



# Minutes for Guthrie County Board of Health

## Guthrie County Health Services

December 6, 2023 Regular Meeting

### Present

- A. Board Members: Jan Mueller, Peg Snyder, Bill McDermott, Mike Dickson
- B. Director: Jotham Arber
- C. Staff member: Jo Rasmussen
- D. Guest: Christy Jenkins, Paula Spies, Cindy Duhrkopf

**Call to Order** - Jan Mueller, Vice Chairman opened the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

### Board Minutes

- November 1, 2023 minutes were reviewed.
  - Motion by Dickson second by McDermott to approve minutes. Motion carried.

### Financial Report

- **Environmental Health**
  - Arber reviewed the financial report.
  - The Board of Supervisors approve the rest of the 50% allocation for FY24 budgets.
  - Did get funding from the State of Iowa for marketing for free water, radon test, public health services, mental health services.
- **Public Health**
  - Arber reviewed the financial report.

### Department Activity Report

- Activities for Public Health and Environmental Health
  - Monthly reports of services provided were reviewed.
  - Justin Downing will be working on places the maps on Beacons this winter.
  - Kent Irwin will be sending out information regarding the Winter Exercise to board members. It will give the dates of the exercise and what involvement the board members will be involved.
- Activities for Social Worker
  - Monthly reports of services provided were reviewed.
  - Jessen's mental health sessions is now credential with Iowa Medicaid, Medicare and United Health Care. Wellmark and Humana will credential after Jessen becomes fully licensed which will be next year.
  - Arber noted that would like to meet with the Mental Health Region to assist us to hire another social worker/resource navigator. He mentioned working with the local schools to support another social worker that can assist families.
- Epidemiology Report
  - Arber gave an update on communicable disease activities.
  - Respiratory infections are increasing this fall.
  - Legionella outbreak in Audubon County at a Nursing Home.

### Old Business

1. Evaluation for Director Jotham Arber
  - Mueller gave the results from the evaluation done by the Board of Health members for Jotham Arber. Arber declined going into closed session for the evaluation. Goals were set for the next year.
2. Update on COVID vaccines
  - Total of thirty doses were purchased for private stock. All of the vaccines have been given or spoken for. Wellmark and Medicare paid in the full amount of billed.
  - Underinsured vaccines still have ten doses available to adults. There are ten doses for Children VFC program for COVID vaccine.
3. Equity, response and IT final spending

- Arber gave report on how the funding will be spent.
  - Media outlets with billboards, Panora/Guthrie papers, Bayard Gazette and Stuart Herald/5 x 80 newspapers will runs ads.
  - Electronics will be spent on technology for communications. The IT grant allowed us to pay \$10,000 towards IT support for the county.

### **New Business**

1. Transferring funds from Public Fund Savings Account to Our Community Foundation.
  - The fund was set up as a savings account for donations for all projects. This money would then stay out of the general budget until needed, allowing donations to roll over year after year.
  - The total balance in this savings account is \$1,484.80.
  - Rasmussen noted that she talked with Brenda Campbell, County Treasurer, and she is fine with closing the account out and moving the funds over to Our Communities Foundation grant. Campbell noted that she would like a letter approved by the Board of Health to begin the process.
  - Motion by McDermott seconded by Snyder to close this account and move the money over to Our Communities Foundation checking account in the amount of \$1,484.89. Motion carried.

### **Policy Review**

- None for this meeting

### **Other**

- Employee spotlight
  - Shirley Brown will be retiring end of December. She works and lives in Cass County. She has worked for us for seven years. Last day will be January 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Christy Jenkins gave an update on programs with New Opportunities.
- Paula Spies gave an update on programs with New Opportunities.
- Arber gave an update on his meeting with Dr. Garcia with IDPH and others.

### **Next Schedule meeting dates**

- Consensus for the next meeting will be January 17 to present the budget for FY25. It might be moved to January 24 if Dickson has another meeting.

Meeting closed at 9:00 p.m.

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Representative of Board of Health

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Board Secretary