

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH held February 20, 2024, starting at 6:30 pm, in the third-floor conference room of the St. Clair County Health Department, 19 Public Square, Suite 150, Belleville, Illinois and zoom teleconference for visitors who wish to attend virtually.

Members Present: Dr. Leo Dumstorff – President, William Kreeb, Secretary, Jennifer Demsar, Matt Smallheer, John West, Dr. Julie Wittenauer and Dr. Kelly Wood.

Members Excused: Cindy Thompson.

Others Present: Myla Blandford, Executive Director, Kathy Weisenstein, Deputy Executive, Sharon Valentine, Director of Environmental Programs, Susan Rehrig, Director of Infectious Disease Prevention, Barbara Maria Sutherland, Director of Clinical Services & Systems/Medical Provider, Janet Cronin, Accounting Manager, Brenda Fedak, Organizational Communications Manager and Elizabeth Asbrock, Nursing Student from McKendree University

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All were asked to stand and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

President Dumstorff called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and opened the meeting to public comment as required under the Open Meetings Act. Elizabeth Asbrock introduced herself and stated she was attending as a requirement of her program at McKendree University. There were no attendees online via Zoom.

All board members present received via email, or United States Postal service, a Board packet containing: the agenda, minutes to the previous Board meetings, Division Directors' Reports, the Finance/Personnel Committee Report, statistical report, various financial reports including the payment register, balance sheet, budget to actual reports on detailed income, monthly Stats and Strategic Plan Report and Monitoring.

MINUTES

Mr. West moved, and Dr. Wittenauer seconded, a motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Health held on January 16, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Dumstorff advised the board the Annual Report would be presented at the March Board meeting for approval. President Dumstorff then deferred to Executive Director Blandford for the Executive Directors report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Blandford reported the following:

- a. COVID in St. Clair County remains at LOW based on hospital admissions at 4.4 per 100,000, which is -20.0% change from prior week. SCCHD continues to administer Moderna and Pfizer vaccines for all ages as recommended by the CDC. Three (3) Illinois Counties are at HIGH COVID status. Illinois is LOW for respiratory illness. US COVID Emergency Room visits are 1.8%; Flu 3.1%; RSV .3%. hospitalizations are currently at 10.8 per 100,000. Illinois is trending up for COVID (2.09 for admissions); Flu (1.19%) and RSV (.45%) are trending down in Illinois.
- b. Paid Leave For All Workers Act (PLFAWA) started January 1, 2024. Part-time workers will now earn one (1) hour of paid leave for every 40 hours worked, which can be used for any reason, after an initial one-time 90-day waiting period. New hires will be required to wait 90 days from their date of hire before they are able to use PLFAWA. It was confirmed that current Collective Bargaining Agreements(CBA) supersedes the new law until a new agreement is in place.
- c. The management team is meeting regularly to review and update policies. Following the Violent Intruder training from last fall, PBC will supply door stops and zip ties to secure stairwell doors. The health department will reach out to Egyptian for bids for the lower level and 3rd floor reception area.
- d. Union hearing: There is no update to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Personnel Committee Report

Mr. Kreeb began with the Finance Committee report with the expense claims processed since the January Board of Health meeting reflect the usual and customary transactions by the Department. The Executive Director has reviewed the expense documentation and recommends Board approval of the expense claims. Ms. Demsar moved, and Dr. Wittenauer seconded a motion to approve the expense claims. The motion carried.

Mr. Kreeb continued, the Infectious Disease Prevention Division published a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Medical and Non-Medical Case Management Services through the Ryan White Part A and B Programs. Applications were received from SIHF Healthcare, East Side Health District, Coordinated Youth and Human Services, Washington University - Project ARK, and Community Wellness Project. Upon review by a panel of both external and internal individuals, the Infectious Disease Prevention Division would like to recommend that SIHF Healthcare, East Side Health District, Coordinated Youth and Human Services and Washington University Project ARK be awarded. SCCHD recommends the following flat funding from FY23:

- Coordinated Youth and Human Services: \$391,710
- East Side Health District: \$167,250
- SIHF Healthcare: \$187,492
- Washington University Project ARK: \$106,275

In the event that funding allows for SCCHD to increase the awards, up to the amounts requested in the applications received, the increases in funding will be brought before the SCCHD Board of Health for consideration. Mr. West moved, and Dr. Wood seconded a motion to approve the flat funding from FY23 as outlined. The motion carried.

Mr. Kreeb concluded with the following staffing updates:

- Ms. Rachel Pelato accepted a position as a Nurse Case Manager with the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP) effective February 21, 2024.

The Health Department is currently seeking to fill:

- One (1) full-time TB Staff Nurse/Public Health Nurse
- One (1) full-time Client Services Representative
- One (1) full-time Case Manager

DIVISION UPDATES:

The Deputy Executive Director shared updates from the Administration Division, with the Accounting Manager sharing highlights from the financial report. The Directors of the Environmental Programs, Infectious Disease Prevention, and Clinical Services & Systems Divisions reviewed highlights from their respective divisions. The Deputy Executive Director shared the Health Promotions & Wellness updates.

LIAISON REPORTS

Health Care Commission

The Executive Director reported that the Health Care Commission is scheduled to meet on March 7th, 2024 and plans to review the survey results. Executive Director reported Healthier Together did not receive the grant that was applied for.

W.C. Scrivner Public Health Foundation

Executive Director Blandford reported scholarship information is posted with an application deadline of April 1, 2024. The Scrivner Foundation Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 5, 2024.

Illinois Public Health Association

Executive Director Blandford reported IPHA continues to focus on workforce development and several subcommittees have formed. Executive Director Blandford is currently serving on five of those committees. The Local Health Protection Grant increase from last year (2023) was not included in Governor Pritzker's budget outline. Executive Director Blandford will seek clarification as to what that might mean for 2024.

Executive Session

At 7:22 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Demsar and seconded by Mr. Smallheer to move to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Motion passed.

Adjournment

At 7:35 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. West and seconded by Mr. Kreeb to move to close the Executive Session and adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The next meeting is March 19, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'William Kreeb', written over a horizontal line.

Mr. William Kreeb
Secretary