

Hendricks County Board of Health Meeting

May 4, 2021, 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, May 4, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners/Council Meeting Room at the Hendricks County Government Center and virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Hendricks County Staff in Attendance:

Dr. David Stopperich, Health Officer
Ms. Krista Click, Environmental Health Director
Ms. Kandi Jamison, Director of Public Health Nursing
Ms. Ginger Harrington, Team Lead, Septic
Ms. Lisa Chandler, Team Lead, Food

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Eric Oliver, Attorney
Mr. Larry Hesson, County Council Liaison
Mr. Brandon Patterson, Property Owner

Board Members/Others Absent:

Ms. Leanna Truitt, Healthy Families Program Manager
Ms. Nicole Oppy, Asst. Director of Public Health Nursing
Ms. Sharon Mayer, Environmental Health Secretary

Determination of a Quorum

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bruce Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2021, Board of Health meeting.
Mr. Brian Cobb seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Wishes to be Heard

Mr. Brandon Patterson, property owner of 7686 N State Road 39, Lizton, explained the experiences he has been having with building on his property and installing a septic system. Diana Laskowski, property owner of 1392 Wyatt Way, sold the land to him and was there in his support. Since sewer is located on this property, his proposal for a septic system was not accepted by the Health Department. He is asking the Health Board to make an exception and allow a septic system to be installed.

The sewer system was installed in 2007 in Lizton to service the Hendricks Regional Health Lizton facility but is not within the Corporate Limits of Lizton. The Minor Plat was approved by Health Department in 2014 to utilize a septic system. A home was built on the adjacent lot in 2017 and utilizes a septic system. Mr. Patterson hired Banning Engineering in February 2021 to design the septic system, but he was told by the Health Department that he had to connect to sewer. After speaking with the town of Lizton, he was told that he would have to be annexed. He has undergone months of unclear communication. Ms. Ginger Harrington shared visuals of the property and explained that the Health Department has an Ordinance which requires connection to sewer if it is within 300 feet. That is also a State requirement in IC 36-9-23-30 (a).

After some discussion with Mr. Eric Oliver regarding the legal ramifications for both options, they asked Mr. Oliver to reach out to the Attorney for the Town of Lizton to determine their stance on the situation.

Mr. Bruce Dillon made a motion to approve Mr. Patterson's request for septic and allow for construction of an approved septic system subject to the Town of Lizton not exercising their right to enforce sewer. This will be effective for 12 months. Mr. David Hardin made a second motion, and the motion was approved.

Unfinished Business

Dr. Stopperich provided COVID updates. Hendricks County is at 17,086 positive cases with an increase of 23 cases per day. There have been 332 total county deaths with 1-2 deaths in the past month. The Hendricks County positivity rate is at 4.4%

and the state is at 4.6% The county currently has 22 COVID inpatients which has increased from 17 inpatients this time last month. There are a few patients in ICU which is same as a month ago. These are older patients over the age of 60 which are not vaccinated. If the hospitals see a patient who has been vaccinated, the patient has a much briefer visit.

Indiana is 35.6% fully vaccinated and Hendricks County is 48.2% which is the third highest in the state. First vaccination dose for the state is at 43% and Hendricks County is at 57.8%, which is fourth highest in the state.

Dr. Stopperich added that we are currently under a yellow guidance. There is not a mandate, but we are suggesting events be outside or kept at 50% capacity or less. It is encouraged for larger events to submit a safety plan. After attending a school superintendent's meeting last week, Dr. Stopperich added that a meeting will be held in late June to discuss the 2021-2022 school year. The state should be coming out with guidance in the near future.

Dr. Stopperich will also be meeting with Hendricks Regional Health (HRH) regarding the vaccine clinic transition plan. The 12-15 year-old age group may get approval for Pfizer. Mr. David Hardin asked if the COVID vaccine will be required for school age kids. Dr. Stopperich added there is not a discussion to mandate this at the present time, but vaccination could be required in the future.

Ms. Click added that grant funds were received from the state and went to the county council to have money reallocated for Fairgrounds maintenance and rental, printing, and clinical and clerical supplies.

We are working with town EMS personnel and Paramedicine to deliver vaccine to home-bound Hoosiers. There was Moderna clinic conducted at Family Promise and the nurses are planning a clinic at the Jail.

Ms. Click added that DRIVE, the new state vital records system, changed at the beginning of the year. It has been a rough transition, but it is getting there. This system is also utilized by physicians and funeral homes.

Environmental Health Update

Ms. Click stated that part of the COVID vaccination grant funding allowed us to purchase a radio antenna for the top of the HRH and will be used to help for public messaging. Previously we had a mobile radio, but the signal was being overrun by station from Toronto. Now we have a stronger signal. We are working with EMA and other agencies to conduct public messaging of our choice.

At the last Tox-A-Way Day we had a needlestick of an employee; therefore, we are revisiting our policy of how sharps are delivered. We are working on messaging of how sharps need to be delivered to us (sharps containers, juice bottles).

Healthy Families Update

Ms. Kandi Jamison provided updates for Ms. Leanna Truitt who was not able to attend. Home visit completion rates and engagement in home visits continue to be at a high level. After their annual site review, it was noted five families have terminated services for the entire year. There is a continuing need for the virtual services. Healthy Families has started looking at resuming in person home visits. The advisory board has suggested tracking families that have been vaccinated and starting with those families for face-to-face home visits.

Healthy Families America is planning to release new best practice standards at the end of this year, and there will be sizeable changes. This will be regarding the tool in determining eligibility for services as well as some improvements around diversity and inclusion. The staff of three continues to be very busy. Unfortunately, the part time candidate for the family support specialist position opted not to take the position. Leanna is resuming interviews for this position.

Nursing Updates

Ms. Jamison reported that the health department has given 12,756 doses at the COVID-19 clinic. As of December 18, Ms. Debi Campbell added that HRH has given over 60,000 COVID doses. Austi Pate has taken a position at HRH. The new Immunization Grant nurse will begin on May 17. The Immunization Grant has been renewed and there is money for a new refrigeration unit to replace the Helmer unit that was leaking refrigerant.

Dr. Stopperich added that when we are talking to people out in the community, we need to recommend that they get the vaccine. Also, recommend that people get tested when needed. COVID testing numbers have declined considerably.

Comments from County Council Liaison-Mr. Larry Hesson


Mr. Larry Hesson added that the council is working on long term wage evaluation.


Comments from Attorney-Eric Oliver


Mr. Eric Oliver inquired as to whether the board wanted to pursue a lawsuit regarding the Stevens' property. Letters were sent and there has not been a response. Ms. Harrington added that the original complaint was taken in April 2020 and that we have been working on this for a lengthy period. The board was in consensus to move forward legally.


Adjourn

Dr. Cougill called the meeting to adjourn at 8:27 pm.

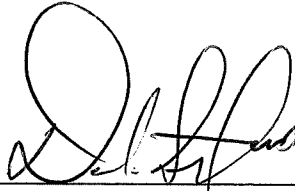


David Hardin


C. Anderson


Ben Coff


Debra Campbell



David M. Stopperich, M.D.
Health Officer and Board Secretary
7-6-2021

Date Minutes Approved