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Board of Health Minutes

June 17, 2025
5:02 pm – 5:46pm
Marion County Public Health Department
2003 N Lincoln
Knoxville, IA

Hannon called the meeting to order at 5:02pm. Virtual attendance: Joni Hannon, Dan VanderBeek, Kisha Jahner, Dr. Timothy McCoy Absent: Nicole Steddom Staff: Linsey Spoelstra

Motion to approve June 17, 2025 Board of Health agenda by VanderBeek, support by Jahner. Motion carried, ayes all.

No public comments.

Motion to approve the Consent agenda by VanderBeek, support by McCoy. Motion carried, ayes all.

The Environmental Health Update was provided in the packet as a written report, current numbers discussed. Motion by VanderBeek to receive and file report. Support by McCoy. Motion carried, ayes all.

Discussion regarding Iowa Primary Care Tobacco contract. Spoelstra received the contract directly from Iowa Primary Care to provide tobacco cessation services in Marion County. The contract is for \$28,093 and will cover staff time and activities. Motion to approve the contract and for MCPH Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Board of Health by Jahner, second by VanderBeek. Motion carried, ayes all.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant contract has been extended to Marion County Public Health for a 5 year project period. The contract is for \$317,935 for the first year of the budget period and provides funding for both PHEP and EMS system standards activities. Motion to accept the contract and for MCPH Director to act as Board of Health signatory by VanderBeek, second by Jahner. Motion carried, ayes all.

Hospital Preparedness Program grant contract has been extended to MCPH for a 5 year project period. Funding for the first year of the project is \$122,747. Motion to accept the contract and for MCPH Director to act as Board of Health signatory by Jahner, support by VanderBeek. Motion carried, ayes all.

Private Well Grants contract has been extended to Marion County Public Health and is an Environmental Health program to provide well plugging reimbursements to Marion County residents. The FY26 contract is \$45,454. Motion to accept the contract and for MCPH Director to act as Board of Health signatory by VanderBeek, support by Jahner. Motion carried, ayes all.

Discussion about radios purchased for Public Health with Marion County ARPA funds. These radios had been housed at the EMA office and were moved last fall to the Sheriff's Office. Discussion amongst the Board regarding where these radios should be permanently located. If at the Sheriff's Office, access to them could be limited. If located at Public Health, could be kept in a locked room and would be more accessible to staff in an emergency but also for training purposes and general use in order to become more familiar. The Board questioned the cost of programming the radios as well as whether or not training for staff is available – Spoelstra will look into both these questions. It was also asked if we could have designated "Admin" radios that would have a few more talk groups than the rest. The Board decided it would make sense for the Public Health radios to be located at Public Health. Motion by VanderBeek, support by McCoy. Motion carried, ayes all.

There is currently a job opening for the Environmental Health Field Assistant position on the Marion County website. There have not been a lot of applicants, and this is the third time the job has been posted this calendar year. If there are not any qualified applicants, Spoelstra proposed to move some administrative tasks to the PH Receptionist. This could be a temporary fix to assist the Environmental Health Manager in the busy time of year and also provide some backup for the Manager when out of the office. This can be re-visited by the Board in the fall for discussion again. Motion was made by VanderBeek to move forward with transitioning job duties if there is a lack of qualified applicants for the position. Support by Jahner. Motion carried, ayes all.

Motion to receive and file American Home Finding Association Quarter II FY2025 report by VanderBeek, support by Jahner. Motion carried, ayes all.

Program Updates:

- Staff evaluations have been completed and filed with HR.
- Care for Yourself funding from the federal level is currently uncertain. We've been advised from state staff to halt all program activities until August 3, 2025.
- Measles update – there have been 3 confirmed cases in Iowa. We have been planning with PH staff internally and established our processes should there be a confirmed case in Marion County. We have been in consistent communication with healthcare staff in our area and have been posting measles information on a regular basis, encouraging vaccination.
- MCPH is hosting a blood drive at the end of July, flyers will be sent to Board members to disperse as they see fit.

Motion to adjourn at 5:46pm by Jahner, support by McCoy. Motion carried, ayes all.

Recorder,

Linsey Spoelstra