

**Minutes – Clinton County Board of Health
Public Meeting held
January 7th, 2021 – 7:30 a.m.
Via Webex**

<u>Board Members</u>	Dr. Mary Malcom	Present
	Dr. O. Daniel Osaro	Present
	Jean Morgan, RN, BSN, MSED	Present
	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 Jim Irwin, Board of Supervisors
Michele Cullen, Public Health/Genesis VNA
Becky Nowachek, Iowa Department of Public Health
Nancy Burns, EMA
Chance Kness, EMA
Cynthia Kaczinski, Hillcrest/WIC
Gwen Deming, Early Childhood Iowa
Andrea Barnett, MercyOne
Heather Montgomery, Women’s Health and Family Services
Shannon McManus, ISmile
Susan Green

Malcom called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. It was noted the virtual meeting was due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. Roll call showed members 5 present. It was **moved** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Osaro**, to **APPROVE** the October 29th, 2020 minutes as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

AGENDA ITEM III – BOARD OF HEALTH

Malcom congratulated **Sullens** on the recent birth of their first born, Nora June. Nora was born on December 26th, 2020 and all are doing well. **Malcom** also asked for prayers for our nation due to the recent events at the Capitol.

AGENDA ITEM IV – COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance** – **Eggers** noted that the finance committee had their meeting ahead of budget sessions with the Supervisors. The plan is to maintain status quo. **Eggers** will keep the committee posted on when the session is scheduled with the Supervisors.

- B. Personnel** – No updates.

C. **Total Quality Management** – No updates.

AGENDA ITEM V – DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. **Environmental Services- McClintock** noted that a variance request was presented for a septic system at 2945 374th Avenue in Camanche. Typical separation distance is 10 feet from the septic field to the property line. This system was installed within 2 ½ feet of property line. The other owners are okay with the system being there as there is a fence to separate already. The system will still function as designed and should not cause any concern. **Malcom** said she would prefer to not set a precedent of this happening. **Osaro** motioned to **APPROVE** said variance, seconded by **Thiltgen**. Motion carried 5-0. **McClintock** noted the cease and desist letter regarding the Elvira Wastewater Project. There are 4 properties not complying, and something needs to be done. **Malcom** questioned whether the County Attorney has seen the letter. **McClintock** said that yes, and he had approved it, but **McClintock** would also like approval from both the Board of Health and the Board of Supervisors. It was moved by **Osaro** to **APPROVE** the cease and desist letter as presented, seconded by **Thiltgen**. Motion carried 5-0.
- B. **Genesis VNA & Hospice**– An informational report was submitted. **Cullen** said they have continued to work with MercyOne on the Community Needs Assessment and a report should be out in February. The state has extended the Health Improvement Plan due date for another year. The Let’s Live Healthy group was awarded an additional \$5000 for the 5-2-1-0 Program. This is the third and final year for that funding. Due to COVID, they have not met for a few months, but hope to in February. The Emergency Response Region 5 meets monthly. They have been supportive to the COVID response with information sharing and tools that they have gotten out. Immunization clinics continue in Clinton and DeWitt once per month. Wheatland has been closed, however. Immunization audits for the schools and childcare have been completed but no formal report yet for that. Nurse Family Partnership, Family Connect, and Bright Beginnings continue. COVID numbers as of yesterday, January 6th are 289,934 cases statewide. Clinton County is at 4254 positive cases. There are 591 active cases in the county. When we peaked in mid-November, we had 1500 active cases at one time. Hospitalizations in Region 5 as of yesterday were 108; whereas in November there were 371. MercyOne currently holds 5 and Genesis has 26. 60 deaths have occurred in the county. 58% of those are 80 years of age and older and 35% are over 60. Long term care continues to be in outbreak status. It takes 28 days without a positive case to go off of outbreak status. In many cases, the facility gets close, and has one more positive keeping them in that status. All of them are under control and closely watched. The positivity rate statewide has gone from 14.8% to 16% as of yesterday. Regarding vaccines, **Cullen** noted we are still in phase 1A. 1400 vaccines were allocated with 1000 going to MercyOne and 400 to Public Health. With the Public Health allocation, they have targeted smaller clinics such as dentists, physical therapists (etc.). So far 300 of the 400 have been issued, and 80 are signed up for the next clinic being held on January 11th. MercyOne has used 500 of the 1000 allocated as of yesterday. All of the long term care and assisted living facilities are signed up for programs with CVS and Walgreens. They

all have their clinic date set. Eagle Point is tomorrow, and the other three are next week. The assisted living will be the next week or two after that. Public Health has offered to start their staff. Some of them prefer the employees to be staggered due to the arm soreness and general aches and fevers that can come with the vaccine. Regarding Phase 1B, planning for clinics has been ongoing since almost day one. They have done the school programs for over ten years and have vaccinated 8,000 to 10,000 children in a 6 to 8 week period. They have been working with EMA to get MOUs updated for larger clinics. EMA will need to help out with the traffic control and security. There is also a vaccination planning group that has been meeting for about two months now with another meeting this afternoon. Weekly updates are received from the state. Iowa Infectious Disease Advisory Council gives guidelines and recommendations for the vaccine clinic. Phase 1B is essential workers and those above the age of 75. The council has noted that the amount of people in this category exceed the allocation amount coming in. Additional guidance will come in from the state in helping to prioritize that group regarding who they start with first. **Cullen** assumes Phase 1B will start closer to February. The schools have been given surveys regarding how many of their staff will take the vaccine. This gives a better numbers idea. Partnerships with local pharmacies are in the works to help with the response as **Cullen's** team is quite small. **Cullen** noted she has worked with **Eggers, Burns** and **Eric Van Lancker** on press releases and social media announcements to let the public know that the vaccine is coming, however it isn't here yet for everyone, but your time will come. **Cullen** noted that **Irwin** had asked why Scott County was already starting the next phase. **Cullen** noted that the press release said that Scott County was gearing up for their next level. She noted that the hospitals were prioritized and the dentist and therapists (etc.) were put at the next level. **Irwin** asked whether teachers are part of the 1B phase. **Cullen** said they are. **Irwin** wondered if it was possible that when some of the teachers are being immunized, could local city essential employees go to the same clinic. **Cullen** said the schools are being given their choice. DeWitt is having their clinic at Scott Drug. Clinton will likely have Public Health do theirs. Other schools have not responded at this time. **Thiltgen** noted that the population of 75 and older was too large for the allocations we have been given. Will they start with first responders? **Cullen** noted first responders are done with their vaccines. The CDC originally did not have ages 75 and older looped into Phase 1B with essential workers. It has since been updated to include them. There are over 6000 essential workers in Clinton County, and likely over that many who are 75 and older as well. There is concern with those in that age category not wanting to come into a clinic. They do practice social distancing and masks with safety measures into place in the clinics. It may possibly be where they see a provider for their vaccine. **Barnett** questioned that 75 and above is not just long term care, but general public. **Cullen** said long term care is taken care of by the big box programs. **Morgan** questioned how the 1B will be notified. **Cullen** said the essential workers will be done through their employers. She also intends to work with the Chamber regarding other businesses such as Lyondell that have their own medical staff. Communication will be put out through **Eggers** and **Burns** and also the County website and radio to get the word out. If we use the providers for the 75 and above, they also have forms of communication that they can help with. **Morgan** questioned where fire,

police and EMS fall. **Cullen** said law enforcement and fire are in 1B and EMS has been completed in 1A. **Morgan** offered to help in any way. **Burns** suggested she contact **Morgan** and get her on the list as a CERT volunteer. **Susan Green** inquired about volunteering as well. **Cullen** said that potentially when we are at the public level or possibly even 1B, however if they can go through the EMA office for clearance, that would be preferred. **Burns** noted they can contact her for forms to fill out as background checks are required. **Malcom** noted there is a state list of medical volunteers in case of disaster. **Kness** noted that most of those volunteers are already employed that are on the I Serve list, however he can request them. **Morgan** expressed thanks to **Cullen** and her staff for all of their hard work. It was **moved by Morgan**, seconded by **Thiltgen**, to **APPROVE** a letter of thanks to the staff of Public Health. Motion carried 5-0. **Thiltgen** questioned how many allocations we receive per week or month. **Cullen** said no, if there are allocations coming into the state, they are put out each week, but they also look to see how many you have done. **Cullen** feels fortunate to have received what they did, as Scott County was 2000 short and were just starting the EMS and dentists, (etc). There are a lot of unknowns, but the vaccines are coming.

- C. Hillcrest Family Services/WIC– Kaczinski** stated they are still doing appointments over the phone and not in person. The current waiver for face to face appointments is to expire on February 22nd. No guidance has been issued on whether that will be extended. At the end of grant year 2020, 1433 participants were served. The yearend report was sent in last fall. Outreach is one of the things that were noted to be worked on. The Breastfeeding Action Plan was to increase duration rates by working closely with MercyOne. They shared information during delivery and provided follow up phone calls. Not seeing face to face, it was difficult to complete that. A decrease was seen in the percentage for women who still breastfeed after one week postpartum; however increases were noted for those continuing to breastfeed beyond 3 and 6 months. The Nutrition Action Plan was to provide education to families regarding the importance of fruit and vegetable intake, portion control, and healthy eating environments. 73% of the families that received the education said they made positive changes within their family. MercyOne is providing virtual child birthing classes, and **Kaczinski** has been attending those to give information. They are also giving information on reducing hemoglobin results. The percentages here are higher than the state rate. Regarding the Breastfeeding Action Plan, they are trying to work with moms to focus on how they can continue to breastfeed beyond 3 months and the challenges that will arise. The Farmer's Market data from last year showed that 104 vouchers were issued. That is a 99.57% distribution rate. A 15% decrease was shown from the year prior, which was seen across the state. **Morgan** asked whether markets will continue next year. **Kaczinski** said nothing has been received yet, but the information is usually out in April.
- D. Early Childhood Iowa/DECAT– Deming** said they are updating their community plans which are due October of 2021. Children 0-5 and their families are included. They will gather data regarding health, programming, and financial data from partner agencies that work with those families. This will give an idea of what kind of finances are in the communities so they will be able to see how they can partner together. A new meeting

called Zero to Five in 60 Minutes has been started. This is for partners who work with those families to give updates but also to act as an advisory committee for the Community Plan. The next meeting is January 14th at 10:00 am via Zoom.

- E. **Clinton Substance Abuse Council (GIC & CDC)**- Not in attendance.
- F. **Women's Health and Family Services**– A request to approve the 2nd quarter Rapid HIV Testing claim was made. **Osaro** motioned to **APPROVE** the claim, **Thiltgen** seconded. Motion carried 5-0. **Montgomery** notes that they are still open and seeing patients in person. They have seen an increase for rapid HIV testing, with no positives noted. The overall rate in Clinton County was down slightly from the year before. They continue with the Pregnancy Prevention Program as well. **Alycia Cheek** has been in some of the schools to do the program and has also been trained to teach them virtually. COVID testing is still ongoing at the clinic where they allow people to drive up into the garage. **Cullen** asked if they are rapid tests. **Montgomery** said they are sending them to Medical Diagnostic Laboratories and the turnaround time is about 2 days.
- G. **Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC)/New Directions**- Not in attendance.
- H. **Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center**– Not in attendance.
- I. **Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Inc. (CADS)**- Not in attendance.
- J. **Emergency Management**– 2020 yearly report was submitted. **Burns** said they continue in response mode. They have continued to work on the vaccination planning with **Cullen**. They have received guidance from Iowa Homeland Security regarding needed supplies and what the process is to request them. In Clinton County, we are currently doing very well. This should aid in the clinics. Response for the Derecho continues as well. The last update for what individual assistance has paid out to citizens in Clinton County is \$294,120 which was awarded to them for damage and housing assistance. They have also received word that the application for DSNAP for Clinton County has been moved to Food and Nutrition Services which is a federal program. DSNAP covers those who normally don't qualify under a SNAP program but because of the tipping point being reached for people with mass food loss, they may then qualify for some assistance. Losing a refrigerator or freezer full of food was the tipping point for many, who just couldn't afford to replace that. Regarding COVID, **Burns** said that the annual report has many highlights. Since March, 117,823 items of PPE have been distributed by EMA. 59 types of PPE and resources are managed through their office. 638 requests have been made for PPE. 73 gallons of hand sanitizer have been distributed and 40,000 plus surgical masks, not to count fabric masks and gowns. When the Governor gives her press conference and announces that she has authorized the distribution of fabric masks to schools throughout the state; EMA will then receive an email from State Homeland Security that they are now tasked with ordering and distributing fabric masks in the county. They must then get orders from the schools and put them into the state. Web EOC is open to them at all times where they can communicate with the state. Volunteer totals for last year were 2993 hours which were allocated to COVID, the

search for Breasia, and the Derecho. **Morgan** thanked **Burns** and staff for all their hard work.

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

L. EveryStep/MCAH- An informational report was submitted. **McManus** noted the report contains screening numbers for preschools. Numbers are down due to COVID. In the schools, 1001 children were screened which is 590 less than the year before. 13% were referred to a dentist for urgent needs. For WIC, 123 were seen which is 171 less than last year. 11% of those were sent for urgent care. 72 were seen at Head Start which is 59 less. 23% of those were referred for urgent care. ISmile is receiving a liquid paint called Silver Diamine Fluoride that will help stop cavities.

AGENDA ITEM VI – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Irwin noted that budget sessions with the Supervisors can be made by calling the Auditor's office. The Clinton County buildings are still closed to the general public, with appointments being made.

AGENDA ITEM VII – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEM VIII – OLD BUSINESS

None.

AGENDA ITEM IX – NEW BUSINESS

None.


AGENDA ITEM X – NEXT MEETING DATE

March 4th, 2021 via Webex and May 6th, 2021 at 7:30 am at the Clinton County Administration Building, Conference Room "B" (subject to change via Webex).

AGENDA ITEM XI – ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Thiltgen to adjourn, **seconded by Osaro**. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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.