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Board of Health Minutes

November 19, 2024
5:00 pm
Marion County Public Health Department
2003 N Lincoln
Knoxville, IA

In attendance: Dale Lensing, Dan VanderBeek, Joni Hannon.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00. In attendance: Dale Lensing, Dan Vander Beek, and Joni Hannon. Staff in attendance: Kim Dorn, Linsey Spoelstra, and Danielle deNeui.

Motion by VanderBeek to accept agenda. Support by Hannon. M/C Ayes All

No public comments.

Motion by VanderBeek to accept the consent agenda. Support by Hannon. M/C Ayes all.

Environmental Health Report was provided by deNeui. The variance request for 1742 High, Knoxville, is no longer necessary, as a contractor went to the site and discovered the well in question was not a well and a variance is not needed.

deNeui discussed the new variance/waiver paperwork from the state DNR. Lensing had questions regarding the wording on the paperwork. The language we use is variance, and the language in the new paperwork is waiver. deNeui received confirmation via email from DNR Cory Frank that the term "waiver" and "variance" are the same thing. Another issue is that appears that the waiver is temporary in nature, and when a variance is provided, it is a permanent placement. deNeui will email Cory Frank and request clarification. deNeui reported that she has been contacted by the corporate office for the hotel at Bos Landen regarding the pool compliance issues. They have a new general manager, and we can expect compliance with the pool issues.

2003 N Lincoln – Parole Office, "building ownership" discussion. Dorn reported that the BOS took up the Parole office issue at Tuesday's meeting. There was discussion regarding safety concerns. There was no action by the BOS. Dr Lensing discussed the concern that with TB being a concern in Iowa, especially among illegal aliens, it would be unlikely that they would come to the public health office for a TB test if they suspected they had TB, if there is any type of law enforcement presence at the building. Dorn discussed there appears to be concern regarding "who owns the building" and reiterated that like all county buildings, the building is owned by the taxpayers, and like all buildings, designed for specific functions. She will follow up with the BOS regarding this assurance and also to discuss the rationale for building design for public health needs, so they consider these issues as they move forward. Dorn will copy in BOH members.

Dorn requested that even though the pay rate changes are as planned and were passed in the budget, we have the Board chair sign the payroll change sheets to be clear that the board knows of the changes being made mid-year with her retirement. Dr Lensing signed the payroll change forms.

The board received Dorn's letter of retirement. Her last day of work will be December 31, 2024. Dorn intends to take quite a bit of vacation time during the month of December, and reports that the PHD is beginning to make transitions. Dorn requested the Board provide Linsey signatory authority, so that both she and Linsey have authority until December 31, 2024. This will allow us to begin transitioning authority within contracts, which will occur over the course of December, and Dorn's authority will be complete December 31, 2024. Motion to approve signatory authority for Spoelstra by VanderBeek, support by Hannon. M/C Ayes All.

Discussion of grant posting dates, service area discussion for applications for HPP and PHEP. Discussed HRSA. Motion by Hannon for MCPHD to apply for HPP and PHEP applications as discussed. Support by VanderBeek. M/C Ayes All.

Staff will bring back HRSA request when concept more fully developed.

Motion by Hannon to accept PH fee schedule update to begin January, 2025. Support by Vander Beek. M/C Ayes All.

New BOH member recruitment: Dr Remington is needing to get off of BoH, and recommended Dr McCoy, who is a doctor at Knoxville Hospital. Dorn discussed the two candidates. Dorn and Spoelstra have met with Dr McCoy, and he is very enthusiastic to serve. In respect to due diligence, Lensing suggested the board table McCoy, and he will ask in PRHC system if there is a potential member who should be considered. This would be to complete Dr Remington's term, which would end December 31, 2025, and then be eligible for a new three year term. Motion by VanderBeek to approve taking Nicole Steddom to the Board of Supervisors as request to join BoH for term January 1, 2025- December 31, 2027, and to table Dr McCoy, and take up that position next month. Support by Hannon. M/C Ayes All.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55.

Kim Dorn, Recorder