



Minutes for Guthrie County Board of Health

Guthrie County Health Services

May 1, 2024 Regular Meeting

Present

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

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

Board Minutes

- April 3, 2024 minutes were reviewed.
 - Motion by Snyder second Mueller to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report

- **Environmental Health**
 - Arber reviewed the financial report.
 - Arber noted that we going to purchase a mini skid loader for Justin Downing to do perc tests. The mini skid will have tracts and is a stand-up unit. The funding will come out of the maintenance budget.
 - The current side by side will be used at the Transfer Station.
- **Public Health**
 - Arber reviewed the financial report.

Department Activity Report

- Activities for Public Health/Environmental Health/Social Worker
 - Monthly reports of services provided were reviewed.
 - Arber told the board members to be prepared for a possible call down for an emergency preparedness exercise.
 - Arber reported he attended a meeting with Heart of Iowa about assisting with funding to hire another mental health provider and a social worker. Arber met with the Guthrie County Hospital and it is willing to assist with funding the social worker position up to half of the cost. The employee would be a Guthrie County employee. A job description will need to be worked out with the hospital.
- Epidemiology Report
 - Arber gave an update on communicable disease activities.

Old Business

1. Remodeling project for the Public Health office
 - Arber gave an update on how soon the remodeling will happen. He estimates the cost to be \$75,000. Expectations is that it will be funded by the Heart of Iowa. Discussion was held on if Veteran Affairs could move up to the Public Health office.
 - Discussion was held on a storm shelter.
2. Update on FY24 budget amendment
 - Arber noted that we presented a budget amendment for FY24 for Public Health and Environmental Health.
 - Public Health requested an expense amendment of \$79,680. This covers \$65,000 for the items purchased with the Equity grant, \$8,000 for Emergency Prep grant to cover EMS training and \$6,680 for the increase in property insurance. The offsetting revenue amendment of \$73,000 relates to the grant funding.
 - For the Environmental Health a budget amendment was requested to cover a health insurance correction.
 - Motion by Dickson seconded by Snyder to accept the budget amendment. Motion carried.

New Business

1. Copier Lease Agreement
 - Arber reported that the current copier lease agreement will be up in May, 2024. Quotes from Access Systems was given for a Sharp and Ricoh. There was discussion on whether to lease or purchase directly.
 - \$25 per month can be saved by leasing the Sharp copier from Access Systems instead of Laser Resources.
 - Mueller moved seconded by Snyder to lease a new copier from Access Systems. Motion approved.
2. Seasonal help for Environmental Health – Brooke Halterman
 - Brooke Halterman will work another season doing the Lake inspections. She will assist in entering drawings into Beacon. By August all systems should be accessible for all four counties.

Policy Review

- County Wide Ordinance for Animal Bites
 - Arber reported on the round table discussion held on April 30 with board members, supervisors, the Sheriff and some community members. The following suggestions were made by the group.
 - Definition of what a vicious attack would be a break in the skin. An attack would still be considered vicious if a human or another animal was knocked down and mauled.
 - Discussion was held on what the appeal process for the animal owner would consist of and what department would be responsible for animal control including retrieving the animal.
 - Arber suggested creating a review board for all animal bites. The board would consist of three persons; a medial professional, a veterinary and a member of the Sheriff's office. No one from the Public Health office or the Board of Health would serve on the review board. The Public Health department would do the investigations and refer the findings to the review board. If the review board deems the incident a vicious attack, then the findings would proceed to the Board of Health for review.
 - Arber noted that he will get a current copy of the ordinance with the changes to the County Attorney for review. The ordinance will refer to the current State Law.
 - Discussion was held on whether the minutes from the meeting for the Animal Bite Ordinance work session needs to be approved by both Board of Health and Board of Supervisor. Arber and Rasmussen were directed to contact the County Attorney to see if the minutes need to be approved. The meeting was held at the Public Health office on April 30, 2024 at noon. An agenda was posted at Public Health and the courthouse. All five board of supervisors and three board of health members were present.

Other

- Employee spotlight – none presented at this meeting
- Arber has talked with Dr. Strehle and Andrew Knorr, Pharmacist, from Panora about being on the Board of Health replacing Bill McDermott.

Next Schedule meeting dates

- Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Bascom will not be available for this meeting.

Meeting closed at 8:05 p.m.

Representative of Board of Health

Board Secretary