



Muscatine County Board of Health Minutes

May 19, 2021 | 12:00pm | Muscatine County Administration Building

Board members

William Koellner, Chairman | Brian Wright

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

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

Others Present: Christy Roby Williams, Holly Barrett, Rikki Hetzler, Patsy Willits, & Scott Saur

Visitors Present: None

Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by Koellner through virtual meeting in accordance with the Iowa Governor's request. Virtual, Motion made by Harper to approve minutes from the 4/21/2021 meeting, Olson seconded. All in favor.

I. Public Health Reports:

- A. Environmental Services Update --Furnas - Not Present to report
- B. Communicable Disease Stats

- Barrett: 2 active TB and 2 direct observations at home. 1 latent which no longer requires daily visits.
- Has been an uptick in dog bites since start of April - No serious injuries have been reported.

C. CDC & IDPH Changes

- New guidelines released from State; when fully vaccinated, no mask is required unless you are in health care or public transport areas.
- Public Health recommends that you continue masking for now. Recommendation may change, always lean toward safety.
- More guidance expected in the future for the legality surrounding masking. Currently, check with individual employer for guidance.
- A guidance statement for schools and daycare released; does not require masks or quarantine if in direct contact. This guidance does go against current CDC recommendations.
- Roby Williams: after meeting with Iowa Department of Public Health this week, it was decided that Local Public Health will recommend CDC guidance over the State recommendations until there is further evidence from a scientific standpoint to recommend otherwise.
- Pfizer vaccine has just begun for children 12 and over.
- Muscatine City Council requested that local Public Health report at the next council meeting with current recommendations from IDPH.
- 'Ideal' Herd Immunity would be 60-70 % fully vaccinated. Muscatine County is currently at 44% but this number does not fully include all aged 12-17. Roby Williams working on getting more accurate numbers.
- Koellner stated concerns regarding celebrations with vendors selling food on the street, County Fairs, etc.... Roby Williams – vendors have specific guidelines, so no concerns at this point. Anticipate this will be continuously evolving.

D. Targeted Populations & Community Events

- Barrett : Vaccination efforts completed at Sunset Apartments, Harrison Lofts, Cedar Park, & Cedar Hills. Managers of these complexes provided names of homebound. Efforts continue to reach those persons.
- Outreach to Fruitland and other small towns. Muscatine Schools, in planning phase. West Liberty and Wilton are being supported by pharmacies.
- Collaboration with United Way- “Almost Friday Fest”. Offer vaccine at May & June events.
- Koellner inquired, Muscatine Community College. Roby Williams reports, Wester Drug as vaccine provider.
- Koellner suggested booth at the county fair. Temp control of concern for vaccine. Wright offered Emergency Management Trailer which is air conditioned.
- Dr. Maharry/Harper; meals on wheels? Public Health working with Senior Resources on outreach.
- Proteus and Community Health Care are immunizing migrant workers coming back to area.

E. Fiscal Update:

- Hetzler reported on Grant Funding Financials– Local Public Health Grant YTD expended.
- Roby Williams - Budget for next year has been allocated; starts July 1.
- Hetzler reported on Public Health Emergency Response Funds Amendment 9: Vaccine Response YTD expenditures January 2022 through March 31, 2022.
- Action needed, Amendment 9 – Olson motioned to approve, Harper seconded. All in Favor. Passes.
- Action needed, Public Health Emergency Response Amendment 10 Contract: Equity and Prioritizing Populations – New. Harper motioned to approve, Dr. Maharry seconded. All in Favor. Approved.
- **Action needed, FY21 Intervention Implementation in Target Counties. Dr. Maharry motioned to approve, Wright seconded. All in Favor. Passes.**
- Next step; bring these approvals to the County Board of Supervisors Meeting.

F. New Business

- Dr. Maharry reported on University of Iowa numbers for Covid. Currently, 10 adult and 0 peds patients.
- 15,360 employees received first dose, with a total of 15,168 received both. This leaves less than 200 that have not received 2nd dose. Staff required to mask in patient areas, not in other areas if fully vaccinated.
- Karen Harper – Have 300 J & J vaccine. Suggests directing people to Hy-Vee Mainstreet.
- Wright commented emergency management trailer can be utilized by Public Health or pharmacies.
- Wester drug is doing outstanding getting children vaccinated.

G. Citizens Speak.

- Patsy Willits from Trinity Muscatine – COVID present but doing due diligence to ensure safety. Visitor Restrictions at the hospital relaxed slightly to allow one visitor per day that can go in and out.
- Dr. Maharry – there are no changes for visitors at the University of Iowa yet.

II. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 21, 2021, 12:00 pm at Public Health, 1609 Cedar Street
Dr. Maharry motioned to adjourn and Olson 2nd. Meeting adjourned.

III. Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.