Dave Hollenbeck: Is someone on the signup sheet?

Demetrious Lewis: no one yet.

Dr. Boxum: Alright. Well motion to adjourn our meeting.

Terry Wuletich: I motion to adjourn.

Dr. Boxum: Do I have a second? All in favor? Awesome. Thank you all.