

**Minutes – Clinton County Board of Health
Public Meeting held
January 11th, 2024 – 7:30 a.m.
Clinton County Satellite Office, large conference room and Via ZOOM**

<u>Board Members</u>	Dr. Mary Malcom	Absent
	Jean Morgan, RN, BSN, MSED	Present
	Don Thiltgen	Present
	Chelsea Sullens, DPT	Present
	Jenna Lovaas	Present

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

Others Present Michele Cullen, Public Health/Genesis VNA
Nancy Burns, Emergency Management
Lauren Schwandt, Gateway Impact Coalition
Kristin Huisenga, CSAC
Carolyn Weets, CSAC
Amber Smith, CSAC
Cynthia Kaczinski, Hillcrest Family Services/WIC
Jim Irwin, Board of Supervisors
Patti Robinson, Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center
Maribeth Bousman, ASAC
Christina Skiles, ASAC
Briana Boswell, MCAH
Jodi Jorgenson, Scott County
Amy O'Malley, MercyOne MAT Clinic
Mary Kay Wirth, Early Childhood Iowa

Thiltgen called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was held with the option of in person or via ZOOM due to social distancing. Roll call showed 3 members present at the start of the meeting. 1 later joined. 2 members were in the meeting room, and 2 were via ZOOM due to unforeseen circumstances. It was **moved** by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Sullens**, to **APPROVE** the November 16th, 2023 minutes as submitted. Motion carried 3-0.

AGENDA ITEM III – BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health unanimously elected calendar year 2024 committee assignments to be as follows:

Finance: **Malcom, Sullens, Thiltgen**

Personnel: **Malcom, Thiltgen, Lovaas**

Total Quality Management- **Sullens, Morgan**

The 2024 calendar year Board of Health chairperson was elected as **Malcom**. The 2024 calendar year Board of Health vice chairperson was elected as **Thiltgen**.

A Motion was suggested by **Thiltgen** to **APPROVE** the chairs and committee members as elected. It was **moved** by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Sullens**, to **APPROVE** the organization as mentioned. Motion carried 4-0.

AGENDA ITEM IV – COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance – Eggers** noted that the budget session with the Board of Supervisors is next Friday the 19th at 9 am.
- B. Personnel –** No updates.
- C. Total Quality Management –** No updates.

AGENDA ITEM V – DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. Environmental Services-** The 2023 Mosquito Aedes Surveillance Report was submitted. The grant brought in \$3400 to the department this past calendar year. **McClintock** noted that conditions have been very dry and only about 1/10th was collected compared to previous years.
- B. Genesis VNA & Hospice–** report submitted. **Cullen** stated the mid-year report is attached with the regular monthly report. Much of the report is repetitive as it goes with the funding categories for leadership, health promotion, etc. It also talks about the Health Improvement Plan which has been started. Some has been continued from the last cycle. **Cullen** continues to work with MercyOne and Genesis on their plan. The Let's Live Healthy Clinton Facebook page is run by **Eggers** and she requests that all "like" or "follow" the page. Events such as the Burry Scurry in February are posted on the site as well as other great health information. Brain/mental health group meets today at 9 am to discuss having an in service or conference for some education for the public and providers for diagnosis and stigmas. The Homeless Coalition remains active working with the YMCA and Information Referral. The transitional housing remains a hot topic in Clinton. The Covid vaccine appointments have slowed down. The clinic yesterday only had 5 participants. **Thiltgen** questioned the decline. **Cullen** stated most got the first two or three and feel they now have immunity. It is an individual choice with the more protection the better. Covid clinics are put on the Facebook page and the county website by **Eggers**. **Cullen** said that Iowa Health and Human Services, which is now the combination of IDPH and DHS, recently had an outside vendor complete an evaluation on 19 areas of service in the state. An informational email was sent out regarding a very long documentation on the matter. It gives the current state, the goals, what the next steps should be, and options. There will be further evaluations of the services with possible service combinations to make them more effective. Behavioral health is one of

the most needed services in the state. The goal is that lowans will have access to behavioral health and that it will be consistent across the state. This all has to go through a lot of legislative changes. **Irwin** stated they received an email regarding this as well. Co-occurring issues are being seen where many of those with mental health issues also have substance abuse issues. As of right now it looks as though Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region will remain intact as is. There is a potential expansion later on depending on how everything rolls out and how other counties are doing. From the conversation **Irwin** had a few months ago, the goal is to have 300,000 individuals per mental health region. The biggest struggle over the last few years is finding providers. People need to be hired to help service the mental health region. **Thiltgen** asked if services were improving with telehealth being used. **Irwin** stated it has stepped back with those services. They are still being funded, but people are encouraged to meet in person. **Morgan** questioned if they are still having trouble finding beds especially for adolescents. **Cullen** and **Irwin** both said that has not changed for all ages.

- C. Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH)-** **Boswell** said they are paying close attention to the access to care section of the report that just came in from the state as well. That affects their program as well as Early Childhood. As grant guidance rolls out and changes come, they will keep us posted. They are entering the second year of the project period with MCAH services. They subcontract with Genesis VNA for parts of this. They provided a lead screening with 24 children at WIC clinics recently with one coming back with elevated lead levels. The Pregnancy Program is present in WIC clinics in DeWitt and Clinton, and they have served 6 women with the full package of services. The nurses also provide care coordination for children as well as dental screenings at WIC clinics. The Health Pregnancy Coalition for Service Area 14 meets on January 25th. Anyone is welcome to attend in person or virtually. Informing services continue with newly eligible families on Medicaid. There were 252 families in Clinton County in the first quarter. They were able to connect with about half of those families to help better understand the benefits and link them to providers. **Jorgenson** has been busy with dental audits. 238 children received 701 services in Clinton in the first quarter. Dental staff spent 12 days at Clinton County schools and childhood centers. The CCNC services continue to be done. In the first quarter, **McClimon** reached out to 75 early childhood education providers in Clinton and Jackson Counties. This is about 60% participation this early in the year. A large portion of this funding comes from ECI. **Jorgenson** said she recently sent out letters to area schools to do their dental audits for kindergarten and 9th graders as they are required to have this done.
- D. Hillcrest Family Services/WIC-** **Kaczinski** said that on February 8th, they will have their annual clinic visit. This is when a state staff member comes in and monitors services throughout the day to monitor policies and procedures. They only have to do one clinic per service area. They will be at the Jackson County location this year. Back in August, the state WIC office started working on coming up with a plan to provide more tele-WIC services. During Covid, participation was considerably higher with these services. A plan has been approved to move forward with creating a program. They intend to start a soft roll out of the program next week. Certain things have to be done electronically,

so they continue to work with those protocols.

- E. Early Childhood Iowa/DECAT- Wirth** stated there are still a few preschool scholarships available for 3-year-olds in Clinton County. In addition, there will be an Eastern Iowa Early Childhood Conference sponsored by Community Partnerships for Protecting Children at Clarke University April 12th and 13th. This is for health educators, social providers, childcare providers, and families. Registration is soon to come.
- F. Clinton Substance Abuse Council (GIC & CDC)- Schwandt** said they are getting ready to take some youth out to the Capitol in Des Moines to meet with legislators to discuss local issues with substance abuse on February 15th. They hope to have surveys go out in the spring as well. This gives a lot of local information on youth trends and substance use. **Amber Smith** is the new PFS coordinator. This grant works on adult excessive drinking and binge drinking for age 45 and up. They are in the planning process and working on the planning deliverables. **Weets** handles the prescription drug grant which addresses prescription drug misuse for ages 12-25. They are campaigning to focus on parents and caregivers letting them know prescription drugs are still drugs. An advertisement is currently running in theatres for PG-13 movies regarding a young person overdosing on prescription medications. They are also meeting with providers regarding best practices for prescribing opioids and Narcan. **Huisenga** is also taking kids out to Day on the Hill. The CRUSH group continues to do secondary Narcan distribution. This allows individuals to get Narcan from ASAC and there is no cost. They provided 12 trainings and handed out 12 kits through December 8th. It has been requested to train youth to have the ability to administer it. The state said there were no limitations on age. **Thiltgen** inquired who was being trained. **Huisenga** said typically friends and family of users. There were 21 DART contacts in the last quarter in the city of Clinton. November was a very busy month. There were a number of suspected deaths and there were a number of overdoses that EMS responded to where the victim already had several doses of Narcan. It seems as if it may not be administered correctly. The applicator has to be pushed far back into the nose. The person is not likely breathing so it really has to get up high in the nose. Para-fluorofentanyl which is also called China White has been discovered in the area. This is being referred to as the "new, old monster" which was present in the 1970s but now being attributed to overdose deaths.
- G. Women's Health and Family Services- Montgomery** was absent. Prior approval was requested for the 3rd quarter Rapid HIV Testing grant and 3rd quarter Teen Success grant as submitted. It was moved by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Morgan** to **APPROVE** said claims. Motion carried 4-0.
- H. Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC)/New Directions- Bousman** said they are preparing for certification and accreditation. This is to make sure they are on track with policies and procedures. This also looks at best practices and how to improve. Iowa now has 3 MCO's for Medicaid. Amerigroup, Iowa Total Care, and Molina. As of right now, Molina has not reimbursed ASAC for any of their residential services such as at King House and Hightower. This isn't the entire percentage of their patients, but it is

certainly not good to be providing services without being reimbursed. Tele-health continues especially during weather related events. **Skiles** continues to work on smoke free homes. They have had a few referrals, but policy change is scary for some. There are currently 3 active ISTEP chapters in Clinton County. The Clinton Middle School is working hard on planning activities in February for Heart Health Month. Education is being implemented in Camanche Middle School regarding vaping. They continue to offer Narcan. A report came in that the first Narcan they gave out did save a life. They continue to provide problem gambling services as well.

- I. **Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center– Robinson** stated that back in September, they affiliated with Bethany. This is not a merger, they have to keep their name but are affiliated through the management side of Bethany. With this, **Sarah Blinkinsop** has been a very positive addition to the program to give insight on how they can improve and streamline things. Their access to care has changed recently. It previously took two intakes before a patient could see a therapist. Now the first time they call in, they are put into an intake screener and then their first visit is with a therapist. In November they received their 3-year accreditation through the state. They do have openings for therapists. Emails have changed to first name.last name@bvcmhc.org. Patti's is patti.robinson@bvcmhc.org. This will remain like this for the foreseeable future. The bus route did end. It was only a three-month opportunity to pilot it. The city decided to not continue the route. **Robinson** said they will be looking at grant opportunities to make a specific route that would hit the health and human services agencies.

- J. **Emergency Management- Burns** stated they hired a new operations officer, **Andrew Smith**. He is getting training and gearing up but has been a volunteer with the Community Response Team since 2019 and has been one of the radiological officers since 2021. They are working very hard right now on radiological emergency preparedness. The rehearsal is coming up at the end of January in the EOC. These are held every few years. Next month is the FEMA evaluated exercise which is a federal requirement. This year is unique as it is hostile action based such as the nuclear plant having a hostile event causing an emergency. A lot of community partners participate in this. EMA is also working with the Sheriff's office on some school safety initiatives. A reunification drill will happen soon with Clinton schools. This is in regard to an active shooter situation and how they will reunite kids with their parents after the event. A lot of requests for trainings have come in after the Perry school shooting incident. We are not yet in a severe drought in this area, but it is just west of us. Some other counties are starting to have issues with water supply. They will continue to monitor the conditions. It has been stated that even if we received several inches of snow and it rained for days, we would not catch up to where we need to be with rainfall. The state is working on proactive plans with water companies regarding water supply. We are going on 3 years where we are greatly below 90% of the expected precipitation. **Irwin** stated that we have these drills and training for possible nuclear plant issues. Currently, Constellation reimburses the county \$45,000 to \$46,000. With the recent retirement of an official from Homeland Security, much of the caseload has fallen on local EMA to pick up.

Constellation does a great job employing individuals in the county but there is no other business that costs the taxpayers the amount of money that they do. \$20,000 would go toward Linn County for a site for residents to go in the case of evacuation. This is in code that a site has to be provided. They are trying to force Constellation to pick up the cost of this. They currently pay \$3000 a year for the reception center at Northeast High School. On top of that, our costs is about \$180,000 in time and material for the two trainings per year for Constellation. This does not take into account the time and costs of having so many entities represented at these meetings. They continue to put pressure on FEMA and Constellation to offset these costs. **Irwin** said that these other factories such as ADM, Nestle Purina, Guardian, and Custom Pak do not cost the taxpayers to have their operation run.

K. Community Health Care, Inc- Absent.

L. MercyOne MAT Clinic- O'Malley introduced herself as the new supervisor. She works to increase services. They have nurse practitioners wanting to join and hope to increase their regular nurse to full time by the end of February. They offer services for opioid and alcohol abuse.

AGENDA ITEM VI – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Irwin said they had a legislative coffee last week. **Governor Reynolds** had her State of the Union Address. They wonder how some of these goals will affect the mental health regions. We were one of the first areas to have mental health courts in the state of Iowa but they took all of the power on decision making from the county supervisors who sat on the board. This has a direct impact on employees. 3 or 4 individuals have taken jobs elsewhere within the state. People do not like the unknown.

AGENDA ITEM VII – PUBLIC COMMENT

Thiltgen noted that Monday is Iowa Caucus and encouraged those to get their voice heard. **Morgan** said she got on the agenda for the city hall's meeting regarding the new asphalt plant. She feels the supervisors could do more regarding the asphalt plant and the smell. **Irwin** stated it is an issue with the city of Clinton as it is within city limits and within their jurisdiction, but he would be happy to find out answers to any questions anyone has. **Morgan** also noted a lack of healthcare personnel within the county.

AGENDA ITEM VIII – OLD BUSINESS

None.

AGENDA ITEM IX – NEW BUSINESS

None.

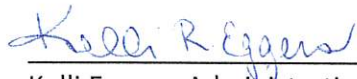
AGENDA ITEM X – NEXT MEETING DATE

March 7th, 2024 and May 2nd, 2024 at 7:30 am at the Clinton County Satellite Building, large conference room. Meeting also available via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM XI – ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Morgan**, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 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.