



## Scott County Health Department

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### SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

February 17, 2022

### MEETING MINUTES

12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held at: Scott County Administrative Center  
600 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room  
Davenport, Iowa 52801

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

Members Present: Dr. Hanson, Mr. Robinson, Dr. Schermer

Members Absent: Dr. O'Donnell

Staff Present: Amy Thoreson, Brooke Barnes, Briana Boswell, Tiffany Peterson, Carole Ferch, Heath Johnson, Leah Kroeger, Christina McDonough, Lashon Moore, Jessica Redden, Brenda Schwarz, Stuart Scott

Others Present: Diane Martens, Scott County Kids; Mahesh Sharma, Scott County Administrator

Dr. Hanson called for a motion to accept the agenda. Mr. Robinson moved to accept the agenda. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hanson called for a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Robinson moved to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2022 Board Meeting. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried unanimously.

The following reports were reviewed and discussed by the Board:

#### A. Director's Report

Amy Thoreson recognized the following employees for their years of service with the department.

- |  |          |             |
|--|----------|-------------|
| • Ray Miller, Environmental Health Specialist    | 1 year   | February 1  |
| • Heath Johnson, Disease Intervention Specialist | 5 years  | February 20 |
| • Lashon Moore, Clinical Services Specialist     | 19 years | February 24 |
| • Amy Thoreson, Director                         | 23 years | February 22 |

Mrs. Thoreson announced Briana Boswell has been selected as the Family Health Manager for the department. Mrs. Boswell started her new role on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson shared Andy Swartz has been selected as the Environmental Health Manager. Mr. Swartz will be joining the department on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson reported Brooke Barnes; Tiffany Peterson; David Farmer, Scott County Budget Director and herself will be interviewing for the Fiscal Services Manager position on February 21<sup>st</sup> and February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mrs. Thoreson explained after filling the management positions, the next phase will be to recruit for the vacant Community Health Consultant positions.

Mrs. Thoreson reported the Quad City Health Initiative had a meeting with representatives from Community Health Care, Inc., Genesis Medical Center, Rock Island County Health Department, Scott County Health Department and UnityPoint Health to review data that had been compiled by Genesis Medical Center regarding health disparities. Mrs. Thoreson explained she was able to provide a community health perspective to the team. The group decided to establish a collaborative effort regarding a low birthweight metric.

Mrs. Thoreson shared staff met with Senator Chris Cournoyer to learn more about her interests related to mental and maternal health issues. Staff were able to provide information about the department and the role the department plays in the community.

The department will be hosting two representatives from Representative Miller-Meeks office on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be giving the representatives an overview of the department and a tour.

Mrs. Thoreson explained Scott County has been providing \$5,000 each to the Bennett and Wheatland Ambulance Services to support their EMS response in northern and northwest Scott County. In the past, there has been no written agreement, and each service is required to provide quarterly financial statements. Staff met with David Farmer to discuss the process, to assure there was a proper paper trail, and to simplify the requirements for the EMS services for the limited support provided. The decision has been made to move to an invoice model where each service will invoice Scott County for their annual support. Both services were agreeable to the new process which will begin next fiscal year.

The immunization audits in the child care centers have been completed and reported to the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH). There were approximately 400 more children enrolled this year compared to last year with less children up-to-date on their immunizations and more children on a provisional certificate. Religious exemptions have increased to 3.23% compared to 2.71% last year. This increase represents approximately 40 children.

Mrs. Thoreson recognized the hard work of the clinical services team for a successful Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) audit with no deficiencies. The objective of the

CLIA program is to ensure quality laboratory reporting. The department is required to have a CLIA license due to the analysis performed as part of the Sexual Health Clinic.

Mrs. Thoreson explained with Dr. Squire resigning and holding the secretary position, it has left the secretarial position vacant. Mrs. Thoreson shared she has reviewed Iowa Code and spoken with the IDPH regional consultant as well as Scott County Administration. There is no requirement regarding Board of Health (BOH) officers other than having a chairman. The position of vice-chairman is not required, but is best practice. As the department has worked to recruit for BOH appointments, the need to formalize materials surrounding the BOH roles has been identified; part of that discussion could involve determining officer positions. Mrs. Thoreson proposed for the current calendar year, the board have a chair and vice-chair and not fill the secretary position. The board agreed this was the best approach.

Mrs. Thoreson shared Carole Ferch, I-Smile™ Silver Coordinator and Leah Kroeger, I-Smile™ Coordinator have identified several active, practicing dentists that may be good public health advocates to fill the open BOH position. Administration will be meeting with the candidates and hope to fill the vacancy soon.

Mrs. Thoreson updated the board on the status of the two alerts that were shared with members through an Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA) Legislative Alert. Mrs. Thoreson explained Senate File 2030 would allow Iowans to submit proof of immunity in lieu of proof of COVID-19 vaccination. As of this meeting, the subcommittee has returned the bill to the committee without recommendations. Mrs. Thoreson shared House Study Bill 647, medical privacy and freedom act, passed out of the committee according to party lines. This bill was designed to protect Iowans from not receiving care if they were not vaccinated for COVID-19 as facilities had to implement crisis standards of care, but the bill has much broader reaching implications. Mrs. Thoreson reported she emailed two local legislators educating them on the way medical data and medical records are used by the department.

Mrs. Thoreson shared Senate Bill 3126 allowing the sale of raw milk and raw milk products from dairy farms direct to consumers has passed committee. Staff continue to watch House File 2408 which is an act relating to the delivery of restaurant food pursuant to third-party food delivery and House File 2431 which is related to home-based businesses and their potential preparation and sale of food.

Mrs. Thoreson provided the board with an informational document, How a Bill Becomes a Law and 2022 Iowa Legislative Session Timetable. Mrs. Thoreson will continue to share IPHA legislative alerts as she receives them and encouraged the board to contact their own local legislatures and senators to provide any insight on the topic they may have. Mrs. Thoreson reminded the board, as a government entity, they have to focus on education rather than lobbying. Moving forward Mrs. Thoreson explained administration would like to have discussions with the BOH ahead of the legislative session so the board has prepared position statements prepared on priority topics.

Mrs. Thoreson reported the state's Public Health Disaster Emergency Proclamation expired at 11:59 p.m. on February 15<sup>th</sup>. As of this meeting, IDPH reported a total of 44,420 positive tests

in Scott County; January 2022 was the highest month since the pandemic began. Scott County has seen falls in both hospitalizations and case numbers.

The department continues to offer Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine through a weekday walk-in clinic. The department continues to distribute test kits.

The Food and Drug Administration announced it will not decide to issue an emergency use authorization for COVID-19 vaccine for children six months to four years of age until additional information on the number of doses required for effective protection is finalized by the manufacturer.

Mrs. Thoreson shared they have met weekly with the schools since the beginning of the school year. Staff is going to transition to providing a weekly written update, but will hold the meeting time with the schools in case they need to pull the group together quickly.

B. Dr. Hanson moved to the Public Health Activity Report for the month of January 2022.

C. Dr. Hanson moved to the Budget Report for the month of January 2022.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve the claims. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Dr. Hanson moved to the Scott County Kids Report.

Diane Martens, Scott County Kids reported Nicole Mann, Scott County Kids/Decategorization is working with St. Ambrose University to obtain continuing education units for nurses and social workers who complete the Tall Cop Says Stop educational event they are hosting on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Diane Martens shared there are two pieces of legislation early childhood providers are following. The first piece of legislation would allow individuals as young as sixteen years of age to provide child care without adult supervision in centers. The other piece of legislation would increase child to staff ratios in licensed child care centers and homes.

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

Mrs. Peterson reported a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Obstetrics and Gynecology Associates, PC (The Group) was fully signed at the end of January. Starting in March, the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) nurse will provide Maternal Health direct services to clients on Wednesdays at The Group.

Mrs. Peterson and staff completed Service Note Reviews as a quality assurance activity for MCAH informing, care coordination, and presumptive eligibility services. In addition to the staff peer review, IDPH also reviews the services that each provide. The outcome shared that all records passed, however improvement to dental care coordination documentation narratives is being made to make them more robust.

Mrs. Peterson reported a MCAH site visit was completed virtually with IDPH with no concerns identified. Data provided by IDPH for our agency shows ninety-four percent of Maternal Health clients had a medical home upon completing the program and 2,256 Child and Adolescent Health clients received services in the past twelve months.

Mrs. Peterson shared Anna Copp, Community Health Consultant and staff from the Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Inc. provided tobacco and nicotine prevention education (with a special focus on e-cigarette use) to North Scott Junior High School.

F. Dr. Hanson moved to the Board of Health Orientation – Healthy Child Care Iowa Program

Jessica Redden, Scott County Health Department Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) explained the CCNC position is a registered nurse trained by Healthy Child Care Iowa. The CCNC provides guidance and technical assistance to child care providers, preschools, families and communities regarding the health and safety of children.

Mrs. Redden shared through the Scott County Kids Early Childhood Iowa funding, she is able to purchase influenza and TDAP vaccine to offer to the providers at no cost.

Mrs. Redden reported as of July 2021, Scott County had eighty-two licensed centers, one hundred and seventy-eight registered child development homes, twelve nonregistered homes, and seven preschools that are operated under the Iowa Department of Education.

Dr. Hanson thanked Mrs. Redden for her work. Dr. Hanson shared it has become apparent over the last few years how important child care providers are to our community as a whole and in particular to our working community. Dr. Hanson added she values the Healthy Child Care Iowa Program tremendously.

Dr. Hanson called for a motion to accept the reports. Mr. Robinson moved to approve the reports. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Hanson moved to Public Comment.

There were no comments.

Dr. Hanson moved to Unfinished Business.

A. FY'22 Scott County Health Department Budget Amendment

Mrs. Thoreson noted there are no updates to the FY'22 budget amendment that was presented at the December meeting. The Board of Supervisors will act on the amendment approval at the end of March.

B. FY'23 Scott County Health Department Budget

Mrs. Thoreson shared there are no updates to the FY'23 Health Department budget. The Board of Supervisors will act on the approval at the end of March.

### C. Position Statement on Community Water Fluoridation

Mrs. Thoreson explained the draft on an updated BOH Position Statement on Community Water Fluoridation will be on hold until the open BOH vacancy has been filled.

Dr. Hanson moved to New Business.

Mrs. Barnes provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2022 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Performance Measures/Budgeting for Outcomes (BFO's). Mrs. Barnes reported:

- The completed health appraisals on inmates upon entering the jail in the first 14 days has been a challenge due to quarantining/outbreak response and the need to not move inmates around. The jail has also had staffing issues which creates a challenge escorting the inmates to and from the medical unit.
- Staff recognize there is a lot of work to do to increase public trust in vaccines and getting individuals back into their appointments to increase the number of two year olds seen in the clinic that are up-to-date on their vaccinations.
- The number of practicing dentists in Scott County and number of practicing dentists in Scott County accepting Medicaid children as clients continues to decline. There have been a number of retirements and the reimbursement rates for Medicaid is low. Staff that met with Senator Chris Cournoyer were able to share the oral health performance measures that are tracked regarding oral health providers and those accepting Medicaid. Senator Cournoyer expressed interest in learning more about the issues and accepted an invitation to attend a Scott County Oral Health Network meeting.
- The number of exercises/drills held has not been able to be addressed with the COVID-19 response. Staff recently met with the Region 5 Public Health Preparedness Coordinator to brainstorm ways to bring the exercises/drills back.

Dr. Hanson inquired on the volume of recyclable material collected. Mrs. Barnes responded the number represents recyclables collected are down 35% from last year. The numbers reported are provided by the Scott County Waste Commission. Mrs. Thoreson added that last year as citizens were at home due to COVID-19 restrictions, the public took the opportunity to clean homes and garages which lead to a sharp increase in recyclables.

Dr. Schermer asked if staff have identified why dental Medicaid reimbursement rates are low. Mrs. Ferch responded that it is due to dollars allocated legislatively.

Mrs. Ferch shared as the baby boomers retire from their dental practice, they were a group that often accepted Medicaid clients. As the younger dentists come out of school with a large debt load, are in the processes of purchasing a practice and have young families, it becomes financially difficult for them to accept clients with a low reimbursement rate. Mrs. Ferch shared the current Iowa Dental Association President is very passionate about dental providers accepting Medicaid patients. The Association has had conversations with legislators to educate them on the situation. Mrs. Ferch added the Department of Human Services (DHS) has recognized the problem and is having conversations on how to help solve the problem.

Dr. Schermer asked if the corporate dental offices are making the situation harder. Mrs. Kroeger responded corporate dental offices do not take Medicaid and as retirements occur, the corporate offices are buying many of the individual practices. Mrs. Kroeger added the Medicaid reimbursement rates have not increased in nearly twenty years. Mrs. Kroeger shared another burden for the offices is navigating various requirements of the Medicaid dental plan providers.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve and authorize the Signature of the 1<sup>st</sup> Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative – Implementation Grant Application, Contract, Subcontract and Subsequent Amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve and authorize the signature of the 2022 Tuberculosis Directly Observed Therapy Memorandum of Understanding and Sub-Memorandum of Understanding. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve and authorize the signature of the Community Partnerships for Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Grant Application Contract and Subsequent Amendments. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried.

Following discussion, Mr. Robinson moved to approve and authorize the Staff Education Requests. Motion seconded by Dr. Schermer. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on March 24, 2022 rather than March 17, 2022, in the Boardroom on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Schwarz  
Recording Secretary