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Board of Health Minutes – Special Session

July 13, 2026

5:04 pm – 5:31 pm

Marion County Public Health Department and Virtually

2003 N Lincoln

Knoxville, IA

Hannon called the meeting to order at 5:04pm. Present: Joni Hannon, Kisha Jahner, Dan Vander Beek, Nicole Bryant Virtually Present: Dr. Tim McCoy Staff present: Christina Van Vark, Linsey Spoelstra Public Present: Deputy Derek Lanser, Tricia Rinkert, Selena Chiles Public Virtually Present: Karen Van Sant, Kennedy Sommers, Justin Benhsoof, Diane Benshoof, MM

Motion to approve July 13, 2026 Board of Health Special Session agenda by Vander Beek, support by Jahner. Motion carried, ayes all.

Public comments: None

Vicious Dog Hearing:

Justin Benshoof, father of the child, stated his daughter had stitches and staples, scratches on her back. Mr. Benshoof stated he would like the dog to be euthanized.

Kennedy Sommers, mother of the child, was not present; thinks there needs to be action taken.

Diane Benshoof, grandmother, stated the situation was unprovoked. Did not witness the dog bite.

Tricia Rinkert, dog has bit before approximately 2 years ago. Did not see dog bite.

Selena Chiles, homeowner where dog bite took place. Did not see dog bite. Went to hospital with child.

Board members discussed the severity of the injuries, as well as “potentially dangerous” and “vicious dog” definitions. Also discussed was what happens next with the dog, which is currently being sheltered at the Marion County Humane Society. Questions were asked of the dog owner by the Board members regarding her future plans for the dog and the dog’s history, his previous bite and aggression.

Motion by Jahner to deem the dog, Apollo, vicious. Support by Vander Beek. Motion carried, ayes all.

Motion by Janher to euthanize the dog at the expense of the Board of Health. Support by Vander Beek. Motion carried, ayes all.

Motion to adjourn at 5:31pm by Jahner, support by Vander Beek. Motion carried, ayes all.

Recorder, Linsey Spoelstra