



The McLean County Board of Health
Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 5:30 p.m.
McLean County Health Department, Room 324
200 W. Front Street
Bloomington Illinois 61701
IN-PERSON

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Carla Pohl, Cory Tello, Judy Buchanan, Robert Kohlhase, Scott Hume, Sonja Reece, Susan Schafer

Members Absent: Dameron Beverly, Hannah Eisner, Richard Ginnetti

Staff Present: Jessica McKnight, Amy Brooke, Tammy Brooks, Kim Anderson

Others Present: LaNell Greenberg, Jolene Aldus, Jared Fuhler, Mustafa Jawadwala, Tori Lee

3. Public Participation

4. Approve Minutes: Regular Session from February 9, 2022

Motion by Buchanan/Schafer to approve February 9, 2022, minutes.

Judy Buchanan (JB) asked that the information regarding PATH on page two be amended to read, "Judy Buchanan (JB) noted that PATH handles over 70% of the state suicide prevention calls."

Motion by Buchanan/Schafer to approve February 9, 2022, minutes as corrected.
Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda

A. Bills to be Paid

		February 2022
Dental Sealant	0102	\$16,403.25
WIC	0103	\$4,534.72
Preventive Health Program	0105	\$33.67
Family Case Management	0106	\$6,992.91
AIDS/COMM Disease Control	0107	\$54,219.92

Health Department	0112	\$29,035.59
Total		\$111,220.26

Motion by Schafer/Reece to approve the consent agenda.
Motion carried.

6. Informational Items

A. McLean County Community Health Council (MCCHC) Identification of the Top 3 Health Priorities for 2023-2025

Carla Pohl (CP) noted that the top three health priorities remain the same: Access to Care, Behavioral Health, Healthy Eating/Active Living.

B. Strategic Planning Update Presentation from Leaders on Loan Task Force Project Team

Jared Fuhler (JF) introduced the Leaders on Loan Program. He explained that he, Jolene Aldus, Mustafa Jawadwala, and Tori Lee began working with Health Department leadership in September. The goal was to develop a strategic plan. They used the Illinois Department of Public Health's strategic plan as a guide and delivered an outline of objectives and goals. The next step is for programs to determine implementation. JF complimented Health Department leadership and the time and effort put into the project.

The priorities in the plan are:

- Reduce health disparities within our community and advance overall public health outcomes
- Leverage data to advise public health policy and intervention, provoke action, and inform our community
- Increase departmental and community preparedness and resilience
- Strengthen communication and partnership with stakeholders and the public
- Support the development of a public health workforce

Robert Kohlhase (RK) complimented the work. He asked if each priority held the same weight.

Jessica McKnight (JM) confirmed that the priorities held equal weight. There will be broad activities in the programs which feed into the plan. Staff will work on ways to show the Board of Health the progress made.

Sonja Reece (SR) shared that strategic planning needs to be time-bound and measurable. She noted that time-bound could be six months or three years.

JM used strengthening communication and partnership with stakeholders and the public as an example. This could include the development of a communication plan. All of the programs will feed into it, but it may look different from program to program.

JB asked if the strategic plan would include references to the budget and mandated items.

JM shared that mandated items will be in the executive summary. The budget will be included

where activities require funds.

JB expressed her appreciation for the Leaders on Loan session with the Board of Health. She felt their input was heard and included.

Members discussed how the Health Department would track progress. JM shared that this is in development. She stated that reports will point back to the framework of priorities and goals.

RK suggested that the plan would be foundational for meetings. It can be used as an anchor.

JM acknowledged that COVID has been difficult. It is helpful to have a roadmap.

Tammy Brooks (TB) noted COVID activities are wrapping up. Staff must reorient to the focus of their programs. She shared that she has begun focusing on data collection with her team. What data do we collect? Why do we collect it? How can the information that comes from the data be useful?

JM noted that COVID brought the Health Department together in some ways and kept us apart in other ways. We are returning to what we do, why we do it, and how we do it.

CT asked how many new employees have joined the Health Department.

JM estimated that there had been ten to fifteen new employees in the last six months. However, we have also lost some to other opportunities or retirement.

RK thanked the Leaders on Loan and asked them why they chose to be part of the program.

JF shared that he works as a financial advisor for Wells Fargo. He volunteered as part of the Chamber of Commerce program to expand his knowledge of the community.

Mustafa Jawadwala (MJ) shared that he immigrated to the United States. He works at State Farm and specializes in information security. He saw the program as a way to get involved in the community. This particular project aided his understanding of the civic structure.

Tori Lee (TL) works for State Farm. She has been in the community for six years and now calls the community home. She saw it as a way to be a way to contribute to the community.

JF shared that their final presentation is on March 18, 2022, and will let Jessica McKnight know the time. It is open to the public.

C. Discussion of recognition of McLean County Health Department staff during pandemic response

CP shared that she wrote Chris Spanos a letter regarding recognition of Health Department staff during the pandemic response. She has not heard back from him yet.

Cory Tello (CT) asked for clarification of the issue at hand.

Members discussed the initial proposal by County Administration for full-time vaccinated employees to receive \$1,000 and part-time vaccinated employees to receive \$500. This plan was tabled indefinitely at the County Board in September. A later proposal, Pandemic Response Pay, was passed. The plan allowed employees in grades 12 and below to receive up to \$1,000. Time working on-site between March 15, 2020, and December 19, 2020, determined an employee's amount. Stipulations from the federal government prevented Pandemic Pay from being given to employees above grade 12 or those working from home. The Division Directors did not receive Pandemic Pay because they are above grade 12. Contract employees were ineligible for Pandemic Pay.

CP clarified that a proposal was not on the table. The item was for discussion per the request of members at the January 2022 meeting. She reached out to Chris Spanos to determine the legalities of giving additional money to Health Department employees.

Members discussed giving additional money to all Health Department employees, giving money to those who did not receive money through the Pandemic Pay Plan, possible funding for a plan, and the likelihood of a plan passing the County Board.

Members asked how staff had responded to the Pandemic Pay.

TB noted that not everyone thought the amounts received were fair.

LaNell Greenburg (LG) clarified that employees did not automatically receive \$1,000. If you took time off during a pay period, you received less. She noted that she felt like she worked all the time in CD during the pandemic but only ended up with \$500. In contrast, full-time employees at the Nursing home received \$1,000 flat out. People are thankful, but there is confusion because the amount received was based on on-site work per pay period.

TB shared that even though she did not receive Pandemic Pay, she is content with its rollout. She cautioned against giving Health Department employees above that provided for other County employees.

Susan Schafer agreed that the Health Department went above and beyond. However, Ms. Brooks made a good point. It could cause problems with the County Board. It would draw attention to the Health Department funds and put the Health Department in a bad light.

Members asked how many Health Department employees did not meet the criteria.

JM shared that it impacted five people.

Members discussed the use of unspent funds due to unfilled positions. They also discussed providing it to those outside the department that did not meet the Pandemic Pay criteria. This proposal might be approximately 30 people.

SR noted that \$500 for 30 people would be \$15,000. \$500 for the five people in the HD would

be \$2,500.

Scott Hume (SH) noted that what had already been done cannot be fixed. It is going to feel inequitable to some.

CP stressed that the funder dictated the initial rules.

RK stressed that equity is the basis of his support. It is a symbolic amount that everyone rose to the occasion.

Members agreed that more exploratory conversations are needed.

RK asked map of the issues, possibilities, and possible funding.

JB emphasized the importance of looking at options without creating tension in the County.

7. Committee Reports

A. Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (BHCC)

SR reported that the BHCC meets Friday morning. There will be reports from organizations like PATH, Chestnut, and Project Oz. Additionally, the proposed Behavioral Health Action Plan will be distributed.

SS estimated that it would be an action item for the County Board in April.

SR shared that a request for proposals for mental health services for youth and adolescents went out on February 1, 2022. It proposes \$500,000 in the first year and \$250,000 in the second year. The funding is in conjunction with United Way.

The proposal contains over twelve objectives. Those submitting proposals need to address at least three or more of the objectives in their proposal.

JB asked if the proposals must be new projects.

SS stated that they did not have to be new projects. The goal is to meet the needs of youth and adolescents who are homebound or coming out of hospitalization. Additionally, there is an educational component. The BHCC packet contains additional information.

SR noted that the project must be sustainable in the third year.

B. Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB)

CT noted that the next MHAB meeting is on April 1, 2022.

C. County Board

SS reminded the Board of Health that Health Committee meetings are now the first Thursday of the month.

D. Behavioral Health Policy and Funding Committee (BHPFC)

CP pointed members to the update from Hannah Eisner on page 15 in the packet.

8. Health Department Administrator's Report

A. General Report

RK complimented the efficiencies found by the Vital Records program. He asked about quality control in the records.

JM explained that staff still sign off on the records and provide quality control. The change is in allowing funeral homes to print in their offices.

JB asked about plans for National Public Health Week.

JM explained that the national program provides the daily themes. There will be internal and external promotions and activities.

9. Action Items

A. Approval of Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022 Full-Time Equivalent Position Resolution for Fund 0107-0061-0062

Motion by Buchanan/Reece to approve the Amendment to the Fiscal year 2022 Full-Time Equivalent Position Resolution for Fund 0107-0061-0062.

Motion carried.

B. Approval for the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Bloomington

Motion by Tello/Buchanan to approve the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Bloomington.

Motion carried.

C. Approval of the Clean Uniform Company Service Agreement

Motion by Reece/Hume to approve the Clean Uniform Company Service Agreement.
Motion carried.

SS complimented the discovered savings.

TB noted that the contract rolled over with a built-in increase of 5% per year. When she asked questions, management offered her a better rate than they previously had.

D. Approval FY22 COVID-19 Response Grant

Motion by Reece/Tello to approve the FY22 COVID-19 Response Grant.
Motion carried.

E. Approval of Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022 Combined Appropriation and Budget for Fund 0107-0062

Motion by Buchanan/Hume to approve the Amendment to the Fiscal year 2022 Combined Appropriation and Budget for Fund 0107-0062.

CT mentioned the hiring difficulties that the County has. She specifically noted the vacancy in Behavioral Health. Difficulties.

SS stated that the County has put out an RFP for a County-wide salary study. It is expensive.

SR asked about the role of Contact Tracing at this time.

JM noted that the pandemic relief workers are assisting with testing. We have increased testing to three days a week.

10. Adjournment: 7:45 p.m.