

## **Hendricks County Board of Health Meeting**

**July 11, 2023 7:00 p.m.**

Hendricks County Government Center  
Commissioners/Council Meeting Room  
355 S Washington St.  
Danville, IN 46122

The Hendricks County Board of Health met Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners/Council Meeting Room at the Hendricks County Government Center.

### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Dr. Andrew Cougill  
Mr. David Hardin  
Dr. Larry Caskey  
Mr. Bruce Dillon  
Ms. Debra Campbell  
Mr. Brian Cobb  
Dr. Chrystal Anderson

### **Hendricks County Staff in Attendance:**

Dr. David Stopperich, Health Officer  
Ms. Krista Click, Health Department Administrator  
Ms. Leanna Truitt, Program Manager of Healthy Families  
Ms. Lisa Chandler, Foods Team Leader  
Ms. Ginger Harrington, Onsite Team Leader  
Ms. Anne Archer, Outreach Team Leader  
Ms. Nicole Oppy, Public Health Nursing Team Leader  
Ms. Sharon Mayer, Environmental Health Secretary

### **Others in Attendance:**

Mr. Eric Oliver, Attorney  
Mr. Larry Hesson, County Council Liaison

### **Board Members/Others Absent:**

### **Determination of a Quorum**

Dr. Cougill called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a quorum present.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Bruce Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2023, Board of Health meeting. Mr. Brian Cobb seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

### **Wishes to be Heard**

None presented.

### **Unfinished Business**

Dr. Stopperich, Health Officer, presented information on the Governor's Public Health Commission for local public health funding. After speaking with the Commissioners, they are requesting Health Board approval on a budget before reviewing. Approximately 50 Indiana counties have opted into the program. The proposed budget was reviewed with the focus on hiring additional people. These monies will help fund 15 positions, 13 of which will be newly created with 2 positions being carried over from another grant. These positions will be in the areas of fatality review (infant mortality and overdoses), vital records (birth and death certificates), tobacco prevention, lead, foods, front office supervisor, school liaison, STI testing capabilities, healthy homes, chronic diseases (obesity and smoking), wellness nurse, Healthy Families office support, quality matrix (analyzing data), and grant proposals and grant process (funding for small community projects). Also, the department will be looking at software upgrades to make scheduling shots more accessible to help increase vaccination rates. Job descriptions will need to be prepared and filling positions will be staggered beginning second quarter of 2024.

The department will receive half of the funding next year. Mr. Bruce Dillon inquired if we would receive the \$1.6 million next year and \$3.2 million in 2025 and Dr. Stopperich agreed with this estimate. Mr. David Hardin inquired as to if smaller counties that do not have the infrastructure to participate can partner with other counties for the program. Ms. Click, Health Department Administrator, responded that she is not presently aware of this happening, but the program does allow for this provision. Dr. Cougill inquired as to what will happen to the money if the positions are not filled. Ms. Click stated that if the core services are being fulfilled the money does not have to be immediately spent. Dr. Larry Caskey asked about physical space and Dr. Stopperich replied that there could be the option of leasing temporary space and this will need to be addressed. Ms. Click added that the proposed budget does allow for 10% of the funds to be allocated towards capital.

Once there is budget approval from the Health Board, it will be presented to the Commissioners and then to the Council. Ms. Debra Campbell made a motion to recommend the local public health funding proposal be forwarded to the Commissioners and Dr. Caskey seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

### **New Business**

Ms. Click distributed a booklet of the Indiana Local Health Department Workforce Assessment that is based on results of a survey that was sent to local health departments across the state. The assessment represents each county's workforce in areas such as education, years of experience, and how long individuals expect to stay in the profession.

Ms. Ginger Harrington, Onsite Team Leader, presented SB 414 and HB 1402. The highlight of HB 1402 is that our septic ordinance is null and void as of July 1 including the septic requirements in the subdivision control ordinance and all policies. Ms. Harrington explained the legislature wanted a reset period so there are steps in HB 1402 to get our ordinance reapproved. It must get approved by our Commissioners and then the Technical Review Panel at the State. Ms. Harrington stated a draft ordinance has been created. The draft has some clean up and incorporates our policies, but there are no changes to our requirements from prior to July 1. Ms. Harrington summarized the changes to the Ordinance. The draft submitted to the Health Board left the definition of "Commercial" but it can be removed because it is defined in Rule 410. The sewer policy has been added with the clause from the subdivision control ordinance which requires a secondary septic field. The holding tank policy was added but the approval of the Health Officer or Health Board was removed since the SB 414 allows for that provision to be used permanently. Also added is the policy requiring an original permit to issue a repair permit. The sections for appeals and denials were joined into one section instead of two.

Mr. Bruce Dillon inquired as to how long will it take the State to accept the new ordinance. Ms. Harrington replied that the State will not accept the ordinance until October 1, but her goal is to have it submitted before that date. The Technical Review Panel states that they will move very quickly, and it is hopeful that the ordinance will be approved by November. There are still local level approvals that need to be obtained. She is anticipating approval from the state level. Mr. Bruce Dillon made a motion to accept the ordinance with the removal of the definition of "Commercial" and Dr. Chrystal Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

### **Updates**

Ms. Lisa Chander, Foods Team Leader, updated that the new foods database will be installed the week of July 17<sup>th</sup> and inspectors will begin to test the program. KFC in Avon is in habitual non-compliance and did not appear for their administrative hearing on July 6<sup>th</sup> and it was rescheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup>. El Rodeo in Avon is in the penalty phase and will be scheduled for an administrative hearing. There is an increase in the number of letters being mailed out to restaurants for habitual non-compliance.

Inspectors are tracking down vendors operating illegally. Health departments are also responsible for keeping track of home-based vendors in their county. To date, there are 58 of these vendors in Hendricks County that have provided their information including their food handler certificates.

On June 9, five inspectors completed inspections at the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Indy Tattoo Expo held at the Embassy Suites in Plainfield. There were 81 booths with 182 artists from all over the United States. Next year, the convention will be held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds. Morgan and Kenny, seasonal pool technicians, are inspecting outdoor pools every two weeks. Morgan will be leaving the end of this month and Kenny will stay through Labor Day.

Ms. Leanna Truitt, Program Manager of Healthy Families, updated that the team is in the middle of accreditation. The department needs a translator or interpreter service for referral families. Ms. Click and Ms. Truitt went before the Council last week and received approval to create a full-time position in lieu of two part time positions.

Ms. Nicole Oppy, Public Health Nursing Team Leader, updated on May 26<sup>th</sup> they had a Vaccines for Children site visit with the State, and it went well. A new administrative assistant/billing specialist, Ms. Natalie Fausz, was hired and began employment on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Tomorrow the staff will conduct their first on site school clinic at Avon High School in collaboration with the state mobile clinic. The Indiana Immunization Coalition held a clinic on June 6, 2023 and 113 vaccines were administered.

The Senate Enrolled Act 4 requires all local health departments to provide education on four topics prior to administering vaccine. A major topic is that the patient be informed that the health department will send vaccine records to CHIRP. Records can be accessed by the local health department, but the patient can opt out and the record will be permanently removed. This requirement went into effect on July 1 and the nursing department has updated the consent form with this information. There is a QR code with access to this document in the nursing waiting room with a hard copy of the document visible as well.

Ms. Anne Archer, Outreach Team Leader, updated that two team members attended a car seat inspection class and are certified to assist those who need car seats fitted and inspected. Three psychological first aid training classes will be sponsored by the MRC on August 23, September 27, and October 25. There is also dementia awareness training at the senior center tomorrow night. Her team is also preparing to work a booth at the fair beginning Sunday. She did receive delivery of 1,000 additional at home COVID test kits which provides the department with upward of 2,000 test kits in storage.

Ms. Click updated that state legislation provides guidance on who can participate on the Health Board, and it will need to be discussed as to how these roles will be filled. Mr. Eric Oliver, County Attorney, stated that we meet the requirements now, but we need to determine how to proceed as new vacancies become available. One position will be filled by the Commissioners or Council from the most populous municipality in the County. He is unclear as to how that will be defined as to when this position will need to be filled; however, this may be cleared up with future legislation. Furthermore, he added that the Health Officer position is confirmed by the legislative body, but the executive body confirms the appointment. He suggested to discuss this with Commissioners and Council to determine how they want to proceed as positions become available. This item will be placed on the next agenda for September.

Dr. Stopperich provided COVID updates with approximately one case per day in Hendricks County being reported. Hendricks Regional Health in Danville currently has one inpatient. The last COVID death was six weeks ago. Furthermore, today the Avon Community Schools sponsored for administrators and staff a training to recognize different types of addiction. The health department assisted in sponsoring this event and sent a few staff members to this training. Another training will be held in the future for parents.

## **Dates to Remember**

**Comments from County Council Liaison**

Mr. Larry Hesson, County Council Liaison, added there was a virtual meeting held this morning with the State Board of Health which did emphasize to have budget plan submitted by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Further guidance will be provided. The amount of money to be distributed will depend on the number of counties that opt out of the program with that money being distributed to the counties which opt into participation. He expressed concern that the money is only for two years. He is hoping the plan is such a success that the legislature will further appropriate additional funds. Mr. Hesson also expressed the need to advocate our successes to legislators.

**Comments from Health Board Attorney**

Mr. Eric Oliver feels comfortable with sending our septic proposal for review to the State. He will continue to work on the criteria for appointment of Health Board members to be presented at a future Health Board meeting, to the Commissioners and Council.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Brian Cobb made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Dr. Anderson seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

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**David M. Stopperich, M.D**  
**Health Officer and Board Secretary**

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**Date Minutes Approved**