

MINUTES OF THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH held September 16, 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, Dr. Leo Dumstorff, Dr. Anne Nash, Matt Smallheer and Dr. Kelly Wood.

Members Excused: William Kreeb and Spencer Stoll.

Others Present: Myla Blandford, Executive Director, Kristy Mullins, Director of Environmental Programs, Raquel Williams, Director of Clinical Services & Systems Programs, Tanner Kingery, Director of Infectious Disease Prevention, Wendy Bradley, Director of HIV Care & Prevention, Janet Cronin, Accounting Manager, Brenda Fedak, Organizational Communications Manager, Aldara Henderson, Systems Quality Planner and Jayce Rowell, Systems Quality 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.

Dr. Dumstorff moved, and Dr. Wood seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Health held on August 19, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Thompson deferred to Executive Director Blandford who introduced Aldara Henderson, Systems Quality Planner and Jayce Rowell, Systems Quality Manager, who presented the data dive priority results and the results of the 2025 Community Health Assessment Survey for those who live and work in St. Clair County. After the presentation and discussion, the Board of Health identified and approved the priorities for the 2026-2031 I-Plan as the following:

1. Mental and Behavioral Health
2. Chronic Disease
 - a. Food Insecurity

3. Healthy Lifestyle
 - a. Maternal and Child Health
 - b. HIV/STI

President Thompson continued with a recap of Executive Director Blandford's 2025 Evaluation by the Board of Health members, which was reported as "Executive Director Blandford continues to do an excellent job in her capacity as Executive Director of the St. Clair County Health Department."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Blandford reported the following:

- a. Staffing updates: Welcome Wendy Bradley, the new Director of HIV Care & Prevention Division and Tanner Kingery, the new Director of the Infectious Disease Prevention Division,
- b. Respiratory illness for the State is still very LOW, with COVID trending up with the National COVID positivity 10.8% through 9/6/25. Flu is trending down as IDPH predicted after last year's Flu season and RSV is stable.
- c. COVID Vaccine Status: The COVID vaccine was made available nationally, however SCCHD has not been able to order yet as IDPH is still waiting on ACIP's recommendations, who are scheduled to meet later this week. Governor Pritzker has issued an Executive Order with a directive for Dr. Vohra to issue a standing order across the state for Illinois residents. The COVID vaccine is available from some facilities within the state.
- d. H5N1 – Human cases remains at 70 in the United States with one (1) death being reported.
- e. Measles – There are 1,454 confirmed measles cases as of 9/10/25 over 42 jurisdictions, with 3 deaths and 32 outbreaks. Eighty-six (86%) percent of the cases are associated with those outbreaks. Sixty-six (66%) percent of the cases are 19 years of age and under. Ninety-two (92%) percent of all cases are unvaccinated or vaccination status unknown. There are no confirmed measles cases in St. Clair County to date.
- f. ATV was stolen but returned. It is a regional asset and was on loan to Med Star for an event. You may see reports of this on social media.
- g. Golf Tournament update: Event insurance for \$250 and a liquor license for the event. We are still seeking sponsors for the event.
- h. Annual training week was held 9/2/25-9/5/25 with some in-trainings including Fire Extinguisher training, Active Shooter, Sexual Harassment and Cyber Security.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Personnel Committee Report

Ms. Demsar began with expense claims processed since the August 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. Dr. Wood moved, and Dr. Dumstorff seconded a motion to approve the expense claims. The motion carried.

Ms. Demsar concluded with the following staffing updates:

Health Department staffing updates:

- Ms. Sharita Cummings accepted a Client Services Representative position within the Clinical Services & Systems Division effective September 17, 2025.
- Ms. Rebecca Burke is no longer employed with the health department effective September 3, 2025.
- Ms. Wendy Bradley transferred to a Director of HIV Care & Prevention position effective September 15, 2025.
- Mr. Tanner Kingery transferred to a Director of Infectious Disease Prevention position effective September 15, 2025.
- Ms. Susan Rehrig is no longer employed with the health department effective September 12, 2025
- Ms. Susan Rehrig has contracted with the St. Clair County Health Department effective September 15, 2025 through June 30, 2026 to provide ongoing budget and contract oversight, along with training for the new division directors.

The Health Department is currently seeking to fill:

- One (1) full-time Services Provider – Clinical Services & Systems Division
- One (1) full-time Emergency Response Manager

DIVISION UPDATES:

The Executive Director reported for the Administrative Division and the Accounting Manager reviewed the financial highlights. The Directors of the Environmental Programs, the Clinical Services & Systems (CSS) – Programs, HIV Care & Prevention and Infectious Disease Prevention Divisions reported on the highlights of their respective divisions.

Health Care Commission

Executive Director Blandford reported the HCC met on September 2nd at 9 am. SQP presented the final report from the Community Health Needs Assessment Survey. The next meeting is currently scheduled for November 4th and will. SQP will be presenting at the IPHA meeting in Washington D.C.

W.C. Scrivner Public Health Foundation

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. The PRIDE event is the same day and the health department where we will be offering services from 10 am to 3 pm. Staff will also be participating with a booth at the PRIDE event offering mobile testing.

Illinois Public Health Association

The Executive Director reported they met with Dr. Vohra who reflected on the recent CDC shooting. The next IPHA meeting is on September 25, 2025 and the discussion will focus on the results from the New Transformation initiative.

Medical Society

Dr. Wood reported she is hosting a Wellness event on September 24th from 3 pm to 6 pm.

Nursing

President Thompson also reported seeing a national news story on KSDK about a local (St. Louis) school district where children are not covered for vaccine.

Adjournment

At 7:50 p.m. Mr. Smallheer moved and Ms. Demsar seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The next Board of Health meeting is October 20, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Jennifer Demsar
Board Secretary