

**KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
OF MONTHLY MEETING
July 8, 2021, via Teleconference
Knox County Health Department
1361 W. Fremont St.
Galesburg, IL 61401**

The Knox County Board of Health meeting was held via Teleconference on July 8, 2021. President Dan Harris called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Dan Harris, Doug Gibb, DuRae Fletcher, Sr, Robert Bondi, Bruce Bobofchak DDS, Lorraine Garland, MD, Also, present were Michele Gabriel, Public Health Administrator; Wil Hayes, Assistant Public Health Administrator; Jerome Townsell, Director of Finance and Facilities Management; Tina Jockisch, Administrative Clerk. Absent Kevin Satsisky, MD, Stephanie Grimes, and Susan Vinson.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The first addition to the agenda is under Public Health Administrator's Report, FTCA Redeeming Notice. The final is removal of IPLAN Presentation from the agenda under Population Health Management Reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public present.

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

There were no items on the agenda under President's Business.

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 10,2021 meeting as circulated was made by Doug Gibb and seconded by Robert Bondi. Roll Call vote was unanimous: Doug Gibb-yes; DuRae Fletcher, Sr.-yes; Robert Bondi-yes; Bruce Bobofchak-yes; Lorraine Garland-yes; and Dan Harris-yes. Absent Kevin Satsisky, Stephanie Grimes, and Susan Vinson.

Treasurer's Report

The first item under the Business Meeting, Jerome Townsell, reported on revised expenses for the month of July 2021 totaling \$93,656.00. He went on to note that additional expenses since the mailing of the agenda included: Vaccine \$1,710.11, Waste Removal \$1,470.04, Copier Lease \$686.62, Supplies \$661.69, IT Services \$427.50, Client Services \$237.54, Utilities \$232.01, and Software Fees \$199.00 totaling \$5,624.51. A motion was made by Robert Bondi to approve payment of the July 2021 bills as presented; was seconded by Doug Gibb. Roll Call vote was unanimous: Doug Gibb-yes; DuRae Fletcher, Sr.-yes; Robert Bondi-yes; Bruce Bobofchak-yes; Lorraine Garland-yes; and Dan Harris-yes. Absent Kevin Satsisky, Stephanie Grimes, and Susan Vinson.

The final item under the Business Meeting, Jerome Townsell, presented the Financial Statements for the period ending June 30,2021 stating the Health Department is \$338,054.99 Net Revenue Over Expenditures for the month and (\$225,518.81) Net Revenue Over Expenditures for the year. Jerome closed stating that the overages are primarily due to lag times related to grants payments going out for programs, such as LIHEAP, and the delay for reimbursement of those funds coming back into the Health Department for deposit.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The first item was an addition to the agenda under the Administrator's Report, Michele Gabriel updated the Board on FTCA (Federal Tort Claims Act) Redeeming Notice. Michele stated the Health Center did successfully receive their FTCA coverage for 2022, ever year in June the Health Center files an application to receive FTCA coverage at no cost from the Federal Government. Michele closed stating each year the bar raises for the FTCA coverage, they are wanting the Heath Center to do more Risk Management Activities.

The next item on the agenda under the Administrator's Report, Michele Gabriel updated Board on COVID-19 Activities, stating things are slowing down, the Health Department is still completing all the task from before, plus doing contact tracing, testing, administering vaccines and a lot of grant paperwork going on for the COVID money the Health Department is receiving. Michele stated activity in the community has slowed, the City of Galesburg gave the Health Department a \$15,000 contribution toward the Bergner's building, the City of Galesburg committed early on when the renovations were being done to the Bergner's building.

Michele stated we are seeing low COVID-19 positivity rates in the Region and the County, Regional we are 1.6 positivity and in Knox County we are 2.6 positivity, there are low cases, but there is low testing going on in the County, the Health Department demand in testing has dropped significantly. Additionally, the Health Department continues to vaccinate, but it has also slowed to an incredible slow pace. Michele stated that 44.18% residents are fully vaccinated in Knox County, the Health Department continues to operate clinics on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Unified Command Vaccine building, we offer Pfizer & Janssen on Tuesdays and Moderna & Janssen on Thursdays, they are by appointment or walk-ins. Michele stated Pfizer is the most popular vaccine requested, followed by Jansen and then Moderna, the Health Department administers between 20 and 50 vaccines per day, additionally the Health Department with assistance from GHAS have been administering vaccines in the rural areas such as Wataga, Williamsfield, Oneida, Victoria and Dahinda, GHAS has also been helping the Health Department with home bound patients. Michele continued stating when Pfizer dropped the age to 12, we held a special clinic for kids on a Saturday morning that was successful, the Health Department held a clinic at Save-a-lot, as well as working with Hi-Lo in Abingdon and Galesburg. Additionally, the Department has been invited to community events such as NAACP BBQ and will also be at the Swings Trailer Court, the Department is trying to meet request when we can. Michele closed saying the Health Department is trying to hit the areas identified via census track data that are less vaccinated or in disparate populations, vaccination uptake has slowed down considerably.

The next item on the agenda under the Administrator's Report, Michele Gabriel discussed with Board the Bergner's Building, stating the Bergner's lease was paid through vaccine grants and is paid through September with the option to renew after that, the current lease is of \$2,000 per month, power is \$1,200 - \$1,400 per month and water bill is about \$100 per month. Michele stated this is a very large facility, but it is very effect, it is set up and we leave stuff there, the Health Department can hold a clinic from very small to very large there, it cost approximately \$3,500 per month for lease, power, and water. Michele stated if we moved the vaccination back to the Health Department, we would not be able to do STD testing, immunizations, it would take over our regular operations, the 20 to 30 we could do at the Bergner's facility would have to be spread out here at the Health Department over a longer period. Michele closed stating with not knowing what the future holds, if we give up the Bergner's building and we must start giving big booster clinics, we will have to look for another building to do them in.

The next item on the agenda under the Administrator's Report, Michele Gabriel reminded the Board of National Health Center Week 8/8-8/14 2021, stating it is an annual celebration with the goal of raising awareness about the mission and accomplishments of Health Centers, the Health Department generally does a lot of public promotions around the Health Center during this week, with some radio shows promoting the Health Center and the services in what it contributes to the community. Michele continued stating the Health Center is doing a large outreach effort to help get more medical patients back and attracting new ones, the Health Center has put together a formal outreach plan and they are tracking some data to see what works and what does not.

The next item on the agenda under the Administrator's Report, Michele Gabriel updated Board on TSI Collections Report, stating this is the statement shared with the Community Health Center Board monthly to track the accounts that are sent to the collection agency.

The final item on the agenda under the Administrator's Report, Michele Gabriel informed Board on CHC Hours of Operation, stating the Community Health Center Board approved a motion to open the Health Center hours back up to 7:00am – 5:00pm Monday – Friday starting in August.

DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORTS

There were no items on agenda under Division Director Report.

POPULATION HEALTH MANAGEMENT REPORTS

The only item was removed from agenda under Population Health Management Reports.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS

The first item on the agenda under Performance Management Reports, Wil Hayes, Assistant Public Health Administrator; reported to Board the COVID-19 Activities Data for June 2021, reporting Health Center performed 124 tests, 55 positives cases, 6 positives lost to follow up, 3 potential reinfections, 1 potential reinfection lost to follow up, 58 contacts, 5 contacts lost to follow up, average one contact per positive case, Call Center received 39 phone calls, Contact Tracing Made 299 calls, 14 press releases, and 96 social media activities.

The final item on the agenda under Performance Management Reports, Wil Hayes, Assistant Public Health Administrator; updated the Board on New LIHEAP Funding, stating the Health Department started the LIHEAP program three years ago with three grants, each grant has reports that need done quarterly and close outs, the next fiscal year we have the three grants, PIP, and American Recovery Plan making it a total of five grants, the Health Department received notice yesterday they are adding a residential water disconnect grant, which will make it a total of six grants, there will be a meeting in August to go over the new grant for residents that have their water shut off or need assistance paying their bill. Wil stated we would need to hire at least two more front end staff to do intake on the water program, the dilemma is where we will put the additional staff. Wil closed stating the Health Department is receiving \$158,000 for State LIHEAP, \$136,000 is going directly back to customers and KCHD keeps \$22,000; State PIP \$368,000, \$309,000 is going back to customers and we keep \$58,000; Federal funds \$307,000, \$263,000 is going back to customers and KCHD keeps \$44,000; American Recovery Plan KCHD is receiving \$1,494,000, \$1,284,000 going back to customers and KCHD is keeping \$209,000. Health Department is receiving a total of \$2,327,000 from four of the grants, \$1,888,000 is going back to customers and \$333,000 will stay in house.

WORK SESSION

There were no items on agenda under Work Session.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items on agenda under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items on agenda under New Business.

UPCOMING BUSINESS

President Dan Harris reviewed Upcoming Business, including the Knox County Board Finance Committee meeting on July 22,2021 beginning at 6:30 p.m. via teleconference, the Knox County Board meeting on July 28,2021 at 6:00 p.m. at Galesburg City Hall and via teleconference, and the next Board of Health Meeting on August 12,2021 beginning at 6:30 p.m. via teleconference.

COUNTY BOARD LIAISON

Robert Bondi, Knox County Board Liaison to Board of Health, Robert stated the County will continue to meet in person and via teleconference, the County has received half \$4,800,000 of the \$9,600,000 from stimulus package for the County, and the County Board formed a group of County Board members and Non-County Board members to go over the 160 pages of rules and regulations and decide how the funds should be spent. Robert stated the County Board is in full support of the Health Department and thanked Michele and her team for all they have been doing.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Bruce Bobofchak stated he was sorry he missed last meeting, but he was welcoming his new grandbaby, he thanked the staff for continuing to work with the COVID situation. Dan thanked Michele and her team for all the work, persistence, and flexibility in the face of great need and ever-changing dynamic. Dan stated they will be discussing in person or teleconference meetings at the August meeting. Dr. Garland said to keep up the good work. DuRae Fletcher, Sr. said congratulations to Dr. B on his new grandbaby, he thinks the Health Department is doing a fantastic job.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no items on agenda under Executive Session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

There were no items on agenda under Return to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Robert Bondi to adjourn the July 8,2021 Board of Health meeting at 7:23pm; the motion was seconded by Lorraine Garland. Roll Call vote was unanimous: Doug Gibb-yes; DuRae Fletcher, Sr.-yes; Robert Bondi-yes; Bruce Bobofchak-yes; Lorraine Garland-yes; and Dan Harris-yes. Absent Kevin Satsky, Stephanie Grimes, and Susan Vinson.