

**Hendricks County Board of Health Meeting**

**November 1, 2022 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, November 1, 2022, 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)  
Dr. Chrystal Anderson

**Hendricks County Staff in Attendance:**

Dr. David Stopperich, Health Officer  
Ms. Krista Click, Health Department Administrator  
Ms. Nicole Oppy, Public Health Nursing Team Leader  
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:**

Mr. Brian Cobb  
Ms. Debi Campbell

**Determination of a Quorum**

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

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Chrystal Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2022, Board of Health meeting. Mr. Bruce Dillon seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Dr. Cougill presented having a roll call for any vote when there is someone virtually attending a health board meeting. All members were in favor, and none were opposed.

**Wishes to be Heard**

None presented.

Ms. Krista Click, Health Department Administrator, presented that the McKenzie's, who had wishes to be heard, decided not to come before the board. The department is presently working with the McKenzie's regarding septic installation in a sewer area. We are also waiting for information for a septic holding tank permit application.

Mr. Eric Oliver, Health Board Attorney, stated he has spoken with their attorney and that they do have some realistic arguments. He has asked for them to get quotes, which they have not provided. Mr. Oliver has also asked for them to speak with the homeowner's association to see if they would grant an easement. The Town of Plainfield is not interested in using eminent domain nor are they interested in denying them crossing the high pressure main. Quotes will probably not be provided this year. The owners live out of state and want to sell the

house or get it occupied. It is understood that the house cannot be occupied until they have a temporary holding tank permit.

### **Unfinished Business**

Dr. Stopperich, Health Officer, provided COVID updates with Hendricks County reporting about 9 cases per day by the Indiana Department of Health with 46 tests per day being conducted. Over the past few months, there have been 5 deaths with ages between 71-94 and a median age of 84. Four of these deaths were in long term care facilities with one person unvaccinated. The others partially vaccinated and none of these individuals had received the bivalent vaccine.

As of this morning, there were 19 inpatients with COVID as compared to 23 a couple months ago. Therefore, numbers are stable and steady, and we need to keep pushing the vaccine. Two of these 19 inpatients are in the ICU as compared with 3 in the ICU a couple months ago.

Regarding vaccines, the focus will be on the bivalent booster with the primary series already two years old. The State is at 55.2% boosted rate with Hendricks County at 66.1% The State is at 5.7% for the bivalent vaccine and Hendricks County is at 8.4%, which is required for being up to date for the COVID vaccination. Presently, Hendricks County is increasing their vaccination rate at about 1% a week right now.

There was a drive thru clinic last week in Plainfield with 57 individuals who drove thru to receive their bivalent vaccine dose. There will be another drive thru clinic to be held this week at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds from 12p-5p. Dr. Stopperich added that he has been telling people to call the main line at the health department office and we will find a time to get them vaccinated. COVID clinics are being conducted all day on Thursday and one Saturday a month. We can still give COVID shots on Wednesday's flu clinic and we are trying to promote the bivalent vaccine with the understanding that there is a vaccine available for the present variants.

Mr. Dillon inquired as to if the public has been getting flu shots. Dr. Stopperich replied that the numbers have been like past years and Dr. Cougill stated the same. He also added that he is seeing a few cases earlier this year as opposed to past years.

### **New Business**

Ms. Click presented potential future health board meeting dates. Dr. Cougill announced that the proposed health board meeting dates for 2023 be January 3, March 7, May 9, July 11, September 5, and November 14. Mr. Dillon made a motion to approve these dates and Mr. David Hardin seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Ms. Click added that at the budget hearing meeting there was discussion regarding reimbursement for board members. An approval was given for the Health Board to be reimbursed similarly to other boards. The County Council increased the rate of compensation; however, it will be per meeting attended rather than a set amount throughout the year. The department will submit a roll call for the claim of \$250 per member per meeting, which includes virtual attendance.

Information regarding the Governor's Public Health Commission was previously provided. This information will be going out to elected officials and the public. There should be legislation in the spring with intentions to obtain additional grant funding for local health departments. Ms. Click added that is unknown if and when funds will become available. At the present time, the State is looking at what services should be expected of local health departments, with the possibility of increasing some recommendations to make them mandatory. Our department has constraints regarding space because there is not an empty desk or area to accommodate another person even if the funding was made available.

Mr. David Hardin commented that he was intrigued at the disparity within the state regarding the amount spent per person. He asked where Hendricks County falls in this range and what are the counties having the high per person funding rate doing differently than us. Ms. Click added that she does not have exact information where Hendricks County falls regarding funding, but we are in much better shape than most counties. She also added that we are addressing most items. There are a few areas that would be gaps for Hendricks County, especially in the areas of education and outreach. For example, there could be a requirement for fatality review teams for fetal and child death and suicide overdose. They had suggestions for more epidemiology support and smoking cessation.

Dr. Stopperich added that we can really bolster up in outreach and we have the beginning of that program with Ms. Anne Archer, Outreach Team Leader. It would be a great opportunity to work more with schools, businesses, and community partners. Ms. Click stated there may be a required county match, ensuring an established budget for 20% of the grant funds.

### **Updates**

Ms. Lisa Chandler, Foods Team Leader, added the two new staff members are trained and conducting inspections on their own. Staff is still conducting temporary inspections and there are two winter farmer's markets in operation. Presently, the department is observing more habitual noncompliance due to a lack of staffing and cleaning being conducted in retail food establishments.

Ms. Ginger Harrington, Onsite Team Leader, stated that the septic and vector control seasons are slowing down. Also, Environmental Health staff has lost two weeks of data due to server issues.

Ms. Leanna Truitt, Program Manager of Healthy Families, provided an update that on October 1, the new contract cycle began with a rate increase in \$20 per activity. Ms. Click and Ms. Truitt are looking at budgets and have two parttime positions funded and posted with five potential interviewees. The team is still conducting some virtual visits and following the needs of the families. However, they are back in homes at 95%. RSV and hospitalizations have impacted families allowing the need for virtual visits.

Ms. Nicole Oppy, Public Health Nursing Team Leader, provided an update that Ms. Click and the nursing staff attended the CDC Pink Book Training for immunizations. They also held an immunization clinic with the Indiana Immunization Coalition on October 26th at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds. The final numbers are not available yet, but they were very busy. Since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 371 flu shots have been given to 6 months and older, 130 high dose shots for 65 years and older, and 4 Flublock (egg free) shots for 18 and older.

Ms. Anne Archer updated that 57 people came through the first COVID drive thru at Hummel Park. She felt the visibility was poor due to being held in the back of the park and she recommended that if they were to use this site again to be located up front and closer to Center Street. They are having another drive thru clinic this Friday at the Fairgrounds, and she anticipates higher numbers. Gleaners is conducting a food distribution the same day. IU Health will also be there giving flu shots.

Yesterday, the nursing department administered 71 flu shots at Brownsburg Meadows. The facility is interested in the bivalent vaccine. Two additional long-term care facilities have expressed interest as well.

She added that they recently received delivery of 13 pack n plays from the State for the safe sleep initiative program. They also received a supply of swaddle sleep sacks.

Ms. Click added that she has been participating in a workforce assessment and will be doing an interview with IU to share all our job descriptions. The goal of the assessment is to get a better picture of public health across the state. Dr. Stopperich attended the State Leadership Symposium with Ms. Click and he is interested in this report depicting the state's health department workforce.

**Dates to Remember**

The Public Health Day at the State House will be held January 26, beginning at 11:00 in the North Atrium.

**Comments from County Council Liaison**


Mr. Larry Hesson, County Council Liaison, stated that on October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Council passed a budget for the opioid settlement and each county, city, town will receive funds over an 18-year period of distribution. Negotiations are ongoing.

**Comments from Health Board Attorney**

Mr. Oliver is hopeful that the McKenzie's will get their quotes and he is hopeful that the issue will be resolved.

**Adjourn**

Dr. Caskey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm. Dr. Anderson seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

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

3/7/23  
Date Minutes Approved