



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
November 20, 2024
MEETING MINUTES
4:00 pm

Call to Order: Bonnie Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Roll Call: Bonnie D. Rubin, CLS, MBA, MHA; Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP; Melanie Wellington, MD, PhD (4:06 pm); ABSENT: Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS

Staff: Danielle Pettit-Majewski, Director; Sam Jarvis, Community Health Manager; Rob Thul, Environmental Health Manager; Roberta Sloat, Clinical Services Manager; Matt Waldschmidt, Fiscal Manager; James Lacina, EH Specialist II; Brycen Myers, Health Educator; Alissa Sotzen, Grants Analyst; Susan Denny, Secretary II

Others Present: David VanCompernelle, Assistant County Attorney; ~~Roxanne Smith, Community Health Consultant IHHS~~ correction 1/6/25; Josh Busard, Director Planning Development and Sustainability; Martin Menge; Richard Frauenholtz, Michelle Weckmann, MS, MD, Medical Director Iowa City Hospice, Visiting Nurse Association of Johnson County

Approval of Minutes: Motion by to approve the Wallace meeting minutes; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: December 18, 2024 in Conference Room 203 at 4:00 pm in the Health and Human Services Building. This date may be changed due to member availability.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues:

Staff Updates: None

Finance Updates: Waldschmidt reported next meeting will include FY26 Budget expectations. He and Pettit-Majewski provided a short summary of budget highlights.

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S): Public Hearing on Lakeview Dr NE Variance Requests (after RFA 24-33)

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000: None

- **RFA 24-33 Doxyprep Standing Orders:** (Rubin as BOH Chair moved this RFA ahead of the Public Hearing on Twin Lakeview Drive NE variance requests). Myers asked the BOH for approval for the ITS program to provide doxycycline as post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to treat several types of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). He explained the PEP involves taking medication to prevent an infection after possible exposure and is a common strategy for prevention of HIV and other infections. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released their recommendations for an on-going, patient-managed STI prevention strategy to include PEP due to the rapid rise in STI's. The PEP would be used to prevent syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea infections especially in impacted populations.

Motion by Bosch to approve the ITS program providing doxycycline as post-exposure prophylaxis; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing on Twin Lakeview Drive NE Variance Requests: Rubin announced JCPH staff would open the hearing followed by the landowners requesting the variances, then other interested parties. Thul explained the issue involving a variance appeal to JCPH's 2020 Private Septic Disposal System regulations, section 23.01 and why the requested variances would violate section 23 of the regulations which specifically address the protection of sensitive areas. The homeowners are requesting approval for the variances. He then explained the current situation, as well as the background and provided documents detailing the issues. Thul summarized the homeowners are wanting to build on a lot that was illegally deeded and recorded prior to their ownership. The request is to replat current and legal parcels adjacent to Lot 39 to absorb one half each. Currently this lot is used as yard space, split between the owners by private deed since 1985, but not legally subdivided. Planning, Development and Sustainability (PD&S) has stated they would not issue a building permit unless the lots are replatted legally, which would violate the JCPH sensitive area section of the regulations as well as prohibit any repair or replacement to existing grandfathered exemption for the owners' septic systems. PD&S requested the replatting be approved to clean up the illegal subdivision and parcel lot line, which would result in more properties in similar status to request variances. Thul explained exemptions for pre-1968 parcels from the restrictions and pointed out the landowners would lose this exemption, rendering the lots unsewerable under current regulations. He provided policy history and onsite wastewater regulations and outlined how granting a variance in this situation would undermine the integrity of the environmental regulation. Thul presented several options for solutions to this issue. Lengthy discussion about the details of the issue between JCPH staff, PD&S Director Josh Busard, landowners, BOH members and Van Compennolle, Assistant County Attorney, to address the pros and cons of approving or denying the request for the variances. This discussion resulted in a decision to obtain more information as well as drafting a statement aiming to benefit the landowner situation as well as environmental protections and future challenges. Two BOH members will review as well as JCPH staff and input from VanCompennolle to be presented at the December BOH meeting and comply with open meetings laws.

5:33 pm Public Hearing ended.

Motion by Wellington to table both RFA 24-34 and RFA 24-35 variance requests in order to create a statement that will protect both the owners and the environment; with agreement to resolve the issue at the December BOH meeting; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

OTHER

- **24-36 Administrative Coordinator Job Description:** Waldschmidt asked the BOH for approval to move forward with creating an Administrative Coordinator position. He explained the current position is a hybrid Clinical Services and Administrative Supervisor and not efficient. Waldschmidt justified the need for the restructure of the position to work with the Fiscal Manager. A second position to address Clinical Services needs will be presented.

Motion by Wellington to approve the Administrative Coordinator Job Description; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

- **RFA 24-37 Clinical Services Coordinator Job Description:** Sloat reported this position would address the need to separate the Clinical Services and Administrative roles by creating the coordinator position to support the Clinical Services Manager. Due to changes in organizational structure in Clinical Services, including the Collaborative Services Area (CSA) realignment and additional requirements for programs. She reminded the BOH the need for this position was approved in the previous fiscal year budget. Sloat asked the BOH to approve the job description to proceed to request BOS approval.

Motion by Bosch to approve Clinical Services Coordinator Job Description and the creation of the position; seconded by Wallace. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSIONS

- **Emerging Infectious Disease Update:** Jarvis provided updates on current Community Health team activities and responded to questions and comments from BOH members.

- **NACCHO Funding:** Jarvis reported applying through National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) for up to twenty-thousand-dollars in funding to support vaccination efforts. Rubin explained normally this would have come before the BOH for approval, but since it was due before this meeting she gave permission to apply.

- **IHHS Summer Tour Meeting:** Pettit-Majewski reported attending the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (IHHS) Summer Tour Meeting on November 6, 2024

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: None

Members, Board of Health: Wallace reported discussing the use of public health professionals as resources and knowledge for future legislative consideration with current legislators. Wallace also attended the American Public Health Association meeting in Minneapolis in late October and provided highlights of the meeting. Wellington reported on new vaccine reporting changes. She has been working with Iowa Immunizes and recommended advocating for vaccination whenever possible, adding that reporting changes resulted in increased difficulty accessing HPV results, and

changes in exemptions requirements are making it easier for parents to file personal belief exemptions for not vaccinating children.

Director: Pettit-Majewski thanked Wellington for her overview of the H5N1 Dairy Farm situation and shared with the rest of the state’s BOH departments.

Pettit-Majewski reported Becky Hackett-Leas, Oral Health Coordinator was interviewed regarding fluoridation and involvement by Robert F. Kennedy plans to remove it from water sources after the Daily Iowan reached out to her. She spoke about municipal water system levels, dentures and issues in older generations and messaging to encourage trust in primary care doctors more than government as well as continuing to talk with physicians and develop positive messaging. A suggestion for messaging was Public Health Policy not Politics to combat misinformation and repetitive messaging of vaccinations as safe and effective.

Motion by Rubin to adjourn the meeting.

Rubin adjourned the meeting at 6:11 pm.

(Corrected Version) Approved by Board of Health Action on

January 15, 2025

signature on file

Date

Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS, Vice Chair

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II