

MINUTES AND MEMORANDA
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
October 19, 2022
Regular Meeting

Present at the Meeting:

Jason Marker, M.D.	Vice President
Ilana T. Kirsch, M.D., FACOG	Member
John Linn, P.E.	Member
Ellen Reilander, J.D.	Member

Also Present at the Meeting:

Robert M. Einterz, M.D.	Health Officer
Mark D. Fox, MD, PhD, MPH	Deputy Health Officer
Jennifer S. Parcell	Executive Administrative Asst.
Amy Ruppe	Administrator
Robin Vida	Director - HOPE
Brett Davis	Assistant Director of Environmental Health
Jodie Pairitz	Director of Nursing -Zoom
Carolyn Smith	Food Services Director
Denise Kingsberry	Vital Records Assistant Director
Harry Gilbride	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
Sally Dixon	MIH Coordinator
Mark Espich	Environmental Health Director
Karen Teague	Food Services Assistant Director -Zoom
Marcellus Lebbin, J.D.	Department of Health Attorney

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, & NOMINATIONS

Board Vice President, Dr. Marker, called the October 19, 2022, regular Board of Health meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion made by Dr. Kirsch, seconded by Mr. Linn, the agenda was put to the Board. The Agenda was unanimously approved.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On motion made by Dr. Kirsch, seconded by Attorney Reilander the minutes for the September 21, 2022 regular meeting were put to the Board. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. BOARD PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

Dr. Einterz directed the Board to the written report. He then noted that there would be a report in WNDU regarding safe sleep for infants that the Department of Health assisted with. Dr. Einterz also informed the Board that the Department of Health was tracking travelers from Uganda to ensure the individual was not carrying the EBOLA.

Dr. Kirsch then asked about the different types of homelessness. Mr. Gilbride gave a short summary to the Board. Dr. Kirsch then asked about the abatement letters and Mr. Espich gave an outline of the types of health issues that would trigger such a letter as well as the reasons more of them were being sent recently. Dr. Kirsch moved to congratulating Ms. Dixon for a conference for mothers she helped organize. Ms. Dixon gave the Board an update on the outreach program for mothers and her experience at the conference and Representative Devon's involvement.

Dr. Kirsch, Attorney Reilander, and Dr. Einterz then had a discussion about the increase in vaccinations and how they are presented in the written report. Attorney Reilander followed up with some questions on figures in the report related to services provided and needs requested.

Attorney Reliander then asked if links could be provided to the media created by the Department of Health and Ms. Vida responded she would happily provide the links. Attorney Reliander then inquired as to the NBC news story. Ms. Vida responded that it was in relation to a fentanyl raid in Colorado. As the fentanyl was destined for South Bend NBC was doing a story on what fentanyl looks like in South Bend.

Attorney Reliander then asked who was receiving Narcan training and Ms. Vida gave an outline of the Department of Health's training. Mr. Linn noted that deaths reported from September were unfortunate and asked what could be done to improve them. Ms. Vida then discussed the impact of fentanyl with Mr. Linn and the Board.

Attorney Reilander then asked about the increase in sudden infant sleeping deaths. Ms. Dixon informed the Board on the Department of Health's efforts to reduce the numbers.

Attorney Reilander then read a letter questioning the Department of Health's stance on smoking.

Dr. Marker then asked if the Department of Health was aware of the potential for individuals in the Motels 4 Now program to be victims of crime. Mr. Gilbride informed the Board he was aware of the problem and was working with other communities to see how they have addressed the issue.

DEPUTY HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

There was nothing to report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A media clip was played for the Board promoting the work of the Department of Health.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VIII. BOARD NOTIFICATIONS

Personnel changes were noted.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa Tyconievich spoke against abortion.

X. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting of the St. Joseph County Board of Health is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 4:30 p.m., at the County-City Building.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

ATTEST:



Robert M. Einterz, M.D.
St. Joseph County Health Officer

Respectfully submitted,



Marcellus Lebbin, Esq.
Health Department Attorney