

Hendricks County Board of Health Meeting

January 3, 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, January 3, 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 (virtual)
Ms. Debra Campbell
Mr. Brian Cobb

Hendricks County Staff in Attendance:

Dr. David Stopperich, Health Officer
Ms. Krista Click, Health Department Administrator
Ms. Paige Marsh, Public Health Nurse
Ms. Leanna Truitt, Program Manager of Healthy Families
Ms. Ginger Harrington, Onsite Team Leader
Ms. Lisa Chandler, Foods Team Leader
Ms. Anne Archer, Outreach 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:

Dr. Chrystal Anderson

Determination of a Quorum

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. David Hardin made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2022, Board of Health meeting. Dr. Larry Caskey seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Wishes to be Heard

None presented.

Unfinished Business

Dr. Stopperich, Health Officer, provided COVID updates with Hendricks County reporting about 19 cases per day which is similar to 20 cases per day a month ago. Statistics based on last week indicate there have been 4 deaths in the last month with a median age of 91. These individuals were up to date with their vaccines. COVID inpatients were up from 22 to 24 over the past month and ICU patients were up to 3 from 0 a month ago. Two of these patients were on a ventilator.

Flu statistics show a decrease from 7-8% to 5 ½% of reported cases from selected physician offices. There were 17 hospitalizations in the County with flu, two of which were in the ICU. Between flu and COVID there are approximately 41 hospitalizations in Hendricks County as of this morning and there are approximately 220-240 beds available. One fifth to one sixth of our beds are being utilized with flu and COVID patients.

Dr. Stopperich suggested that if anyone has any questions regarding COVID vaccines to just call the health department. Mr. David Hardin inquired as to when the next booster will be available and Dr. Stopperich replied

that it has not been determined yet. Mr. Hardin also inquired about RSV and Dr. Cougill stated that he feels the number of hospitalizations for RSV have decreased.

Dr. Stopperich added that the health department is working with the school's nursing teams in conjunction with HRH to determine how to promote the Omicron vaccine through the schools. They are looking at marketing campaigns for this vaccine and trying to get this information to parents in monthly school newsletters. Also, the HRH marketing team is helping to spread the word through local newspapers and local radio ads.

Dr. Cougill inquired if there were any updates to the Governor's Public Health Commission and Ms. Krista Click, Health Department Administrator, stated that there was a web call for health board members, but the general information has remained the same. She added that she will be serving on the leadership committee to help establish the deliverables (the type of reporting from local health departments) and what would be the best way for the state and local health departments to communicate.

Mr. Hardin asked if there would be opportunities to meet with legislators on the state's Public Health Day about funding or grants. Ms. Click responded that this day is mostly to show support for public health. In respect to core services expected with the Governor's proposal, there should be more information on services to connect people. The focus is much more on the health education and outreach front rather than enforcement.

New Business

Ms. Leanna Truitt, Program Manager of Health Families, provided an update for the My Healthy Baby Stabilizing and the Perinatal Home Visiting Workforce Grant. She stated this is placing additional stress on early home visiting programs because they are already at a maximum on referrals and are averaging about 25 visits a month from this program alone.

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) has released a grant proposal to stabilize the workforce in terms of early home visiting for Healthy Families and Nurse Family Partnership which are presently overburdened. The department applied for the grant and received \$61,675 which will help with staff retention, team building and training. The grant provides for various opportunities for use of funds. The County Council approved the request and Ms. Truitt has sent the proposal to IDOH and will be waiting to hear the next steps. The grant will be in effect until the end of the 2025.

Updates

Ms. Truitt added that 2024 through 2025 will be an accreditation year for the statewide system. They are reaccredited every five years through Healthy Families America. Hendricks County is going through the process but may not have peer reviewers on site; however, they will know by December. This year will be a big year for policy manuals being updated and conducting a self-study into the program and how they are adhering to the standards.

Ms. Lisa Chandler, Foods Team Leader, added the foods program finished the year strong with a full staff and she feels confident the team can be back on a full restaurant inspection schedule next year. She is looking at reassigning the body modification establishments to inspectors. Dr. Cougill inquired about the ability of restaurants being able to hire and Ms. Chandler commented that facilities are struggling with their ability to keep the establishment clean, staffed with employees, and that construction delays are having an impact due to their own inability to staff and obtain building materials.

Ms. Ginger Harrington, Onsite Team Leader, commented that Ms. Shannon McKenzie had contacted her and no longer wishes to pursue a holding tank because it was too cumbersome, and that she just wanted to sell the property. Therefore, the house is listed for sale with nonspecific notes regarding septic issues. Ms. Harrington has been informed that it is not occupied, and she has been keeping an eye on it. The team is still conducting septic inspections to wrap things up and permits for pools and body modification facilities are being processed.

Ms. Paige Marsh, Public Health Nurse, stated that at the immunization clinic on October 26 there were 323 vaccines administered. Chamberlin nursing students completed clinics during October 27 through December 15 and IU nursing students will have clinicals January 12 through April 27. The staff attended HIV training so they can reopen the STD, Hepatitis C and HIV clinic.

Nurses are still administering flu vaccines and are having walk in clinics during January. Appointments can be scheduled as well. From June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, the team administered 813 flu vaccines.

Ms. Anne Archer, Outreach Team Leader, updated that the COVID testing site on Meadow Drive closed around Christmas. She has plenty of home test kits that can be given out to the public. Many of the expiration dates on these kits have been extended. More test kits can still be acquired through the State. The department is continuing to reach out to long term care facilities to get people vaccinated. A preparedness tabletop drill is being held on January 25 which will involve a family assistance center with the scenario that a tornado hits the center of the county. We will be brainstorming of how to provide birth certificates, death certificates, food permits and any additional type of paperwork or resources that the public may need during this exercise.

Ms. Click presented to the council meeting this morning the My Healthy Baby Grant and the annual renewal of local health maintenance funds. There was also approval of the health department's American Rescue Plan request which mainly went to the MRC crisis response team for training, acquiring go kits, supporting Stop the Bleed program, moving the radio transmitter from the hospital to the jail, updating radios, and purchasing programmable electronic signs.

Ms. Click mentioned the purchase of the wrap for the new trailer. She also mentioned that we have been working with Waste Management regarding the lack of trash pick-up in the community. She explained that our ordinances do not provide for enforcement since the property owners are trying to get rid of their trash. We are keeping up communication with the public and placing pressure on Waste Management to provide service. Ms. Debi Campbell added that administrative, employee, and truck issues should be resolved by February.

Dates to Remember

Public Health Day at the Statehouse is scheduled for January 26 and the preparedness tabletop is January 25 which will be held in the conference room at the government center.

Comments from County Council Liaison

Mr. Larry Hesson, County Council Liaison, added that the council did pass the salary ordinance today for 2023.

Comments from Health Board Attorney

Mr. Eric Oliver, County Attorney, did comment that he received a positive comment regarding the professionalism of a septic inspection.

Adjourn

Mr. Hardin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 pm. Mr. Brian Cobb seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Brian Goff



David Hardin

Debra Campbell



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

3/7/23

Date Minutes Approved