

**Minutes – Clinton County Board of Health  
Public Meeting held  
April 2nd, 2026 – 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
	Don Thiltgen	Present
	Jenna Lovaas	Present
	Jeff Sander-Welzien	Present
	Amanda Hoerschelmann	Absent

**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/MercyOne Genesis VNA  
                                 Jim Irwin, Board of Supervisors  
                                 Brianna Boswell, Scott County Health Department  
                                 Christina Mesinger, ASAC  
                                 Heather Montgomery, Women’s Health and Family Services  
                                 Heather Christiansen, RN  
                                 Mary Kay Wirth, ECI

Malcom called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m. The hybrid meeting was held with the option of teleconference participation. Roll call showed 4 members present in the meeting room. It was moved by Thiltgen, seconded by Lovaas, to APPROVE the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 minutes as submitted. Motion carried 4-0.

**AGENDA ITEM III – BOARD OF HEALTH**

Malcom submitted two articles to be attached with the meeting minutes. One article is from IHHS regarding the increase in stimulant involved fatal overdoses being driven by methamphetamine use. The other is an article from the New England Journal of Medicine regarding causes of maternal death in the US. It has always been thought that cardiovascular disease, hypertension, hemorrhage, and infection are the leading causes of maternal death. However, if you include violence and drug overdose, suddenly, those go way down. In 2018, the number of maternal deaths from homicide, overdose etc., had almost as many as the four traditional factors. Prior to about 5 years ago, methamphetamine was the leading cause of drug overdose in Iowa. Then fentanyl overtook methamphetamine. Last year, methamphetamine once again rose to the top.

**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** stated that our office along with the IDNR have received several complaints on the odor smell from the Clinton Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Board of Supervisors, IDNR, IHHS, and EPA have all met to discuss the issue. **McClintock** and an IDNR representative toured the plant last Friday. They did not note anything that seemed to be harmful. After speaking with the EPA, however, they feel there is more danger involved than they expected. There is a flare that dissipates the amount of H<sub>2</sub>S that gets out; however, the flare was not working properly for some time. When it does work, it reduces about 99% of the emissions. Unfortunately, when you are reducing 99% of 10,000 parts per million, and the health range is in the parts per billion, that is not enough. So, they are working with the city of Clinton to try and see if they can get something else to reduce it even more. There have been complaints from people, including students, feeling nauseated by the smell and getting headaches. Complaints have come in that the smell lingers further than 3 miles away. The EPA is suggesting a second flame. **Irwin** stated that he did not realize how much the odor was also affecting businesses in the area. Some of them have contemplated closing and allowing their employees to go home. A few of those people involved with that facility being opened are no longer with the city. One retired from the board, one passed away, and one recently resigned. The engineering firm that they are using did not get a permit for the releasing of certain air. Because of that, the IDNR says they can't do a lot, even though they didn't get a permit. They are currently checking with their legal team to see if something can be done about the lack of permits.
  
- B. **MercyOne Genesis VNA & Hospice-Cullen** requested approval of public health amendments and the Fiscal Year 2027 Public Health Workplan. This is to include the immunization contract for FY 2027, an Emergency Preparedness contract, and an amendment for Local Public Health services. It was **moved** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Lovaas** to **APPROVE** said amendments and workplan. Motion carried 4-0. There was an independent audit because the Emergency Preparedness funds went over the audit threshold by \$4000. What they found was that the contract didn't have a compliance auditing section in it. There wasn't anything found in error with spending, but the contract needs to be brought up to compliance for auditing. **Cullen** met with **Amber Shepard**, budget director, and the County Attorney on Friday regarding this. **Cullen** has some verbiage from other contracts she will put together and send to **Wolf** to review for legal purposes, then put into an amendment to re-sign the current contract. Regarding state funds for local public health, they are working on the work plan for Fiscal Year 2027. This year they will also start to pull together the Community Health Needs Assessment Group and re-evaluate our data and what resources we have in the county. The legislature has also been looking at reorganizing or realigning public health. This would be for Fiscal Year 2028. This would imply the same local services but with a larger

fiscal agent. It was noted that on the public side, the first services that would come through would be communicable disease and environmental health. **McClintock** noted how we have seen these things come together especially in regard to food inspections, where the county no longer does them and you have 1 person inspecting several counties. Many times they can only get to establishments if there have been complaints. **Cullen** also handed out reports regarding snapshots of Clinton County that include population, life expectancy, etc. Marion County applied for a Healthy Hometowns Grant and this would include cancer awareness, screenings, radon test kits, skin cancer checks, etc. **Cullen** requested approval from the board to go forward and look into this grant and see what it can do for Clinton County. **Thiltgen** motioned to **APPROVE** supporting Public Health with this endeavor, and **Sander-Welzien** seconded. Motion carried 4-0. It was noted that **Sander-Welzien**, **Hoerschelmann**, and **Malcom** have all recently attended and received certificates for the open meetings and public records training. **Cullen** will inquire with **Zoffka** from IHHS if there are any on boarding things for the two newer members to complete. **Chris McClimon** retired after over 30 years of community health nursing, and the position is being filled by Scott County.

- C. Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH)-** **Boswell** stated that **McClimon** did leave them in a great position. They have given that position to **Lorna Bim** who has been nursing for over 20 years. They have received some grant continuation materials for Fiscal Year 2027 with Maternal and Child Health. The state is feeling pretty comfortable with the Title V and Maternal Child Health Block Grants. Thus, they are working on updating materials and work plans. The programs included with this are I-Smile, Healthy Pregnancy Program, and Maternal Child and Adolescent Health. I-Smile received some dental x-ray equipment from the state. This is a mobile radiology, dental x-ray unit that can be taken with them and the hygienists are qualified to use them. The Community Baby Shower is coming up on April 25<sup>th</sup> at Journey Church in Clinton. After May 26<sup>th</sup>, MercyOne in Clinton will no longer be delivering babies.
- D. Early Childhood Iowa/DECAT-** **Wirth** noted that ECI has not yet released budgets for Fiscal Year 2027. They are doing contract renewals with the contracts they have and RFPs for additional contracts. Legislation is proposing changes for Fiscal Year 2028. The proposal is to move all home visiting contracts from ECI to HHS. A Community Baby Shower is set for April 25<sup>th</sup> at Journey Church in Clinton and Health Kids Day is May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Maquoketa YWCA.
- E. Women's Health and Family Services-** Approval was requested for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Rapid HIV Testing and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Teen Success claims. It was **moved** by **Lovaas**, seconded by **Thiltgen** to approve said claims. Motion carried 4-0. The new health educator has been very busy in the schools working with over 3,000 kids so far. Rapid HIV/Syphilis testing continues. In 2024 there was an outbreak in Iowa with over 1000 cases of Syphilis. Numbers are not back yet for 2025. No new HIV cases were reported.
- F. Community Health Care, Inc- Could not attend.**
- G. Clinton Substance Abuse Council (GIC & CDC)- Not in attendance.**

H. **Area Substance Abuse Council (ASAC)/New Directions- Mesinger** agrees with earlier comments that methamphetamines have taken over opioid overdose numbers. It is questionable whether it could be the availability of Narcan. They have been working with the State Opioid Response Grant to get Narcan out there and educate people of the dangers of fentanyl and fake pills. **Regenwether** passed one new policy this quarter for an area business. They continue to work with TA to establish businesses that already have policies to update signage regarding vaping and nicotine. They have had 18 referrals to Quitline Iowa since January. Clinton Middle School students attended Day on the Hill to talk about nicotine and kratom. They are working to increase attendance for the Breath Easy Workgroup. Anyone interested can contact **Regenwether**. They will soon also be working with **Senator Grassley's** office on education regarding the dangers of fentanyl.

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

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

**Irwin** stated he recently had a meeting with **Sheriff Greenwalt** regarding Air Methods. This is an air ambulance service out of Clinton. They have a helicopter stationed at the Clinton Airport. When called out, they would fly to Mercyone, pick up the medical team, and fly out to the incident from that point. **Irwin** reiterated that he and **McClintock** have been in conversations with the IDNR and EPA over the issues with Clinton and how to solve the problem.

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

None.

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

None.

## **AGENDA ITEM IX – NEW BUSINESS**

None.

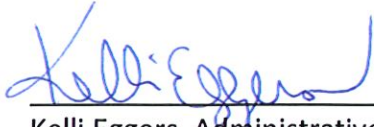
## **AGENDA ITEM X – NEXT MEETING DATE**

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, at 7:30 am at the Clinton County Satellite Building, large conference room. Meeting also available via Zoom.

## **AGENDA ITEM XI – ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by **Thiltgen**, seconded by **Lovaas**, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 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.