



Benton County Board of Health Minutes

Thursday, September 12th, 2024

7:00am – 8:00am

Benton County Service Center - Conference Room

811 D Ave. Vinton, IA 52349

BOH Members Present: Tai Burkhart, Jessica Fairbanks, Jean Ohlen, Lori Mott & Karl Holmes,
PA-C

BOS Members Present: Richard Primmer

Staff Present: Barbara Greenlee, Matt Even, Grace Schmidt & Monica Cox

Guests Present: None

Meeting called to order:

- Motion by Burkhart to call meeting to order at 7:01 AM.

Approval of Agenda:

- Motion by Mott to approve agenda, seconded by Ohlen, motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion by Ohlen to approve minutes, seconded by Mott, motion passed unanimously.

Environmental Health Report:

- No updates to share.

Public Health Report

- Had the August Opioid Taskforce meeting where proposals for settlement funding started to be discussed; BCPH was tasked with the creation of the application and gathering proposals/answering questions, after this meeting worked with Auditor's office to post RFP based off of feedback from Taskforce
- Attended the Region 6 Contractor meeting virtually to hear updates from Iowa HHS – discussed CHA and CHIP attributes & quality improvement planning
- Supplemented a VSCSD teacher in-service training day prior to school starting to inform more on the work our department does, and provide community resources
- Attended webinar on 2024-2025 school & licensed childcare audits, which will begin in the next few weeks – have streamlined the process for school nurses & health clerks to schedule a time for staff to come to their location & complete the audit
- Attended PHEP Quarterly General Assembly meeting, Schmidt is now the Chair & fulfilling rest of prior Chair's term until May 2025
- BCPH is in the process of setting up our vaccine fridges and freezers, purchased Sensaphone with immunization grant funds, as well as primary/secondary/tertiary LogTags; when RMBoggs came to set up and maintenance machines, Helmer freezer was not holding temp. Quoted at approximately \$4,500.00 to fix with a 2 week wait time, this expense was approved by the immunization grant – repair is eligible for ARPA funds as a stopgap until reimbursement from the state comes in
- UnityPoint Belle Plaine donated their combo vaccine fridge & freezer - this was picked up and will be setup at Benton County EMA to be our backup solution, as their facility is on generator power and accessible by staff 24/7

Discuss/Act on Benton County Sheriff's Office proposed nursing services contract

- BCPH was approached by the Benton County Jail/Benton County Sherriff's Office about interest in partnering to fulfill their needed nursing services, as their current contract with Virginia Gay Hospital is set to expire. Schmidt & Cox visited the jail to learn more & ask questions before bringing the information to the BOH for discussion. Holmes

brought up concerns about this work taking time away from Cox's regular duties with BCPH, and had concerns over liability with providing these services. Burkhart mentioned that currently, Scott County Public Health is the only PH dept. nearby that provides these services, and with unpredictability of hours and orientation required, it would also take time away from regular BCPH work. Schmidt shared that BCPH cannot always guarantee an RN will be on staff at the dept. as well due to there only being 1 position, which then would lead to complications for the jail to fill those services in a pinch. Ultimately, it was discussed that the BOH is not in support of providing these services at this time.

Public Comment

- No public comment

Adjournment:

- Motion by Fairbanks, seconded by Mott, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 AM.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 14th, 2024
7:00am – 8:00am
Benton County Service Center - Conference Room
811 D Ave. Vinton, IA 52349