

## **MINUTES OF THE RE-SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING OF THE ST. CLAIR**

**COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH** held August 19, 2025, 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:** Cindy Thompson – President, Jennifer Demsar – Secretary, William Kreeb, Spencer Stoll and Dr. Kelly Wood.

**Members Excused:** Dr. Leo Dumstorff, Dr. Anne Nash and Matt Smallheer.

**Others Present:** Myla Blandford, Executive Director, Raquel Williams, Director of Clinical Services & Systems Programs, Janet Cronin, Accounting Manager and Brenda Fedak, Organizational Communications Manager.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Thompson 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. There were no attendees visiting in person or 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, Scrivner Golf Tournament information, 2025 Q2 Strategic Planning Documentation.

Dr. Wood moved, and Ms. Demsar seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Health held on July 15, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Thompson stated it was once again time for the Executive Directors annual review. Board members will receive the evaluation via Microsoft Forms with directions to complete. The Personnel and Finance Committee will review the collective responses and review them with the Executive Director.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Executive Director Blandford reported the following:**

- a. Staffing updates: IDP Director Susan Rehrig has resigned her position as Director of Infectious Disease Prevention effective September 12, 2025. We are currently working to contract with her for budget and grant services through June 30, 2026. In the P & F, there is a Division restructuring proposal to separate out the HIV services to stand as a division on it's own. IDP will continue to include Emergency Response and Preparedness.

- b. Our part-time nurse practitioner resigned her position effective August 8, 2025. We are looking for a new full-time nurse practitioner.
- c. Respiratory illness in St. Clair County through 8/9/2025 is very LOW; COVID is stable; National COVID positivity 3.1%. In Illinois, Flu is trending down and RSV is currently trending up.
- d. H5N1 – Remains at 70 Human cases in the United States with one (1) death being reported.
- e. Measles – There are 1,356 confirmed measles cases as of 8/5/25 over 41 jurisdictions, with 3 deaths and 32 outbreaks. Eighty-seven percent of the cases are associated with those outbreaks. Sixty-five percent of the cases are 19 years of age and under. Ninety-two percent of all cases are unvaccinated or vaccination status unknown. There are no confirmed measles cases in St. Clair County to date.
- f. There has been an increase of Legionella cases in the Metro East.
- g. CRI grant ended up with a reduction of \$3,200 due to a new jurisdiction signing up.
- h. PHEP – IDPH believes the CDC will release the rest of the PHEP money and that agencies will “be made whole” on the PHEP grant.
- i. Tire Collection Drive – Was held at the 8313 Shiloh Valley Township Line Road, Lebanon, IL 62254 on August 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> for municipalities only. There is not an update at this time on the amount collected.
- j. The Food Voucher Program switched back to \$10 vouchers. SCCHD will work directly with the Farmers Markets to receive invoices. The CD workgroup will mark the vouchers with codes and expiration dates.
- k. SCCHD accepted the \$13,000 Firearms (FA) grant for 2025-26. In addition to gun locks, new gun cases and lockers will be distributed through our outreach efforts.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Finance/Personnel Committee Report**

Ms. Demsar began with expense claims processed since the July 2025 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. Mr. Kreeb moved, and Dr. Wood seconded a motion to approve the expense claims. The motion carried.

Ms. Demsar continued, the Executive Director seeks approval to restructure the Infectious Disease Prevention Division into two stand-alone divisions as follows:

- HIV Care & Prevention Division
- Infectious Disease Prevention

Job descriptions for the revised division director positions will be finalized and may seek directors on an interim basis. Recruiting will begin once the descriptions are finalized. Dr. Wood moved, and Ms. Demsar seconded a motion to approve the division restructuring as outlined. The motion carried.

Ms. Demsar concluded with the following staffing updates:

The Health Department is currently seeking to fill:

- One (1) full-time Services Provider – Clinical Services & Systems Division
- One (1) full-time Client Services Representative (CSR)

### **DIVISION UPDATES:**

The Accounting Manager reviewed the financial highlights. The Directors of the Environmental Programs Director and the Clinical Services & Systems (CSS) – Programs reported on the highlights of their respective divisions. The Executive Director concluded with division highlights for the Administration and the Infectious Disease Prevention Division.

Executive Director Blandford commented that board members received a copy of the 2025 Q2 Strategic Planning Dashboard to review. The Q3 update will be given at the October board meeting.

### **Health Care Commission**

Executive Director Blandford reported the next meeting for the HCC is September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 am. SQP will present the final report from the Community Needs Assessment Survey to the HCC and in addition will plan to the report to the Board of Health at the September 2025 board meeting. The Chronic Disease (CD) Workgroup leader will be leading in October due to funding cuts.

### **Health Care Commission**

Executive Director Blandford reported the Scrivner Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 4, 2025, with a shotgun start at 1 pm. Registration starts at 12 noon. All management staff will be on board to work the tournament that day. Board of Health members are being asked to donate a basket for the raffle. The PRIDE event is the same day at the health department where we will be offering services that day.

### **Illinois Public Health Association**

The Executive Director will be attending the IPHA meeting on August 21, 2025.

### **Medical Society**

Dr. Wood reported she had referred someone to the health department for TB testing.

### **Nursing**

Ms. Demsar reported that they have not had any COVID cases in the last 6 months but have had some recently. Ms. Demsar added that they have been seeing mosquito bites with staph infections.

### **Adjournment**

At 7:15 p.m. Ms. Demsar moved and Mr. Kreeb seconded a motion to adjourn the

meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The next Board of Health meeting is September 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Jennifer Demsar  
Board Secretary