



PUBLIC HEALTH

Sam Jarvis, Acting Director

Board of Health
Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP
Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA
Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS
Bonnie D. Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA
Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

April 21, 2021
MEETING MINUTES
4:00 pm

Call to Order: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Roll Call: Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS; Joni Bosch, PhD, ARNP. VIA TELECONFERENCE: Bonnie D. Rubin, MLS, MBA, MHA; Zachary Pollock, PharmD, MS. ABSENT: Tatiana Izakovic, MD, MHA.

Staff: Sam Jarvis, Acting Director; James Lacina, Environmental Health Manager; Kristin Meyer, Business Manager; Jake Riley, Disease Prevention Specialist; Susan Denny, Secretary II; Alissa Sotzen Account Clerk I. VIA TELECONFERENCE: Kate Klefstad, Clinical Services Manager Debbie Ackerman, Clinical Services Data Specialist.

Others Present: Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney; Giovanni Lobo, Media Production and Technology Specialist; Lora Shramek, Human Resources, DJ Castelein, Human Resources.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bosch to approve the March 17, 2021 meeting minutes; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Regular Meeting Date and Time: May 19, 2021 in Conference Room 203 at the Health and Human Services Building.

Citizen Comments / Questions / Issues: None

New Employee Introductions: None

DISCUSSION / PRESENTATION(S): None

ACTION ITEMS

Expenditures Over \$3,000: None

Applications, Contracts and Agreements:

- **21-06 Request for Proposal; Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) Empowerment Board Funding For Childcare Nurse Consultant (CCNC): Klefstad/Ackerman**

Klefstad explained this is a request to apply for funding for a full-time CCNC position and 30 hours per year, for support staff (Ackerman). JCPH has had a CCNC position for several years which is required by the Maternal Child Adolescent Health (MCAH) grant. Currently, CCNC duties are performed by a full time JCPH RN's at half-time. Klefstad reminded the BOH members, JCPH was recently awarded short term supplemental funding for the CCNC position, approximately two months ago which provides half the salary of the current CCNC. Klefstad believes the CCNC position needs to be at least a full-time, or even a full

and part-time positions. JCPH serves a higher number of child care facilities in Johnson County compared to other counties, especially during the pandemic with added CCNC support requirements from the state. The previous supplemental funding afforded full-time hours through FY21 (June 30, 2021). With additional funding available due to the pandemic, ECI is continuing current contract holder funding and also opening up this one year opportunity for additional organizations. If awarded the one-year contract, JCPH will then be able to apply for three-year, contract periods. J Klefstad informed the BOH the application is included in their packets and noted the executive summary on the cover page should have included, total funding requested in the amount of \$115,360. Klefstad added the MCAH grant provides some additional coverage for supplies and incentives which are required to operate the CCNC program. The deadline for the application submittal is April 30, 2021. Wallace asked about a line item on the application to clarify the year as 2022, not 2021. Klefstad will correct the dates to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Wallace asked, if we were awarded the full year of funding, would the county funds be returned to the county. Klefstad confirmed they would be, but hopes if awarded the ECI grant, that county funds would be utilized for an additional part-time position, if approved by the BOS. Rubin asked for clarification of the total program cost compared to the requested funding from ECI. Klefstad provided the total program cost and the incentive funding from MCAH. Rubin thanked Klefstad and Ackerman for including the entire application for review.

Motion by Rubin, to approve ECI State Funding and Support Application for a full-time CCNC and support staff salary for FY22, seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

- **Mask Regulation:** Jarvis/Riley Jarvis updated the BOH on current mask regulation and asked for thoughts and recommendations on continued face covering. Jarvis added that Lynn Rose, Assistant County Attorney, was also present to provide further guidance moving forward regarding the face covering regulation and the steps needed to continue the regulation, which went into effect on August 10, 2020. He noted Johnson County has maintained a high mask compliance to date, with no citations issued, but maintained a heavy focus on education by law enforcement and JCPH staff. Riley provided an update on mask effectiveness that he and Community Health staff and the Contact Tracing team have collected data on. He reminded BOH members, guidance related to COVID-19 has changed constantly, prompting the research study in October 2020, to determine what guidance was effective. Riley and his team collected information to determine factors at a local level. Riley summarized the process for collecting the data used, such as interviews for information on exposure related to masking. His team collected data on location, vaccines, previous conditions, etc. to determine if current guidance is effective for Johnson County. Data from October 13, 2020 through February 13, 2021 was collected from a subset of nearly 1000 contacts with exposure and testing information. He identified from that number 768 negative tested subjects and 198 positive for COVID-19. The team studied whether masks provided enough protection to justify not quarantining persons when both the case and the contact wore CDC approved face coverings for the duration of the exposure. Results from comparing those groups found that subjects testing positive where one person was wearing a mask vs when both subjects were wearing masks was 25.6% higher or 1 in 4 contacts. They found the rate decreased by approximately half, or 12.5% when both subjects were wearing face coverings for the duration of the exposure, demonstrating the effectiveness of face coverings. Bosch asked for more clarification when both subjects wore masks. Riley responded and explained how IDPH guidance differed from CDC guidance and findings indicating effectiveness was more common when the contact subject was wearing a mask. He is hoping for the study to include more in-depth calculations and possible publication close to the end of the month. Riley and his team also explored a separate guidance study for school age children and found similar results. Bosch asked if those results were broken down by age groups such as 10 and under. Riley explained large enough sample sizes were not available to study results by age group, but plan to continue collecting data and when they have sufficient samples are hoping to look at subgroups in more detail. Riley discussed other indicators in the study data, including symptoms at the time of exposure, and duration of exposure, especially over a two hour period indoors regardless of distance, resulted in nearly double the risk of transmission. The team will be looking at additional factors

such as the type of vaccine, time periods, etc. as more data becomes available. Wallace asked if data was continuing to be collected past the February 13, 2021 date. Riley confirmed it was. Wallace asked if the effect of the vaccine would become more prominent with increased vaccination. Riley agreed, and hopes to measure effects of one vaccination vs two, timeframe from vaccinations, and eventually how long vaccines last if they are tracking data a year from now. Rubin asked if this was data presented at the Iowa City School District (ICSD) meeting where quarantine requirements were discussed. Riley confirmed. Wallace asked BOH members and Staff what direction they would like the BOH to take regarding face covering recommendations to the BOS. Rubin asked what the endpoint of the current face covering regulation is. Rose responded and reminded the BOH about inserting a sunset clause; a nuance concerning the endpoint of the regulation. By adding a sunset clause to the face covering regulation, the ending date will either be when the County lifts the regulation or the Governor lifts the emergency proclamation, whichever is later. Rose added the Governor has been routinely renewing her emergency proclamation for 30 days at a time and noted the Governor has compelling reasons to keep the emergency proclamation in place related to eligibility for disaster funding at the state level, which the BOS does not have. Rose believes because of this, the Governor's emergency proclamation is likely to last longer than Johnson County's emergency proclamation. She also noted the Iowa City Municipal mask ordinance currently runs through May 31, 2021 and when drafting the JCPH face covering regulation, it was intended to be consistent with Johnson County's largest municipality (Iowa City) to minimize confusion. Wallace asked Rose if her recommendation to the BOH is to make no definitive recommendation for the time being, pending whether the Governor extends her emergency proclamation for the state. Rose responded that her recommendations are only regarding process, stating the health expertise is the BOH's decision. Bosch commented it appears Johnson County is only about half-way to herd immunity, which needs to be 70% or higher, and she added it seems easier to continue with the regulation rather than to reinstate it. Rubin agreed with Bosch. She also agreed with Rose that the Governor will renew her emergency proclamation, because of the many FEMA requirements for funding. She supports keeping the regulation in place, but believes the BOH should have a conversation about what criteria should be used to determine when it is no longer necessary, for example, scientific factors such as vaccination rates,. She recommends keeping the regulation in place until there is scientific criteria to indicate why the regulation should be lifted. Pollock responded he concurs with the information provided, especially determining when the time to lift the regulation and agrees there is a need for clarification to make that decision. Wallace suggested the discussion be continued on next month's agenda for review and it will be known by then if the Governor extends her emergency proclamation. He further commented, there will be more information on vaccination rates, and information from the school system and the University of Iowa. He would like to make this mask discussion a standing agenda item for the next four to six months. Rose stated, that should the BOH decide that it wants to amend or rescind the regulation, they would have to repeat the same process and would require at a minimum, two to three regular meetings depending on whether redrafting was necessary, before sending it on to the BOS for approval. There is also the option to call special meetings of the BOH to speed up that process. In terms of a timeline, if special meetings are not called, it would require a sixty to eighty day window to present to the BOS. Bosch commented on whether the county could require proof of vaccine regarding entry to football games. Rose responded, legally, Kinnick Stadium is owned and operated by the University of Iowa, an administrative arm of the State and would have exclusive authority to make that decision. Rose added currently the Governor would like to pass legislation or declare by executive order prohibiting the use or requirement of vaccine passports.

Renewal of the Position Statement Paper Policy: Wallace asked BOH members if they had any deletions, additions, or amendments to the Position Statement Paper Policy. Bosch asked for confirmation that if a member of the public wanted to present a position statement, they would have to request through a BOH member. Wallace confirmed. Pollock added a request could also be made to the JCPH director. He asked about item 2-G, Unity; regarding majority vote with a quorum present. Pollock referred to the last sentence; not requiring a unanimous super-majority vote in order to adopt the position statement and speaking with a unified voice. Pollock believes the BOH in the past agreed to have a unanimous vote of approval, but asked

if a unanimous vote should be the policy. Bosch asked how many times there had not been a unanimous super-majority vote. Wallace responded he believes all were unanimous. Rubin responded the sentence was written that way, in case there was a position paper that someone on the BOH may have personal, moral, or religious issue or objection to, with the assumption that person would likely abstain from voting on the position statement. Wallace suggested under the Scope section, the last phrase of the last sentence indicating staff preparing background information and drafting proposals for the board's consideration, could be misconstrued as any person in the department being able to draft a proposal for a position statement. He added that is not the intent, and would like to strike that phrase. Pollock responded he believes there is value in the staff being familiar with the policy in preparing the information and suggested instead striking the phrase, adding "draft proposals for the consideration at their request". Wallace agreed that would add more positivity. Bosch asked whether the phrase refers to staff being aware of position statements whenever they are drafting a policy or a proposal in general. Wallace responded there is a distinction between the public position statement of the BOH as opposed to policy which may not be public and applies only to JCPH specifically. Rubin agreed. Pollock pointed out that sections A-F and H address or support that criteria; knowledge of policy would be taken into effect when drafting a position paper.

Motion by Rubin, to accept the Policy for Position Statement with amendment recommended by Pollock to read "draft proposals for the BOH's consideration at their request", to the last sentence under SCOPE; seconded by Pollock. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Update on School Dental Screening Audits:** Klefstad updated the BOH members on the dental screening audits underway. She read a statement from the Oral Health Coordinator, Becky Hackett-Leas stating, "It is the role of each County Board of Health or their designee to audit the kindergarten and ninth grade dental screening certificates and provide a report to Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) by May 31st". Klefstad explained historically this audit is on the task list of the Oral Health Coordinator, also called the I-Smile Coordinator. She and her staff are currently in progress and on track to complete the audit by the deadline, for forty schools in four school districts in Johnson County. Hackett-Leas plans to be on the agenda May 19, 2021 to provide a full report on the audit prior to the IDPH deadline. These audits are a requirement of the MCAH grant and Hackett-Leas' team will also perform dental screening audits for Iowa County and will provide a report to the Iowa County Board of Health, as well. Klefstad informed the BOH members information about the dental screening audits can also be found on the IDPH website <https://idph.iowa.gov/ohds/school-screenings>. Rubin thanked Klefstad for providing a link for the minutes and asked if because of the COVID-19 pandemic, had they seen a drop in activity with the I-Smile Program and if so, how much of a drop in activity. Klefstad responded the biggest drop in activity is in the school-based programming; schools are not allowing oral health staff in the schools and she noted that is common across the state at this time. They are hoping to be able to resume the school-based sealant program in the fall. The Oral Health program has been providing sealants here and plan to continue to offer sealants through the summer, through the School-Ready JoCo activities program. She added most of the oral health activity has been through the infant oral health program and have doubled those activities for clients and dental residents. Rubin asked if JCPH has a contact at the University Of Iowa School Of Dentistry that would be interested in doing a study to see the impact on dental cares and health, not having been able to perform. Klefstad believes there would be interest and noted JCPH is often the site of dental studies. She mentioned Dr. Karen Weber-Gasparoni, who is also the Oral Health Program supervising dentist and does many studies through the Infant Oral Health Program at the University. Klefstad assumes Dr. Weber-Gasparoni's Infant Oral Health Program study that is ongoing will include, as she also had to pause her program activities for so many months. Klefstad will contact Dr. Weber-Gasparoni for more information.

- **NEHA (National Environmental Health Association) REHS (Registered Environmental Health Specialist) Credential-Rob Thul:** Lacina congratulated Rob Thul, Environmental Health Specialist II on receiving the NEHA/REHS credential. NEHA/REHS is the premier credential in the Environmental Health field. The exam consists of 250 questions over four hours on a broad range of topics

requiring expertise in a wide area. Percentage of passing exams is only 50%. Bosch asked if there was a financial bonus for receiving this credential. Lacina responded there is not, adding it is rare for counties to award financial incentive, but JCPH was able to cover the cost of the exam. Jarvis added Thul will receive a merit based employee evaluation for skill in the field.

- **Review and approval of Public Health Director's job description** Wallace asked if any BOH members had any edits to the JCPH Director's job description. Wallace commented the description is very much the same, as the last one. Rubin asked if minimum education and training preferences were confusing to anyone. Bosch responded it was not confusing to her. Rubin also asked about whether residency in Johnson County would be required within six months from the hire date or start date. Castelein clarified the residency requirement is within start date. Pollock asked why a valid driver's license was required for applicants. Rose noted that the County Attorney's office recommends this requirement for liability for any position that involves travel to avoid cost increases if the county has to add a driver, for instance.

Motion by Bosch, to accept the final draft of the Public Health Director job description; seconded by Rubin. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Review and approval of advertising venues for Public Health Director job posting** Wallace asked BOH members to approve the advertising venues that were updated from the last search. Rubin suggested adding two more: Des Moines University has a College of Public Health degree program and the American College of Epidemiology. Castelein will look into adding those venues.

Motion by Pollock, to approve the list of advertising venues and possible additions stated by Rubin; seconded by Bosch. The motion passed unanimously.

Wallace asked BOH members for approval for the actual verbiage on the job posting. Castelein commented the posting mirrors the advertisement from 2017 with updates and is ready to proceed. Rubin asked Castelein and Shramek to check grammatical errors prior to posting. Pollock asked HR to explain how that range, benchmarks against other similar positions. Shramek responded the range of the post is the highest range in Johnson County, equivalent to the County Engineer salary range and cited the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) salary survey, noting there are one or two counties with a higher range than Johnson County, including Polk and Linn County. Pollock added Scott County as well. He believes these benchmarks are of concern in attracting top tier talent. Shramek responded Polk County is the largest county followed by Linn County and Scott County, with Johnson County being the fourth largest in the state. Shramek commented Johnson County recently performed a salary study conducted by BakerTilly, and salary information is up to date. Pollock asked if the salary studies take into account cost of living and housing costs. Shramek confirmed those elements are considered and added that the range Pollock noted, is the minimum to the midpoint of the range, with a proportionate range from midpoint to top of the range.

Motion by Bosch to accept the draft of the job posting once the grammatical errors are changed; seconded by Rubin. The motion passed unanimously.

Castelein added that Meyer will draft the personnel request form and will need a signature from Dr. Wallace to proceed.

Reports / Inquiries:

County Attorney: None, but will plan to attend meetings in person to be available to answer questions.

Johnson County Board of Health Meeting Minutes
April, 21, 2021

Members, Board of Health: Rubin would like the BOH members to be aware the University Of Iowa College Of Public Health has awarded all local Public Health Departments the annual Heroes of Public Health award. Rubin congratulated the staff at JCPH for everything they've done. She also reminded BOH members this week is National Medical Laboratory Week and recognized staff at the Iowa State Hygienic Lab, noting SHL has processed over a million COVID-19 tests for the State of Iowa. She reported the Iowa Public Health Association (IPHA) held their state conference a few weeks ago, adding Dr. Wallace was a moderator at the conference, acknowledged speakers from JCPH,

Wallace reported the IPHA conference was good, adding he's been attending for thirty years and stressed the level and quality of the people that were seen on zoom was very high, reasoning that they lack of travel expense and having the ability to present for sixty or ninety minutes on Zoom, resulted in some superior presentations. He mentioned Rubin, Klefstad, and other JCPH staff who attended the conference.

Director: Jarvis highlighted Domain 1, Ackerman completed gap analysis and assessment on lead testing protocols per MCAH grant requirements. In Domain 11, Meyer has worked on revising and reviewing department service agreements and sub-recipient agreements. Those agreements now will have a standardized format to cover liability and other areas.

Wallace referred BOH members to the director's search timeline and moving ahead with applications next month as HR notifies when applications are received. He adjourned the meeting at 5:18 pm.

Approved by Board of Health Action on

May 19, 2021

Signature on File

Date

Peter D. Wallace, MD, MS, Chair

Submitted by:
Susan Denny
Secretary II