Emmet County Board of Health Minutes

Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 11:30 A.M.
Emmet County Public Health Conference Room
508 S 1st Street Estherville, IA

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Present: Kari Batman, ECPH Administrator, Ben Huntley, ECPH Environmental Health, Andy Spurgin, Lela Kruse, Amber Henderson, Lisa Hansen (virtual), Pam Caboth
Guests: Diane Anderson (virtual), Dawn Ericson, Cherokee County Public Health iSmile Program

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting called to order at 11:38 by Andy Spurgin

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda made by Lela Kruse, second by Andy Spurgin

3. Review/Approve January 2025 Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the January 2025 meeting minutes made by Lela Kruse, second by Andy Spurgin

4. iSmiles Update with Dawn Ericson from Cherokee County Public Health-annual update on the iSmile program given by Dawn Ericson.

   Amber Henderson joins meeting at 11:48 a.m.
   Pam Caboth joins meeting at 11:53 a.m.

5. Administrator's Report (attached): Highlights from the administrator's report given by Kari; Lisa Hansen appointed to the Board of Health; Tall Cop presentation was a success.

   Lisa Hansen leaves the meeting at noon.

6. Fiscal Update: Report for current expenses for quarters one and two given.

7. Old Business

   Update on Insurance Billing: Kari Batman gave update to the Board of Health on the Insurance Billing issue.

8. New Business

   Business Office Coordinator Hours: Discussion held on sharing a position with the Auditor's office rather than filling full-time position. Motion made by Pam Caboth to approve a part-time business office coordinator, second by Amber Henderson.

   Board Healthcare Representative: Discussion regarding the resignation of Dr. Probst from the Board of Health. Board recommends Tracy Ross, ARNP to fulfill the remainder of his term. Kari Batman will take that recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

   FY26 Budget Changes Approval: Board discusses compensation for Environmental Health. Lela Kruse makes a motion for a 7% increase for Ben Huntley, EH, Pam Caboth seconds.

Community Health Needs Assessment Review: Kari Batman shared the Community Health Needs Assessment with the Board of Health. Informational only.

Board of Supervisors Substance Abuse Grant: Kari Batman reported that Iowa HHS is will not ask for RFAs from County Supervisors for the Substance Abuse grant. Request made to continue providing the education to the 10th graders at North Union High School as part of the Public Health budget. Andy Spurgin makes a motion to approve continuing the program at North Union using the Public Health budget, Amber Henderson seconds.

Tuberculin Skin Test Policy: TST policy reviewed by board. Motion to approve policy made by Lela Kruse, second by Amber Henderson

Community Foundation Grant Planning: Discussed submitting grant for back up generator for the Community Foundation Grant for FY26. No action taken.

Appoint Secretary for Board of Health: Pam Caboth makes a motion to appoint Amber Henderson to Board of Health Secretary, Lela seconds.

Measles Update: Kari Batman provides the Board of Health with updates on Measles concerns. No action taken.

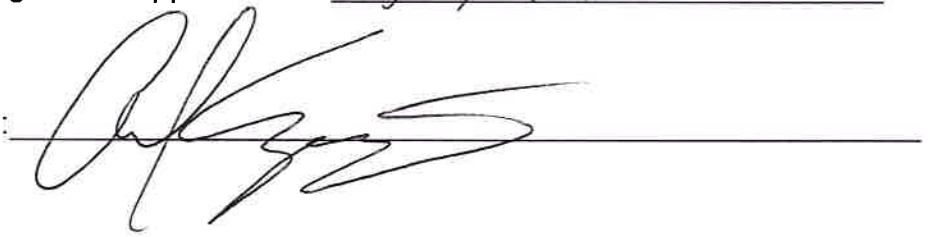
9. Round Table

Discussed Veteran's Affairs potentially moving into the annex building. Casee Ross, VA will take that to The Board of Supervisors for a decision.

Ben Huntley, EH discusses FY25 Q3 Private Well Grant numbers: 7 tests were performed on 6 wells; FY26 Private Well Grant application is due April 15th.

10. Motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made at 1:05 p.m. by Lela Kruse, second by Amber Henderson.

The next Emmet County Board of Health meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22nd at 11:30 a.m.

Singed and approved on: July 17, 2025

By: