



Minutes for Guthrie County Board of Health

Guthrie County Health Services

September 7, 2022 Regular Meeting

Present

- A. Board Members: Jan Mueller, Peg Snyder, Dr. Bascom, Mike Dickson, Bill McDermott
- B. Director: Jotham Arber
- C. Staff member: Jo Rasmussen
- D. Guest: None

Call to Order - Dr. Steven Bascom, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Board minutes

- August 3, 2022 regular meeting was reviewed.
 - Motion by McDermott second by Mueller to accept the August 3, 2022. Motion carried.

Financial Report

- Financial reports for both departments were reviewed.
 - Environmental Health
 - Arber reviewed the financial report.
 - Arber noted that we will review raising the base rate for Adair, Audubon and Cass Counties in the 28E agreements. Arber will bring changes to the board to review in December.
 - Public Health
 - Arber reviewed the financial report.

Department Activity Report

- Activities for Environmental Health and Public Health
 - Monthly reports of services provided for public health and environmental health were reviewed.
 - Arber noted that we will need to purchase a new camera for passports pictures. The old camera was given to us by the recorder's office when we started doing passports.
 - Arber also noted an issue with a dog bite in Casey. He had to ask the sheriff's office to help locate the animal and the owner.
- Activities for Social Worker
 - A report was shared by Jenny Jessen, MSW, for the month of July 2022.
 - Arber noted that Jessen will take over supervising the HOPES program in September 2022. Abby James will continue making most of the HOPES visits.
 - Jessen has been approved to take Mental Health First Aid training and it will be funded by the emergency preparedness grants.
- Epidemiology report (includes COVID activities)
 - Arber gave an update on the current number of COVID cases.
 - Arber noted that we have received the bivalent booster vaccine this week, both Pfizer and Moderna. We received only 300 doses of the Moderna and 1200 doses of Pfizer.
 - We are planning on hosting community clinics in Casey, Panora and Stuart. Staff will continue doing the clinics at Guthrie and Audubon on Wednesdays.

Old Business

1. County Ordinance for Tanning Facilities
 - Arber has given the ordinance to the Guthrie County Attorney's office for review.
2. Annual inspections billing for property at Lake Panorama
 - In October we will start sending out information about the changes in annual inspections charges. The letter will inform them they will still get inspected every fourth year but will receive an annual bill for \$20 per year.
 - Arber noted that all properties will still get inspected even if they have a time of transfer done that year.

3. Public Health remodel

- Arber explained the layout for remodeling the office. Most of the work can be done by staff members with Brandon Thompson doing the electrical work.

New Business

1. Social Worker therapy rates

- Arber reported that he would like to charge for therapy. He is suggesting charging \$165.00 per hour. We have consulted several other agencies and private practices on what rate to charge. Arber noted that he is working on creating a sliding fee scale.
- Motion by McDermot, seconded by Snyder to charge \$165 for a full hour for a mental health therapy session. Motion carried.

2. Contract with Tina Leaf, Supervisor for Jenny Jessen Social Worker

- Arber gave a copy of a contract with Tina Leaf to be the supervisor for Jessen. She is required to meet with Leaf once a week for the next two years. The cost is \$75 per week. Once we have the contract signed, the agency can start billing for therapy visits.
- Leaf will cover the malpractice insurance. Jessen will be covered by the County as an employee.
- Motion by Dickson seconded by Mueller to approve the contract with Tina Leaf. Motion carried.

3. Contract with Mental Health Region

- Arber shared that we are working with the region to pay for some of the therapy visits if a client has no insurance. It might pay for any crisis interventions that Jessen would do with local law enforcement.

4. Medical bill for incident at COVID clinic

- Arber explained about an incident that happened at the Panora School COVID clinic. The lady's insurance covered everything but the cost of the ambulance transport from the Guthrie County Hospital to Des Moines.
- A staff member from our clinic drove the lady to the Guthrie County Hospital. After being seen by the ER staff other issues were found and the family and the client wanted to be transferred to Des Moines.
- Discussion was held by board members about whether to pay this bill. The daughter did pay the bill with the ambulance service but would like to be reimbursed. Consensus was this would not be covered by the County since our staff got her to the closest hospital.

5. New website for County Health Services

- Arber showed the board the new website for County Health Services. It is currently under construction. Once the new credit card machines are set up with the treasurer's office the website will have a place to make payments on-line.

Policy Review

- None for this meeting.

Guest

- None

Other

- Jotham will be on vacation September 9th through the 16th.

Next Schedule meeting dates

- October 5, 2022
- November 2, 2022
- December 7, 2022

Meeting closed at 8:10 pm.

Representative of Board of Health

Board Secretary