

Hendricks County Board of Health Meeting

July 6, 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, July 7, 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
Ms. Debra Campbell (virtual)

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
Ms. Sharon Mayer, Environmental Health Secretary

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Eric Oliver, Attorney (virtual)
Ms. Melissa Myers, Public
Ms. Jamie Holtsclaw, Public
Mr. and Ms. Ryan and Dawn Grimes, Public

Board Members/Others Absent:

Dr. Larry Caskey, Health Board Member
Ms. Nicole Oppy, Asst. Director of Public Health Nursing
Mr. Larry Hesson, County Council Liaison
Ms. Leanna Truitt, Program Manager of Healthy Families

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 May 4, 2021, Board of Health meeting.
Mr. Brian Cobb seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Wishes to be Heard

Ms. Melissa Myers, Ms. Jamie Holtsclaw, and Mr. Ryan and Ms. Dawn Grimes were in attendance to support concerns regarding Hendricks County promoting COVID vaccinations for children. Ms. Holtsclaw provided statistics regarding deaths allegedly related to COVID vaccinations. Mr. Bruce Dillon inquired as to what specifically she would like the Hendricks County Board of Health to address and informed her that her concerns would be better addressed with another agency. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Indiana Department of Health establish COVID-19 vaccine guidance and policy for our state. Dr. Andrew Cougill further supported that this was the incorrect venue and her issue would be better addressed with the County Commissioners or the Indiana Department of Health. Dr. David Stopperich further added that Ms. Holtsclaw could begin with an email to Dr. Kristina Box at the state level. Mr. David Hardin reiterated that the Board aimed to provide the best guidance possible for our community as a whole.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Kandi Jamison discussed specifics regarding the COVID immunization grant and that the County Commissioners and County Council have approved the appropriations. Additional nurses will need to be hired for the upcoming COVID clinic which will be held at the Government Center building on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2pm-6pm beginning on 7/7/2021. She will need one full time nurse to coordinate the grant, write reports, oversee the clinic, reach out into the community, and conduct site audits. Three part time nurses will also be needed to run the clinic. Mr. Dillon inquired about the time frame for the grant and Ms. Jamison responded that it was back dated to January 1, 2021, and that the grant would continue through June 30, 2022. The grant can be renewed for up to two additional years. The board unanimously approved the budget.

Environmental Health Update

Dr. Stopperich reported that Hendricks County has had over 17,000 COVID cases total with an average of 6 cases per day as compared to 11 cases per day a month ago. There has been one death in the last month which was the same as a month

ago. The positivity rate is at 3% which is down from 5.8% last month. There are 10 patients in Hendricks County hospitals which is down from 14 inpatients from a month ago. Indiana is at total vaccination rate of 48.7% and Hendricks County is at 65.6% for ages 12 years and older. Hendricks County is the fourth highest county in the state for vaccinations.

He met with the school superintendents a few weeks ago and they are still formulating their plans. Governor Holcomb has left it up to the school boards to decide the mask and social distancing policy. Hendricks County is supporting what the State is recommending. The superintendents are trying to develop a plan to keep policy uniform across the county and make recommendations to their individual school boards. Dr. Stopperich is hoping for consistency through the county.

Dr. Stopperich is preparing statistics for the superintendents which is categorized by age demographics from the state's website. Hendricks County statistics reflect that the age group of 16–19-year-olds, 61% are vaccinated, and for 12–15-year-olds, 28.75% are vaccinated. A total of 38% of these individuals have received their first dose.

Ms. Debi Campbell asked the percentage of hospitalization cases which were not vaccinated and Dr. Stopperich stated that his information from Hendricks Regional Health is that was the vast majority.

He confirmed that the Delta Variant is present in Hendricks County and is vastly underreported. This unique group that is being tested for the variant are the hospitalizations and not general cases; therefore, the data is skewed.

Ms. Krista Click provided a clinic update. The vaccination demand has decreased, and the health department will be leaving the Fairgrounds and moving to the Government Center beginning this week. There will be a decrease in the number of clinic days to 2 days a week, operating Wednesday and Thursday 2-6 PM. The first week of August there will not be a clinic due to space limitations. The current clinic schedule has approximately 80 appointments per day. During the week of the Hendricks County Fair, the clinic will be onsite at the Expo Hall, where both appointments and walk-ins will be welcome.

Ms. Click added that the Electronic Meetings Voting Policy was adopted by the County Commissions and County Council for remote voting. Dr. Cougill stated that voting on this policy can be conducted at the next meeting after Mr. Eric Oliver has an opportunity to review.

Ms. Click further added that staff is busy with septic, temporary food events, and complaints. Ms. Lisa Chandler updated that during June 18-20, staff inspected the Tattoo Convention at the Embassy Suites which included 52 booths with 116 artists. Five inspectors were present, and all went smoothly.

Furthermore, Ms. Click stated that there was a delay in obtaining annual report data in DRIVE, but the report should be released soon.

Healthy Families Update

Ms. Kandi Jamison provided updates for Ms. Leanna Truitt who was not able to attend. Healthy Families is in a holding pattern at the present time. Healthy Families America is planning to release new best practice standards at the end of this year, and the department will have time to bring policies up to date. No timeline has been provided for returning to face-to-face visits and they will continue to operate virtually for the remaining part of the year. A part time position in the department is still vacant. Leanna continues to interview applicants for the position. The most recent monthly invoice sent to the state for home visits and assessments was \$15,104. This amount has been the highest amount to be billed in two years.

The biannual state training will be held in August which will be virtual.

Nursing Updates

Ms. Jamison reported that the health department is getting ready to move the COVID clinic to meeting rooms 4 & 5 in the government center. The nursing department is still working out logistic issues to co-administer the COVID vaccine with school vaccinations.

Comments from County Council Liaison-Mr. Larry Hesson

Mr. Larry Hesson added that the Council is working to revamp the compensation system for employees. An organizational chart for departments will be needed. The council was hopeful to initiate the new system by January 1, 2022; however, it is more complicated than that of private industry. They will not be able to get the information to the local government finance department until mid-2022 or 2023.

There should be an increase in salaries for 2022; however, Mr. Hesson was not certain about the amount.

Comments from Attorney-Eric Oliver

A hearing was held in June because of the Stevens' case regarding a septic issue. The judge granted a motion to have him evicted unless he corrects the situation. He then hired attorney Bill Harrington, septic contractor Scott Cline, and engineer Dale Kruse. He must have a plan in place by July 23 or he will have to vacate the property. The only extension that Mr. Oliver feels could be allowed is if delays are of no fault of Mr. Stevens. He is allowed to pump and haul for one year.

Mr. Dillon asked about Branden Patterson and Ms. Ginger Harrington acknowledged that the septic permit was issued.

Adjourn

Dr. Cougill called the meeting to adjourn at 8:09 pm. Mr. David Hardin made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Cobb seconded the motion.

Brian Cobb

C. Anderson

David Hardin

Debra Campbell

Debra Campbell

Debra Campbell

David M. Stopperich, M.D.

Health Officer and Board Secretary

9/7/2021

Date Minutes Approved