



Muscatine County Board of Health Minutes

November 18, 2020 | 12:00pm | Muscatine County Administration Building

Board members

William Koellner, Chairman | Brian Wright, Secretary

Karen Harper | Dr. Michael Maharry, Physician Representative | Brandy Olson

Members Present: William Koellner, Brian Wright, Karen Harper, Brandy Olson, Michael Maharry

Others Present: Eric Furnas, Rikki Hetzler, Vanessa Leza, Nancy Carlisle, Holly Barrett, Jacob Dornbush, Scott Sauer, Nancy Carlisle, Felicia Toppert

Visitors Present: None

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by Koellner through virtual meeting in accordance with the Iowa Governor's request.

- I. Motion made by Wright to approve minutes from the 10/28/2020 meeting. Olson seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- II. Koellner requested for citizens to speak. None present at this time.
- III. A. Public Health Reports
 - Response Efforts – Current State – Barrett shared with BOH the number of current cases and year to date numbers for Muscatine County. Public Health continues to host weekly meetings with district schools where consultation, direct feedback is provided and best practices can be shared. Public Health maintains close contact with long term care facilities as we see a rise in the numbers throughout the county. EMS is working closely with the hospital on ensuring that there is adequate PPE for all staff. Currently at the hospital the availability of beds is beginning to get scarce and staff is doing their best to determine between emergency and non-emergency situations. Hospital is started to see a steady incline of those being admitted to the ICU.
 - Communications – Public Health has been working diligently on providing the community with COVID-19 information through social media platforms, flyers or any other means that have been requested. Public Health has been working with the hospital and clinics to provide an informational sheet that educates individuals on the next steps to isolation.
 - Vaccine Efforts – Barrett is continuously working on developing a closed POD for when the first shipment of vaccines become available. Barrett is working in conjunction with Jolynn Herr on the final details and ensuring that they have a location, supplies needed and staff available.
 - Status of Public Health – Due to an exposure in the Public Health office services that will continue to be offered to the patients have been prioritized. Staff have been asked to transition into different roles to assist with front office duties. To minimize the spread within the department, various staff have been asked to work remotely from home. Those physically present have been asked to space out and monitor their temperature and symptoms.
- B. Communicable Disease Report – Barrett shared Quarter 3 report with BOH. At this time Public Health is down to 1 case of Tuberculosis which is to complete treatment by the end of Jan 2021. Public Health is still providing PPD skin test for those students that are in CNA program. Barrett informed the BOH of the number of flu vaccines that Public Health has administrated to the community. 43 of the 50 flu vouchers have been given to individuals in the community. Motion made by Olson to approve an additional 25 flu vouchers. Wright seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.
- C. Fiscal Update – Grant Spend

○ Care Grant Update – Hetzler shared with the BOH COVID-19 response expenses. Public Health has been facing some challenges when submitting expenditures to the state for reimbursement from CARES Act. Barrett and Hetzler met with some state representatives to explain how our Public Health department is unique to others as we are not part of the county budget. Public Health is currently working with Seright and will continue to work with the county to get expenses covered for COVID-19 response.

D. Health Equity Committee Update – Work in progress. Will present rough draft at next meeting. Allow for others BOH members to give their input before finalizing.

IV. Next Board Meeting: December 16, 2020 at 12:00pm

V. Meeting adjourned at 1:01pm

William Koellner, Chairman

Brian Wright, Secretary