

**Minutes – Clinton County Board of Health**  
**Public Meeting held**  
**March 6th, 2025 – 7:30 a.m.**  
**Clinton County Satellite Office, large conference room and Via ZOOM**

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

<b><u>Staff Present</u></b>	Shane McClintock, Director to the Board of Health
	Kelli Eggers, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health

<b><u>Others Present</u></b>	Michele Cullen, Public Health/Genesis VNA
	Nancy Burns, Emergency Management
	Kristin Huisenga, CSAC
	Amber Smith, CSAC
	Mary Kay Wirth, ECI
	Briana Boswell, MCAH
	Christina Mesinger, ASAC
	Angie Eacker, CHC
	Diane Anderson, IHHS

**Malcom** called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. The hybrid meeting was held with the option of teleconference participation. Roll call showed 5 members present. 4 members were in the meeting room, and 1 was via tele participation due to unforeseen circumstances. It was **moved** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Lovaas**, to **APPROVE** the January 9th, 2025 minutes as submitted. Motion carried 5-0.

### **AGENDA ITEM III – BOARD OF HEALTH**

None.

### **AGENDA ITEM IV – COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Finance – No updates.**
- B. Personnel – No updates.**
- C. Total Quality Management – No updates.**

### **AGENDA ITEM V – DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

- A. **Environmental Services- McClintock** has been working with the Planning and Zoning department and the Board of Supervisors regarding language for the new ordinance on wind turbines specifically regarding karst regions.
- B. **Genesis VNA & Hospice**– Informational report submitted. **Cullen** requested approval for upcoming immunization contracts and Emergency Preparedness contracts. It was **moved** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Morgan**, to **APPROVE** said contracts. Motion carried 5-0. The Let's Live Healthy project regarding donation gardening will resume in the next few months. More donations are requested for the DeWitt, Clinton, and Wheatland areas. **Cullen** has been working with the Rotary Club of Clinton on a Food Security Summit set for March 27<sup>th</sup>. Fliers are available. **Regenwether** is leading up the Brain Health group who are focusing on grief this year. Not just grief regarding death, but that of job loss or financial losses.
- C. **Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH)- Boswell** with the Scott County Health Department said dental audits in schools are underway. Reports are due to the state at the end of May, so soon after they will have updates. They are pleased that they did receive a schedule of dates for 2026 grant funding to be released which is great news with all the uncertainty lately. They were told that childcare nurse funding is expected to be in this package as well. ISmile continues to be in the schools with great participation. Their staff continues to participate in WIC clinics as well.
- D. **Hillcrest Family Services/WIC**– **Kaczinski** was unable to attend.
- E. **Early Childhood Iowa/DECAT – Wirth** noted there will be changes to ECI soon. They will be placed in 7 districts within the state, much like that of Mental Health. Details are currently being worked out. All of this and the funding for Fiscal Year 2026 are still going through legislation.
- F. **Women's Health and Family Services**– **Montgomery** was out of state at the Title X meeting and unable to attend.
- G. **Community Health Care, Inc-** **Eacker** noted they have several new patients. They continue to be busy with family dentistry, particularly with pediatric dentistry.
- H. **Clinton Substance Abuse Council (GIC & CDC)- Smith** continues to work on the PFS-PAM Grant. They are working with law enforcement to set up 3 saturation patrols this year. Regarding sustainability for the grant, they are in search of individuals to join the committee that meets 2-3 hours per month. Any high traffic area suggestions are welcome to place a Drink Less Be Your Best banner. **Weets** was ill and unable to attend the meeting. **Eggers** will pass along an email regarding the SPF-RX Grant when **Weets** gets it to her.
- I. **Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC)/New Directions-** **Mesinger** continues to work on tobacco free and nicotine free policies for businesses in the area. Next week on March 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be a training at the Law Center called Demystifying Substance Use

Disorder and Harm. There is also an event on April 11th regarding stigma on substance abuse. She is setting up at the casino in Clinton this afternoon with fliers and informational handouts. It is not just for problem gambling; any entity is welcome to put information on the table.

**J. Bridgeview Community Mental Health Center–** Not in attendance.

**K. Emergency Management-** 2024 Medical Examiner's Report submitted. **Burns** stated **Dr. Wulf** was at a meeting and unable to attend. Of the 140 cases the MEI office had, 3 were declined for jurisdictional reasons. 45 were sent for autopsy. 10 were drug related deaths including 9 for methamphetamine; one of those including fentanyl and then one was fentanyl mixed with cocaine. 11 suicides were had in the county, and one industrial accident. 3 deaths were from motor vehicles and 8 were from fatal head injuries due to falls. 13 of the 45 decedents sent for autopsy had found to have died from natural causes. So far this year, the county has seen a high rate of deaths, averaging two per day. EMA continues their weather radio giveaway. They were successful at the DeWitt Library, so they are now moving on to the Wheatland Library. Tonight, at the Central DeWitt High School, they are holding a Storm Spotter Training class. The state also has some new damage assessment software that will help with reporting damage. Our county appears to be at a low risk of flooding this year. Reunification trainings continue at schools and they seem to improve each time.

## **AGENDA ITEM VI – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

None.

## **AGENDA ITEM VII – PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **AGENDA ITEM VIII – OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **AGENDA ITEM IX – NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion ensued regarding a bill that is in the State Legislature regarding vaccines. **Lovaas** noted that this bill was regarding all vaccines, not just that of the MRNA. This would not allow the sale of vaccines in the state of Iowa unless they waive their rights to federal liability. **Lovaas** stated the pharmaceutical companies don't make money off the vaccines. They will just drop the sales if this goes through. There is a vaccine injury reporting system. The board members discussed their experiences of what it was like prior to the polio vaccine; things they have witnessed due to lack of immunization such as a 5-year-old death because of chicken pox, a person with an iron lung, etc. **Morgan** stated a person should feel lucky if they had minor symptoms of a disease such as Covid, more so that it did not result in death. She noted that **Trump** decided to eliminate the committee that was watching out for pandemics. **Cullen** noted

that Covid numbers are skyrocketing again, but far less are dying thanks to the vaccine. The members unanimously agreed to send a letter to the committee on the House File 712 and to **Norlin Mommsen**. It was agreed to add into said letter that politics should not interfere with health care decisions. **Sullens** had not heard of this issue and questioned whether it had anything to do with vaccine schedules. It does not. It was **moved** by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Thiltgen**, to **APPROVE** a letter regarding the House File 712. Motion carried 5-0. **Eggers** will draft and send out for approval prior to submission. **Morgan** suggested **Cullen** and **McClintock** write letters as well. **Malcom** stated that the Board of Supervisors have continued with their finance discussions. She interpreted the article in The Observer to state that it costs the county \$75,000 per year to run the Resource Program for the jail. She believes the board should urge the Supervisors to reconsider this with a cost benefit analysis. The program is shown to reduce death rates within the first two weeks of jail release. It also helps with crime which reduces the cost of policing efforts and that of the court system. It was **moved** by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Thiltgen**, to **APPROVE** a letter to the Board of Supervisors showing the board's support regarding the Resource Center. Motion carried 5-0. Note that following the meeting, **Eggers** consulted the county budget director on clarification of the budget discussion for the Resource Center. **Manrique** stated that the Board of Supervisors are very much in favor of the center. The discussion regarding the amount of \$75,000 was in regard to if they chose to hire a full time person. Instead, they have chosen to hire a part-time position and of course have volunteers. Nothing is being taken out of that budget. General Assistance is moving to the Resource Center, however. It was decided unanimously not to continue with sending a letter to the Supervisors. **Malcom** noted the time-consuming efforts the Board of Supervisors have given regarding the wind turbine ordinance revision. **Thiltgen** motioned to **APPROVE** a letter of thanks to the Board of Supervisors for their endeavors, seconded by **Lovaas**. Motion carried 5-0.

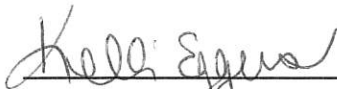
#### **AGENDA ITEM X – NEXT MEETING DATE**

May 1st, 2025 and June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:30 am at the Clinton County Satellite Building, large conference room. Meeting also available via Zoom.

#### **AGENDA ITEM XI – ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by **Morgan**, seconded by **Thiltgen**, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 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.