

**Minutes – Clinton County Board of Health  
Public Meeting held  
September 3rd, 2020 – 7:30 a.m.  
Via Webex**

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<b><u>Board Members</u></b>	Dr. Mary Malcom	Present
	Dr. O. Daniel Osaro	Present
	Jean Morgan, RN, BSN, MSED	Absent
	Don Thiltgen	Present
	Chelsea Sullens, DPT	Present

**Staff Present**      Shane McClintock, Director to the Board of Health  
Kelli Eggers, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health

**Others Present**

Michele Cullen, Genesis VNA  
Chance Kness, EMA  
Nancy Burns, EMA  
Cynthia Kaczinski, Hillcrest/WIC  
Candace Sietz, ASAC  
Heather Montgomery, WHS  
Jocelyn Meyer, Bridgeview

**Malcom** called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. Roll call showed 4 members present. The meeting was held virtually via Webex due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was **moved** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Osaro**, to **APPROVE** the July 9th, 2020 minutes as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

**AGENDA ITEM III – BOARD OF HEALTH**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM IV – COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Finance** – No updates.
- B. Personnel** – The Administrative Assistant’s annual review has been completed and approved unanimously.
- C. Total Quality Management** – No updates.

**AGENDA ITEM V – DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

- A. Environmental Services-** **McClintock** noted a well and septic variance request was received from Charlotte Courtney of 2680 252<sup>nd</sup> Street, DeWitt. The request is asking to

allow a private well and septic system on the 6.36 acre property. This variance request has both the room and meets requirements for separation distances. Planning and Zoning approves of this variance as long as a soil test is done. **McClintock's** recommendation is to pass the variance. It was **moved** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Osaro**, to **APPROVE** said variance. Motion carried 4-0. **Malcom** noted there is a summary of the Elvira project in a recent issue of The Observer.

- B. Genesis VNA & Hospice— Eggers** noted the Fiscal year 2019 Audit Report was submitted to the board with no findings or concerns. The Board unanimously approved the report without questions. **Cullen** submitted a report following the meeting. **Cullen** noted that COVID-19 is taking about 90% of their time at the moment. She stated the Community Health Improvement Assessment is due next year. She believes it will be done on time. The Let's Live Healthy group had most of their events canceled due to COVID-19 as they were mostly in large groups. A Zoom webinar will be held September 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is with a group from the University of Iowa regarding improving family and employee health. There will be local topics and updates on Clinton schools and businesses. The university will talk about low cost strategies to keep employees healthy and productive. Emergency Preparedness continues to be up front and center especially with the derecho storm aftermath and COVID-19 response. Public Health did participate with Clinton County EOC on a daily basis for some time. They also volunteered at the Clinton Community Resource Center and did welfare checks on VNA patients. Some needed help with oxygen. They also contacted nursing homes daily while they were out of power. They have been busy working with schools on immunization clinics. When school closed in March, many were not up to date yet. Sparks was able to pull 4 extra clinics together despite COVID-19 response and has been working closely with schools to get kids caught up. Regarding COVID, Clinton County as of last evening at 6 pm had 856 cases. That is up 180 cases since August 24<sup>th</sup>. 150 a week was the last 3 weeks average. It is widespread in the community and not just in one area. There are quite a few in Camanche, Clinton, DeWitt and Wheatland. 4 deaths were recorded in the last week and are nursing home related. Deaths in nursing home residents have totaled to 10 since the pandemic started. The Alverno and Eagle Point continue to be in outbreak status. Public Health is in constant contact with them as well as working with the state. Both are required to do weekly testing and now there is new guidance related to the positivity in the county. This requires them to test their employees twice a week now. Last week, they found 4 new employees and 2 residents to be positive at the Alverno. Eagle Point found 3 residents and no employees. Eagle Point has had a total of 28 resident positives. They have been working with the state and Public Health and received additional staffing to help. They have rearranged their wings to have a well wing and a COVID wing. They have tried to help the school as much as possible with contact tracing. **Cullen** notes the 14 day positivity rate yesterday was 14.5%, today is at 14%. Last week at this time it was almost 17%. We are slowly coming down. None of the schools have reported being over 10% absent. Last Friday, Clinton was between 4-5%, and DeWitt was at 2-3%, same as Camanche. If you are over 15% rolling average in the county and 10% absentee rate in the schools, that is means to apply for the online waiver if they wish. 496 active cases are in the county currently. As of yesterday, 10 are

hospitalized with 7 in Mercy and 3 in Genesis. Our region shows 72 hospitalized and that number holds fairly steady. The Whitehouse Taskforce declared Clinton County to be in a 'red zone'. 10 areas were identified in the state of Iowa. Scott County is mentioned as a 'yellow zone' along with the Davenport area in general. A red zone means during the last week, cases were reported above 100 per 100,000 population. Last week Governor Reynolds put extra measures on bars in 6 counties with hope that the college numbers come down. Johnson County is at 24.5%, Story at 22.6% as of today. The state has been working with the nursing homes to get the rapid machines in. The Alverno did receive their rapid testing. They were very excited as it is easy to use. The nurses must receive their certification from the lab to be able to use it. The schools report that keeping the kids 6 feet apart and separating them at pods seems to be working. **Sullens** asked regarding nursing homes, are they doing anything extra for mental health as some of these residents have been socially deprived for 6 months. **Cullen** said that it is very much recognized that it is very hard on the elderly to be isolated from their family and friends for this extended amount of time. Some of the nursing homes are trying to work on it. Some of them have been able to do small things like having fish tanks, animals, and music. There is a lot more that can be done, but the nursing homes are struggling with staffing levels because of COVID. The basic care is top priority and mental health is somewhat secondary. It may not be the way it should be, but seems to be the way it is going right now. **Sullens** worries about their quality of life having to be in one room for that long. **Malcom** said she speaks to nursing homes on occasion and the nurses are very aware with the mental health issues. **Thiltgen** said he is able to visit Maggie's House in DeWitt and they allow residents to sit on the front porch. They keep a rail between the visitors, and you sit 6-8 feet away or more and visit that way. **Thiltgen** believes they are doing entertainment that way as well. **Meyer** noted she has a few clients that were allowed to have visits outside and 6 feet away from others before the nursing home outbreak happened. Now they have to stay in their room, but can sit in the doorway and look out into the hall. **Sullens** noted that a relative of hers was in isolation for 12 days after going to the dentist. He still tested positive after that, so was in quarantine for another 12 days. She noticed he quickly declined during that time.

- C. **Hillcrest Family Services/WIC**– **Kaczinski** said that they are in the last month of their current grant year. They are collecting data for action plans. The Breastfeeding Plan suffered due to COVID, regarding not being able to have releases signed to share with hospital. The Nutrition Plan did okay, but was difficult to get ahold of people sometimes when it is all by phone. The waiver is expected to expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>. This is in regards to physical presence for appointments. These are federally mandated that certain appointments must have physical presence. There is no word yet from Congress as far as if there will be an extension. States have been in contact with the National WIC Association to ask for an extension, but no approval has been announced. Thus, they are moving forward to seeing people in the office again as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. Some appointments are able to be done by phone. Sanitization must be done between appointments. Some can sit in their car, although weather comes into play there. Another agency had issues with people having raised temperatures from sitting in the

heat in their car and having to be turned away. They are hoping the waiver is extended past the 30<sup>th</sup>. Typically with these things, they get about a week notice. Farmers Market checks ran out in the beginning of August. This is the earliest that has ever happened. **Kaczinski** hopes that they are then redeemed as this is how they are determined for next year.

- D. **Early Childhood Iowa/DECAT**– Unable to attend.
- E. **Clinton Substance Abuse Council (GIC & CDC)**- Not in attendance.
- F. **Women’s Health Services**– **Montgomery** notes they continue to see patients and take measures to prevent the spread of the virus. They sanitize between all patients and require masks. They have enough PPE for all of the staff. The State Hygienic Laboratory has shortages with some of the testing kits for the chlamydia and gonorrhea screening that is performed at the clinic. That has been a slight issue so they are needing to reserve some of those tests for men only. A higher than normal chlamydia positivity rate in our area continues. The last rate was 16.9% and is up from there. They continue to work with the state on getting those patients back in to get them treated so it is not being spread. HIV testing continues and has been successful.
- G. **Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC)/New Directions**- **Sietz** wanted to update regarding the Iowa Provider Network Grant. Community readiness surveys for Clinton County on alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs and gambling were done and they hope to have results very soon. **Sietz** noted that this was a huge community effort to get them accomplished. During the last 6 months of the pandemic and the recent storm, all of the residential buildings have remained open and have been full. Their services have continued and they have provided minimal in person and tele health services. They are glad to be able to keep providing for the community.
- H. **Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center**– **Meyer** said that tele med and tele therapy services have continued as coverage has extended for that until at least December 31<sup>st</sup>. A good number of clients are still seen in the office because of the nature of mental health appointments, a lot do better with face to face sessions. The Breaking the Silence Walk will still take place this year. This walk is for suicide prevention and will be on 9/29 at 1:00 pm at Imperial Lanes in Clinton. If the bar closing happens to extend to Clinton County before then, they will move to the high school’s track field in Camanche. You can register online at [www.getmeregistered.com](http://www.getmeregistered.com) for \$15. The gala in July was canceled as well as the Glow Walk. Those events typically fund about \$25,000 between the two to help with screening programs. The school based therapists are back in the schools. **Meyer** asked **Cullen** suggestions regarding disinfecting agents for use in the waiting room at their clinic and how often. **Cullen** noted that the CDC has an ingredient list. COVID is killed by standard disinfecting agents. **McClintock** noted the county uses a fogging machine and he could get in touch with **Corey Johnson**.
- I. **Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Inc. (CADS)**- Not in attendance.

J. **Emergency Management**– **Malcom** noted that she had a report from the Medical Examiner’s office. COVID numbers are reported differently within their office than from the state. The County Medical Examiner counts the deaths that occur in the county, whereas the state counts the deaths that occur in Clinton County residents. From the Medical Examiner’s side, they have noted 14 deaths due to COVID-19 with 7 of them occurring in the last week. **Burns** noted they have been very busy and involved with many responses since the last meeting. They have been involved in COVID, in the civil unrest, and the protests, which luckily were peaceful. They helped in the largest search ever had in Clinton County for the missing child, Breasia Terrell. They were given 30 minutes notice that the search was being moved from Scott to Clinton County. The EOC was activated. A command center for the searchers was set up at the casino in the ballroom. They assisted with Scott County EMA to help with registering. They used some of our equipment to rapid tag the searchers. **Burns** said they helped with support for the searchers as the weather was very hot. They reached out to businesses in town that donated water and food to keep the searchers safe. Unfortunately the search did not yield results, but every effort was put into it. Then the derecho storm hit. They once again activated the EOC. They immediately met that evening. The large communication tower for KROS went down and the antennas for the Clinton Fire and Clinton Police Department were on that tower. There was an immediate need to come up with a solution for that. Debris was all over the roads and homes. **Burns** noted that Emergency Management facilitates the collaboration of the response. Everyone meets to discuss what is going on, and then they collaborate and plan and work through problems while sharing resources. The Mobile Resource Center was established between Emergency Management, Public Health, Mercy Medical, Clinton Fire Department, and the Clinton Police Department. They came together to donate equipment, line up volunteers and more to help the community. They also brought in Information, Referral, and Assistance Services who was invaluable to help find resources for the nutritional needs of people. So many people lost refrigerated and frozen food items. They did not have electricity and could not cook. The state also sent food and the Salvation Army sent in MRE’s. For about two weeks, EOC meetings occurred daily. Constant updates came in from Alliant, Mid-American and REC. People were at the EOC to help reach out to different towns. **Dan Srp** reached out to the local mayors and **Tom Determann** reached out to the landfill to see if there was a better way to get the city trucks in and out faster when they were dropping off tree debris. Emergency Management facilitates collaborations such as this between all the different leaders and groups to work toward the goal at hand. Since March, they have been involved in COVID-19 response. It is a mandate for their office to help with the response for these situations. Whenever an incident happens and the state’s EOC is opened, they also open web based EOC. All agencies have access to it and they are able to obtain information and request resources and equipment. Regarding COVID, PPE has been the major component for them. They request what they need from the state. When Governor Reynolds wanted 30 days of PPE at the schools, the state said local EMA would handle that. The other typical trainings they do like Stop The Bleed, Run, Hide, Fight (etc) have been put off due to COVID restrictions and also because they are tied up in response to the pandemic. **Malcom** questioned how many volunteer hours had been put in. **Burns** noted the last time added was about 2500 since

the first of the year. Last year for the entire year, 1600 hours were logged.

**K. Community Health Care, Inc-** Not in attendance.

**L. EveryStep/MCAH-** Not in attendance.

**AGENDA ITEM VI – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Not in attendance.

**AGENDA ITEM VII – PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM VIII – OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM IX – NEW BUSINESS**

None.

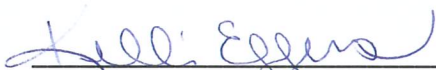
**AGENDA ITEM X – NEXT MEETING DATE**

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:30 am at the Clinton County Administration Building, Conference Room “B”. Please note meetings may be subject to change due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**AGENDA ITEM XI – ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Osaro**, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Kelli Eggers, Administrative Assistant to  
the Board of Health

Approved   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Malcom, Chairperson, Board of Health

Attachments can be viewed by contacting the Board of Health at the Clinton County Satellite offices.