

Hendricks County Board of Health Meeting
May 14, 2024 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 May 14th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners/Council Meeting Room at the Hendricks County Government Center.

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Hendricks County Staff in Attendance:

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

Others in Attendance:

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

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 March 12, 2024, Board of Health meeting with an amendment to strike the wording "...move forward as soon as possible." and replace it with "move forward by sending it to the commissioners," on page 2, 1st paragraph. Mr. Brian Cobb seconded the motion. The six Board members in attendance were in favor and the motion was approved with Mr. David Hardin abstaining.

Wishes to be Heard

None presented.

Unfinished Business

Covid and flu Updates

Dr. Stopperich stated that the county is down to approximately 1 case per day from 5 cases per day as of the last meeting with a note of it being slightly underreported. There have been no deaths from COVID since mid-March. FluB is still lingering in the county, but the overall flu-like illnesses have seen a decrease down to 1.5% which is below the 2.5% threshold. The state of Indiana had 238 flu deaths, where Hendricks County had 2 deaths, which is within the county's yearly average of 2-5 deaths. Ms. Debra Campbell questioned if there was any anticipation of a summer surge, and Dr. Stopperich said they are unsure.

HB 1402 (2023) and Proposed Onsite Sewage System Ordinance

Ms. Ginger Harrington informed the Board that Indiana officially has two county ordinances approved. The Technical Review Panel's (TRP's) March meeting was cancelled due to an empty agenda. Ms. Harrington informed the Board that the TRP is still struggling to determine what is necessary within the ordinances across the state. The ordinance draft has the Indiana Department of Health's (IDOH) approval, so the next steps are approval by the Health Board, approval from the Commissioner's, and finally approval from the TRP. The draft has had

several removals and one section with additions regarding holding tanks being a permanent disposal method. This will require an operating permit which will upon approval from the TRP require an update to the fee ordinance. There were several questions and discussion leading to a motion by Dr. Larry Caskey to approve the ordinance and send it to the Commissioners for approval. The motion was seconded by Dr. Chrystal Anderson. All were in favor and the motion was passed.

New Business

2023 Annual Report

Dr. Stopperich noted that the median age of death is not optimal. Several of these deaths are caused by overdose and diseases of despair. The coroner's report shows more than just Hendricks County residents, but their data is more accurate regarding suicides. The county had 32 suicides and 31 overdoses putting them 12 and 13 on the list of most common deaths making them high on the priority list to address. Dr. Stopperich also mentioned the need for better access to healthcare. The Board came to a consensus that the report was good and Dr. Stopperich plans on publicizing it more.

Status of Hiring- Position Changes and New Positions

Ms. Erin Williams introduced herself as the new Environmental Food Secretary.

Ms. Nicole Oppy informed the Board that two nurses were hired with the Immunization Grant. Floriane started on May 6th and Paige Marsh will be returning to the department on May 28th.

Ms. Anne Archer reviewed 76 applications for the Public Health Education Specialist position focusing on tobacco prevention and cessation and believes to have a final candidate.

Ms. Krista Click informed the Board that the Office Manager job description was reviewed and is awaiting County Council approval in order to be posted.

Establishing Advisory Team for Health First Indiana Community Partner Awards

Ms. Krista Click informed the Board that some of the Health First Indiana Funds are to be utilized for community partners. A team is being set up to review the partner applications and make recommendations for various projects acting as a grant approval process to take place quarterly. The team would consist of 5-7 people, and she requested that a member from the Board be part of the team. Mr. Hardin and Mr. Cobb volunteered, Mr. Hardin as primary, and Mr. Cobb as proxy.

Updates

Environmental Health Foods Team Update- Ms. Lisa Chandler

Ms. Lisa Chandler informed the Board that the solar eclipse events went well. Outdoor pools have started to open, and inspections have started. Mr. Mark Christy's WinRecords program has been implemented for foods and pools and is soon going to be used for body modification. Mr. Christy is also working on adapting the program to be compatible with the new Food Code.

Environmental Health Onsite Team Update- Ms. Ginger Harrington

Ms. Harrington informed the Board that a disposal company has been chosen for Tire Amnesty Day on September 14th, 2024. Eric has reviewed the contract and made several requests for changes. Liberty Tire has agreed to the changes suggested by Eric with the exception of payment. Eric asked for 45 days, and they are willing to agree to 30 days after the event. More marketing will be posted upon the contract being signed. Seasonal workers have been hired. Two workers are returning from last year as well as one new employee.

Healthy Families Update- Ms. Leanna Truitt

Ms. Leanna Truitt informed the Board that they have had an influx of referrals since the My Healthy Babies program was rolled out. They are struggling to find a long-term solution regarding language barriers since the demand for interpreters is increasing, but they are working diligently to find a solution. Their state audit went very well last month with no major violations or issues.

Public Health Nursing Team Update- Ms. Nicole Oppy

Ms. Nicole Oppy informed the Board that the Indiana Immunization Coalition (IIC) Clinic on February 27th went well with 191 vaccinations administered and the next clinic is scheduled for June 4th from 3p-6p at the Fairgrounds. Their site visit with the State for the Vaccines for Children program was on May 8th and it went well. On world TB Day, Ms. Jenny Plunkett received the TB Excellence Award. Since we have a vacant position, Ms. Plunkett is handling all the communicable disease and TB case management.

Outreach Team Update- Ms. Anne Archer

Ms. Archer informed the Board that Mr. Michael Aviah will be attending the Indiana Public Health Association (IPHA) Conference to speak about the Hendricks County Health Partnership, and Mr. Jeff Corder will be attending the Nationwide Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Conference in Chicago to present as well. There are a few Covid tests left, and they are still going quickly. She also informed the Board that her department now has medication disposal bags that can be taken home and used. She also mentioned the next Tox Away day is June 22nd at the Fairgrounds.

Health Department Administrator Update- Ms. Krista Click


Ms. Click informed the Board that the department staff participated in Real Colors training. This was similar to a personality trait test and helped determine how the staff works together as a team. The lease to obtain more office space has been discussed with Hendricks Regional Health, and there will be a few changes made to the existing lease to coincide with the department’s current needs regarding the GoVan. By June 1st, the Health First Indiana budget for 2025 needs to be submitted to the State Department of Health and then to the County Council. She noted that not all positions will be needed that were requested last year. There is a need for an adjustment in requested jobs due to a lack of applicants for RN positions and an overwhelming number of educator applications. Dr. Stopperich added some information regarding this need. The Board was in consensus regarding these changes.

Adjourn

Mr. David Hardin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm, it was seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.




Dr. Andrew Cougill, Chair




David Hardin, Vice-Chair



Dr. Chrystal Anderson, Member




Dr. Larry Caskey, Member



Debra Campbell, Member

Brian Cobb, Member

Bruce Dillon, Member



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

7-9-24

Date Minutes Approved

