



PUBLIC HEALTH

Danielle Pettit-Majewski, BS, MPH, Director

Board of Health
Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP
Vice Chair, Zachary J. Pollock, PharmD, MS
Chair, Bonnie Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA
Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS
Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 15, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

4:00 pm

Call to Order: Bonnie Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

Note: call to order is past the 4:00pm call to order due to technical issues, also operating a portion of the meeting as an electronic meeting pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8.

Roll Call: Bonnie D. Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA (via Teams); Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP (joined the meeting in person at 4:08pm)

Staff: Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Director; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; Rob Thul, Environmental Health Manager (via Teams); Roberta Sloat, Clinical Services Manager; Susan Vileta, Health Educator; Giselle Coreas, Health Planner; Alissa Sotzen, Account Clerk I; Susan Denny, Secretary II

Others Present: David VanCompernelle, Assistant County Attorney; V. Fixmer-Oraiz, BOS Liaison (via Teams)

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Wellington to approve the April 17, 2024 meeting minutes; seconded by Rubin. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: June 26, 2024 in Conference Room 203 at 4:00 pm in the Health and Human Services Building. This is a collaborative meeting with the Board of Supervisors. The regular BOH meeting will be held at 4:00 pm, the collaborative meeting will be held at 5:00pm.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: Susan Vileta commented on the City of Iowa City issuance of a moratorium on tobacco and vape licenses until January 1, 2025. She informed the BOH that she has been part of the discussions with the city, businesses and community organizations in support of the moratorium and the legality of proceeding with that decision. She added challenges to pre-emption are not common in Iowa, especially regarding vaping. Vileta cited previous Attorney General formal documentation supporting restrictions for location, proximity and density in related zoning ordinances as well as square footage proximity to schools, parks, etc., according to population numbers. Vileta also mentioned as retailers leave, limiting replacement of tobacco or vaping new businesses and possible signage and operating hours restrictions as potential solutions. She listed various other ways to reduce exposure to the public.

Staff Updates: Pettit-Majewski updated the BOH on the status of the Fiscal Manager position. Rubin and Pettit-Majewski have scheduled five interviews next week. One applicant has taken another position.

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S): None

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000: None

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

- **RFA 24-15 Recover Friendly workplace Pilot Grant Application:** Coreas asked for BOH approval to apply for up to ten thousand dollars for the eighteen-month long grant opportunity, promoting a safer workplace. Coreas identified depression and anxiety on the most recent WellBQ survey as well as other factors contributing to workplace stress. The funds will be used to train up to twenty county employees in a peer support program.

Motion by Bosch to approve application of the Recover Friendly Workplace Pilot Grant to address mental health through a peer support program; seconded by Wellington. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

- **Agenda Topics for the Joint BOH-BOS meeting June 26, 2024:** Pettit-Majewski reminded BOH members the regular June 26, 2024 BOH meeting will be kept strictly to one hour before the BOS joint meeting. She identified previous topics discussed with the BOS including the annual review of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) clarifying the BOH and BOS split in authority signed last year, and annual review of changes to the Johnson County Employee Handbook. Pettit-Majewski asked BOH members to send any agenda topics as soon as possible to her and Rubin so that the BOS Administrative Assistant can include them in the joint meeting agenda. Staff and BOH members discussed topics such as Regionalization, likely upcoming legislation, Behavioral Health regions and changes, future changes in Iowa Code and collaboration or merging with other BOH departments. Rubin will be meeting with Rod Sullivan, Chairperson BOS to confirm an agreed upon agenda. She stressed the importance of making the BOS aware of changes in governmental oversight and responsibilities, especially at the BOS level and how that will result in changes to authoritative oversight for public health actions. Awareness of possible changes that may be initiated now will help the BOS be prepared for funding and authority impacts. Fixmer-Oraiz expressed support for continued conversation with the BOS regarding impending changes and space needs. She also would like to add the topic of position statements and the possible co-writing of position statements with BOS members to the joint meeting agenda. Fixmer-Oraiz acknowledged recent changes to the employee handbook since hiring a new Human Resources director. They suggested inviting the HR director to the meeting. More discussion followed regarding Iowa Health and Human Services (IHHS) Behavioral Health change impacts and subsequent possible changes to code also upcoming townhall meetings for local boards of health to provide input as well as making boards of supervisors aware of the importance of staying up to date on developments. Emergency Management collaboration and the possible impacts of IHHS changes were also discussed.

- **Update on Position Papers:** Pettit-Majewski informed BOH members starting next week JCPH will have a policy student who will work with JCPH throughout the summer to pursue ideas for position papers such as gun violence vs gun safety, reproductive health, LGBTQ issues, environmental safety, and pesticide use. She asked BOH members to let her know their priorities for some of these issues. Pollock and Wallace asked about making sure review of prior position papers will be continued and whether the student will be reviewing existing position papers. Pettit-Majewski clarified the student will only be working on new position paper ideas. She assured BOH members the existing position papers are still being reviewed according to schedule. Wellington commented the student will be helpful to provide research assistance she

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hasn't had time to pursue. Fixmer-Oraiz expressed appreciation for Pettit-Majewski's presence on the Transgender Advisory Committee formed, adding they have identified five areas to keep transgender people safer in Johnson County, one being medical access.

Reports / Inquiries:

Liaison from BOS: Fixmer-Oraiz reported there is now only one liaison from the BOS assigned to JCPH instead of two. They will remain as the BOH liaison until rotating in December.

County Attorney: None

Members, Board of Health: Rubin reported her remote status is due to surgical mobility issues. She also wanted to give kudos to staff working with the schools for the I-Smile program. Rubin asked Thul, Environmental Health Manager for any feedback resulting from notification to the public on the new name for the Grants to Counties (GTC) well testing program; Private Well Project (PWP) for water testing see if people are more responsive to the new name.

Wallace reported on the Community Advisory Committee formed by the President of the University of Iowa to monitor the acquisition of Mercy Hospital to the UI Health Care system has met and will continue to meet. He stressed they are aware of the concerns of the community about medical care and public health by extension. He also mentioned the impending changes in dental care and other clinical services in the community that Mercy helped support and provide.

Bosch commented on WIC program access related to bus routes and Medicaid transportation support issues. Pettit-Majewski clarified reimbursement for transportation is only covered at the time of a Medicaid covered service, not if clients are coming just for a WIC appointment. She added JCPH has added more accessible satellite clinic locations to help solve the transportation issues.

Director: Pettit-Majewski reported JCPH staff highlights from divisions and programs including ITS, Environmental Health, Community Health and DPS and Clinical Services. She also reported conversation with Iowa Primary Care Association (IPCA) about resources in Johnson County. She added Johnson County does not qualify for a federally qualified health center but there are other options. She has been working with Jennie Schmidt, Executive Director of the Iowa City Free Medical and Dental Clinic who along with Rubin and Fixmer-Oraiz will be meeting with the IPCA to learn more about possible ways to expand care and create sustainable funding.

Rubin adjourned the meeting at 4:57 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

June 26, 2024

Date

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II

Signature on File

Bonnie Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA, Chair