

# JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 21, 2020

Virtual Video Conference

Kirk Lund, Chair; Dick Schultz, Vice-Chair; Maria Dabel, Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Lund at 1:13 p.m.
2. **Roll Call (establish a quorum):**  
Board of Health Members present: Kirk Lund, Chair; Dick Schultz, Vice-Chair; Maria Dabel, Secretary; Samantha LaMuro; Dr. Donald Williams  
Others Present: Gail Scott, Director; Sandee Schunk, Recorder; Samroz Jakvani, Epidemiologist; Tyler Kubicek, Environmental Health Specialist; Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator; Supervisor Anita Martin; Guest Ginger Hartman
3. **Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law:** Scott certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law.
4. **Approval of the Agenda:** No changes to the agenda requested.
5. **Approval of Board of Health Minutes for June 2, 2020 Meeting:** *Motion by Schultz/Dabel to approve the Board of Health minutes from June 2, 2020 as printed.* Motion passed 5 – 0.
6. **Communications:** None
7. **Public Comment:** None
8. **Review of Health Department Financial Report:** Scott reported that the 2020 Immunization and Maternal Child Health (MCH) Consolidated Contract grant funding were approved to use for COVID response. CARES funding was awarded for Pandemic Planning; COVID Testing Coordination; Epidemiology & Lab Capacity and Contract Tracing for a total of \$755,521.00. The Health Department expects to receive additional funding in 2021 for Epidemiology & Lab Capacity which may include all ongoing COVID services. Financially, 2020 is fine due to the CARES funding but there may be shortfalls in 2021 depending on the need to keep on the additional COVID staff and what funding comes from the Federal and State governments. Schunk reviewed the “Grant Summary” and “Statement of Revenues & Expenditures” that reflected data through August 31, 2020 and was included in the meeting packet.
9. **Update on COVID-19 Outbreak:** Scott reviewed the handout in the meeting packet “COVID Response Highlights”, reported on daily staff meetings of the EOC - Emergency Operations Center, Huddles with Fort HealthCare, Dean and UW Systems, WIC remains virtual, Immunization Clinic services stopped, press releases continue; daily updates with Department of Health Services, massive amounts of calls coming into the business office, working with Long Term Care facilities. Samroz Jakvani, Epidemiologist, introduced himself – he lives in Chicago and works closely with schools, helps with data, metrics for schools, press releases, testing coordination, etc. Ellen Haines is a contracted employee working with long term care facilities on outbreaks and follow-up. Scott reported that 2 Communicable Disease RNs resigned during the pandemic. The COVID team has been reorganized to get back on track. Staging of positive COVID cases are pouring in with 40+ cases per day. Scott reviewed the handout in the meeting packet “Crisis Standards of Practice for COVID-19 Contact Tracing and Symptom Monitoring”. Positive cases are called and asked to call their own close contacts to quarantine and follow guidelines. Priority now is the schools, business outbreaks, long term care facility outbreaks. A “stop light” 3-tier system was developed: Red /Crisis Mode = notify all positives; Yellow/Truncated Contact Tracing = identify

household & high risk contacts; positive clients to notify their contacts; Green = back to providing total contact tracing. Scott reported the State is slow in developing guidelines for allowed activities for the general public. National Guard IS providing testing at Jefferson County Fair Park with results in 48 – 72 hours. A hotline is available for clients if results are not received in 5 days. Scott reviewed the handout included in the meeting packet “Reopening Jefferson County Schools and Addressing the Spread of COVID-19” and “Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19”. Discussion followed. Jakvani reported that the numbers of individuals tested are counted not the number of tests. Schultz extended thanks and credit to Scott and staff for serving the County during COVID. Scott reviewed the handout included in the meeting packet “COVID-19 Team Structure” and reported Melissa New is a new Registered Nurse. Scott thanked Wehmeier for guiding the Health Department through the pandemic.

**10. Discussion of the Public Health Program**

- a. **Review of Statistics:** Scott reported that it has not been “business as usual” at the Health Department. Services that have continued: Mental Health injections, Head Start Nursing and Nutrition; follow-up on elevated lead levels, communicable disease follow-up, flu shots and TB skin tests by appointment and the Drug Free Communities Grant.
- b. **Review of Communicable Disease Cases Reported:** Scott reviewed the “Communicable Disease Report” included in the meeting packet for 01/01/2020 – 09/30/2020. Scott reported there have been 2 cases of Legionellosis with one traced to an outbreak in Jefferson County and one was traced to the Milwaukee County area. Dr. Williams reported flu cases are low and there is a push to immunize for Influenza.
- c. **Staffing Update Health Department and Jail:** Scott reported there are 26 staff working on COVID at this time – a combination of Limited Term Employees and contracted through Maxim Staffing Agency. Jail nursing ended under the County due to liability and supervising. The company that provided the doctor has taken over jail staffing.

**11. Operational Update of the Environmental Health Program:** Kubicek reported less field work is being completed due to COVID but they are continuing pre-inspections of new businesses, water sampling and the Legionellosis investigation at a facility in Jefferson County.

**12. Discussion of the Public Health Preparedness Program:** Scott reported on preparation for COVID vaccinations. Long Term Care facility residents and staff will be vaccinated by pharmacies. The State will prioritize vaccine distribution and storage requirements. The vaccine exercise was canceled due to the escalation of COVID cases. Some hospitals are at crisis level for staffing and patient capacity. Field hospital set up at State Fair Park.

**13. Future Agenda Items:** Please contact Gail Scott for items to be included on next meeting agenda.

**14. Adjourn:** *Motion by Schultz/Dable to adjourn at 2:45 p.m. Motion passed 5 – 0.*

**15. Next Scheduled Meetings:** Wednesdays - to be determined on a quarterly basis or if a special need arises.

Minutes recorded and prepared by: Sandee Schunk, Accountant II, Jefferson County Health Department and reviewed by Gail Scott, Director/Health Officer