



## Scott County Health Department

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### SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

May 21, 2020

### MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Via Web-Ex at the Scott County Administrative Center  
600 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street – 4th Floor Conference Room  
Davenport, Iowa 52801

Mrs. Coiner, Chair of the Scott County Board of Health, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Members Present: Via Web-Ex: Mrs. Coiner, Dr. O'Donnell, Dr. Sandeman

Member Absent: Dr. Hanson, Dr. Squire

Staff Present: In Person: Edward Rivers, Amy Thoreson, Eric Bradley, Roma Taylor, Tiffany Tjepkes, Teri Arnold  
Via Web-Ex: Briana Boswell, Katie DeLaRosa, Carole Ferch, Jackie Hall, Julia Lotta, Christina McDonough, Kim Mills, Lashon Moore, Jane Morehouse, Sue VanDeWalle, Brittany Wall

Others Present: Via Web-Ex: Nicole Mann, Kathy Morris, Mark Ridolfi, Brian Irby

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. Sandeman moved to accept the agenda. Motion seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2020 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Sandeman. Motion carried unanimously.

Edward Rivers recognized the following employees for their years of service with the department.

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|--|----------|----------|
| • Kershanna Harris, Correctional Health Nurse  | 1 year   | April 23 |
| • Briana Boswell, Community Health Consultant  | 12 years | April 9  |
| • Jackie Hall, Environmental Health Specialist | 44 years | April 5  |
| • Eric Bradley, Environmental Health Manager   | 14 years | May 8    |

Mr. Rivers introduced Julia Lotta and Brittany Wall, new public health nurses. Brittany has been working with the Department as a per diem nurse. They both started full time on April 27.

Mr. Rivers expressed his appreciation to Jane Morehouse. She was originally scheduled to retire at the end of March but she delayed her retirement until May 29 to assist with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

At 12:05 p.m., Mrs. Coiner opened the Public Hearing. The minutes of the Public Hearing are separate from these minutes.

Following the Public Hearing, Dr. O'Donnell moved to rescind Scott County Code of Ordinance, Chapter 32, Solid Waste Haulers. Dr. Sandeman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The proposal will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for further action.

The following reports were reviewed and discussed by the Board:

A. Director's Report

Mr. Rivers reported staff has been very busy with COVID-19 responsibilities.

Staff has been actively involved with local long-term care (LTC) facilities during the outbreak. They are a great concern because they are a high-risk population nationwide. Our staff works with the Scott County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), as well as other agencies, to address personal protective equipment (PPE) and staffing needs. To date, Scott County has not seen an outbreak (three or more positive cases in residents) in a LTC facility.

Mr. Rivers noted the Scott County Administrative Center closed to the public on March 18 due to concerns regarding COVID-19. Only staff and authorized individuals have been granted access into the building. The department has not held immunization and sexual transmitted disease (STD) clinics or provided other services on a walk-in basis. In order to meet the needs of the community, and prevent other outbreaks, infants birth to two years of age, can be seen by appointment only. STD clients were also required to schedule an appointment to be treated.

The Board of Supervisors made the decision to move forward with a phased implementation of opening the building. They have invested in software to allow individuals to make appointments with other departments in the building that are not directly accessible. The individual would drive to the building, wait in his/her car, and then the software would notify the person when the appointment is three minutes away. The Health Department plans to continue with its current process for making appointments.

Mr. Rivers shared staff is in the process of reviewing and updating mass clinic plans in the event that there is a vaccine for SARS-CoV-2. This will assure that the department is prepared and in a position to conduct or cooperate with agencies that may be conducting mass immunization clinics in the community.

Mr. Rivers informed the board that staff has responded to numerous calls from businesses inquiring if they were classified as essential businesses and/or were allowed to operate according to Governor Reynolds' proclamations. Those calls were referred to state agencies. Staff has also been receiving numerous complaints regarding various businesses who were allegedly continuing to operate in Scott County in violation of the proclamations. Staff contacted and did follow-up on facilities licensed by the Health Department. The complaints received for facilities not licensed and inspected by the department were routed to the Scott County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Rivers reported that the I-Smile Silver Coordinator was able to provide dental care coordination services during this difficult time. Two local veterans were able to obtain funds for dental treatment through the Iowa Veterans Trust Fund. The I-Smile Silver Coordinator was

also able to coordinate with a Genesis Nurse Coordinator to obtain a dental consultation and care for a hospitalized patient in need of an aortic valve surgery. A local pediatric dentist and oral surgeon, without hesitation, provided dental services at the hospital bedside.

Mr. Rivers discussed the efforts to coordinate COVID-19 messaging through the public information officers (PIO). This has been a collaborative effort between the Scott and Rock Island County Health Departments. A Quad Cities PIO group has been meeting multiple times a week to connect public health, local government, and health care PIOs and to organize messaging. Community partners that are responding to COVID-19 have also joined the media calls sharing important information for providers and members of the public.

Mr. Rivers shared that Health Department staff have been assisting Scott County EMA with the logistics to support the COVID-19 response. Medical facilities providing emergency care in Scott County were told to contact the Health Department if they were unable to meet their PPE resource needs on their own, as many vendors were experiencing supply shortages. Staff, along with a multi-agency committee, review the requests and determine if the needs meet the criteria for allocation. The group have been able to assist with most of the requests.

Dr. O'Donnell asked if anyone has been tracking the number of patients that have recovered, as there are many. She shared that Scott County has done a fantastic job coming together to work on this effort. Scott County has been very fortunate that there have been no significant outbreaks in nursing homes. She expressed her opinion that the public is not aware of how minimal Scott County's positive numbers are and how well people have recovered from the virus. She would like to see a positive twist on the reporting rather than always reporting on the negative. She also expressed the importance of letting the community know what plans are being made to prepare for the future concerning the virus. Dr. O'Donnell also shared that she read an American Medical Association (AMA) article that states there is minimal science behind wearing masks. There has also been conversation that the virus is not transmissible on counter top surfaces; it is person to person. She has also heard conversation that masks should be worn until we have a vaccine. She is aware that we do not have all of the answers at this point but she would caution Scott County not to function as if it is Chicago and New York.

Mr. Rivers shared that there are recovered statistics on the [Coronavirus.iowa.gov](https://www.coronavirus.iowa.gov) website and they have been reported throughout the course of this.

Amy Thoreson shared that initially when notified of a positive case staff was required to contact the individual on a daily basis. Currently, cases are only contact after ten days, and then every three days until symptom improvement. As a result, that daily status of cases is unknown. The data on the state's website is coming from the Iowa Disease Surveillance System, which is where staff enters the information regarding cases. Staff has worked with Scott County GIS to pull data from this site to put on the department's website, but have found this to be very difficult as the state revised what is being reported. Staff will make a note of occasionally presenting the percent of cases that have recovered in Scott County during the press briefing. The data being reported is only based on the confirmed cases. That is a small number compared to the burden of the disease that could exist in the community. The Health Departments are trying to be very careful not to downplay or up play any of the data because

community spread is occurring and 80% of the people are asymptomatic. At this point, the department is encouraging individuals to be pretty careful.

Dr. O'Donnell stated that her concern is that with the misperceptions, because this is a new virus and not all of the nuances are known. She feels it is the department's responsibility to let the community know that there is a reason to be careful but not to live in a panicked fear. She wants them to know that Scott County has done a good job. The number of people that have needed to be tested has declined.

Amy Thoreson shared that the Health Department is not receiving all of the testing numbers. The state does not release this information at a local level. It has been released at a regional level. As a result, the full picture of testing being completed in the community is not known.

Mr. Rivers shared that a Harvard study stated that without a vaccine available, resurgences can be expected through calendar years 2024 – 2025. The department has been working with EMA in preparation. The PPE supplies are being restocked to assure they are available as needed.

Both Dr. O'Donnell and Mr. Rivers agreed that there is no science-backed evidence that wearing masks will protect the individual that is wearing it. The only benefit is to protect others if the mask has been fitted and worn properly.

Mrs. Coiner shared that she agrees with Dr. O'Donnell's comments.

Mr. Rivers shared statistics found on the [Coronavirus.iowa.gov](https://www.coronavirus.iowa.gov) website regarding testing. The department has been referring the community to this website rather than trying to reproduce this data for its website to assure the data is accurate and timely.

Mrs. Coiner asked how the department has been doing with our contact tracing. Mr. Rivers shared that there are seventeen staff trained and working on this. Staff have been able to keep up with the caseload. Mrs. Coiner also asked if it is known if the contacts have acquired the virus and if they have been tested. Mr. Rivers shared that if they have been tested and are positive, the department is notified.

- B. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the months of March and April 2020.
- C. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Budget Report for the months of March and April 2020.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve the claims. Motion seconded by Dr. Sandeman. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Scott County Kids Report.

Nicole Mann shared that the Scott County Kids office is closed to the public and all staff are working remotely. The Early Childhood Iowa Board and Early Childhood Coordinator, Diane Martens, are very thankful to the Health Department, especially Jessica Redden for all of the guidance given to the childcare centers.

E. Mrs. Coiner moved to the Title V, Local Public Health Services and Tobacco Use Prevention Program Report.

Tiffany Tjepkes shared staff has been working on the Maternal, Child and Adolescent grant application. There have been six amendments to the application process and the deadline has been extended until the middle of June. The Request for Application (RFA) states that Scott County Health Department is a Tier II Maternal Health Agency so expanded services are expected. The department is required to have a 1.0 FTE nurse; a request will go to the Board of Supervisors to increase the maternal, child and adolescent health nurse position from a .08 FTE. They are also requiring a .25 FTE maternal health social worker. One of the child health consultants will fill this position; she is a social worker. There were also changes made to the funding for informing and care coordination services. There will be a set figure rather than having to make projections on the number of services as done in the past. There are also additional funds for the child care nurse position included in the application.

Ms. Tjepkes shared that staff continue to provide maternal and child health services during the pandemic. They are considered essential services. Presumptive eligibility is very important as many families have become uninsured during this time. Dental services have been halted at this time due to the Iowa Dental Board rules. Three breastfeeding classes have been offered via telehealth. The Tobacco Grant application has been rescinded; an amendment to the current contract will allow services to continue.

Mrs. Coiner called for a motion to accept the reports. Dr. Sandeman moved to approve the reports. Motions seconded by Dr. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Coiner moved to Public Comment.

There were no comments.

Mrs. Coiner moved to Unfinished Business.

There were no items for Unfinished Business.

Mrs. Coiner moved to New Business.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health (including Hawki Outreach and I-Smile™) application, contract, subcontract, and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Sandeman. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize signature of the submitted Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention application, contract, and any subsequent amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Sandeman. Motion carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Dr. O'Donnell moved to approve and authorize the Staff Education Requests. Motion seconded by Dr. Sandeman. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2020.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Arnold  
Recording Secretary