

**MINUTES OF THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH held October 21, 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 and Dr. Kelly Wood.

**Members Excused:** William Kreeb, Matt Smallheer 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, 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, 2026 Proposed Budget.

Dr. Dumstorff moved, and Ms. Demsar seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Health held on September 16, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Thompson and Executive Director Blandford reviewed the priorities the Board of Health identified and approved for the 2026-2031 I-Plan at the September Board as the follows:

1. Mental and Behavioral Health
2. Chronic Disease
  - a. Food Insecurity
3. Healthy Lifestyle
  - a. Maternal and Child Health
  - b. HIV/STI

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

**Executive Director Blandford reported the following:**

- a. Respiratory illness for the State is still very LOW, with COVID trending down with the National COVID positivity rate at 6.7% through 9/27/25. Flu is stable and RSV is trending down. It was noted that with the government shutdown, the CDC was not maintaining respiratory statistics.
- b. COVID Vaccine Status: SCCHD has COVID vaccine for all age groups and is administering vaccine under IDPH's standing orders. We will begin administering the vaccine to pregnant people with a prescription. Consent process under review.
- c. H5N1 – CDC is no longer updating. The information can be found on the USDA site.
- d. Measles – There are 1,596 confirmed measles cases as of 10/14/25 over 42 jurisdictions plus 23 travelers, with 3 deaths and 44 outbreaks. Eighty-six (86%) percent of the cases are associated with those outbreaks. Eighty-six (86%) 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.
- e. Data reporting suppression rules are under review. We will update information on our stats reporting.
- f. IAPHA & DHS: There is no continuing resolution and no new grant year money. Current year grant dollars will last through mid-November (18<sup>th</sup>); WIC and SNAP benefits will cease November 1<sup>st</sup>; 2025.
- g. IDPH grant update: IDPH will apply for Rural Health Transformation Grant, which is a \$200 million grant for 5 (five) years and will include Health System transformation and Chronic Disease Campaign.
- h. P & F: IPLAN contractor request: Aldara Henderson is working on an IPLAN draft. We will need a contractor to review for current requirements in case they are different from last time.
- i. Golf Tournament update: We realized a profit of around \$4,000. PRIDE provided an opportunity of outreach. The clinic also provided services and education.

Executive Director Blandford concluded with copies of the 2025 Annual Report for County Board through September 30<sup>th</sup> and a copy of the Q3 Strategic dashboard were included in the BOH packet.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Ms. Demsar began with expense claims processed since the September 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 stated the Executive Director and Accounting Manager have prepared a

budget for 2026. The Executive Director is recommending the Board of Health adopt the budget of \$7,735,533.00 as presented. Ms. Demsar moved, and Ms. Thompson a motion to approve the 2026 Budget. The motion carried.

Ms. Demsar reported that The HIV Care & Prevention Director is requesting up to \$7,100.00 to fund a collaborative social media/marketing campaign for Metro in The Know with a focus to reduce HIV transmission rates and engage HIV positive individuals in medical and support services. SCCHD works in collaboration with the Illinois Public Health Association, SIHF Healthcare, Coordinated Youth & Human Services, East Side Health District, Community Wellness Project, and Madison County Health Department to fund HIV prevention and care messaging. This group utilizes the marketing company Commando, which specializes in LGBTQ advertising. Per prevention funder guidelines, the campaign will target young men who have sex with men, men of color and transgendered individuals. The campaign will run through the FY25 HIV Prevention grant. The Executive Director has reviewed the expense documentation and recommends Board approval. Dr. Nash moved, and Dr. Wood seconded a motion to approve the \$7,100.00 to fund a collaborative social media/marketing campaign for Metro in The Know. The motion carried.

Ms. Demsar continued, the HIV Care & Prevention division did not receive any proposals for emergency housing services from the Request for Proposal (RFP) that ran on September 10, 2025. A second RFP requesting proposals for emergency housing services ran on October 5, 2025. Vendor selection will be brought before the Board at the November 2025 Board of Health meeting.

Ms. Demsar stated the Executive Director seeks to hire a consultant to review/assist with the IPLAN preparation process and submission. A vendor with previous experience preparing and reviewing IPLAN reports will be sought for this task. The total amount requested shall not exceed \$8,500.00. Dr. Wood moved, and Dr. Dumstroff seconded a motion to approve up to \$8,500.00 for an IPLAN consultant. The motion carried.

Ms. Demsar concluded with the following staffing updates:

Health Department staffing updates:

- Ms. Nicole Pomara transferred to the Manager of Emergency Response position effective October 6, 2025.

The Health Department is currently seeking to fill:

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

#### **DIVISION UPDATES:**

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

**Health Care Commission**

Executive Director Blandford reported the HCC is scheduled to meet November 4th at 9 am; However, since SQP will be presenting at the IPHA meeting in Washington D.C. on that date, upon agreement of the HCC, the meeting may be rescheduled to Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.

**W.C. Scrivner Public Health Foundation**

Executive Director Blandford reported the next Scrivner Board meeting is December 2, 2025. Golf tournament and PRIDE event highlights were previously reviewed. The board is continuing plans to host a Glo Bingo in the spring.

**Illinois Public Health Association**

The Executive Director reported the next IPHA meeting is October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

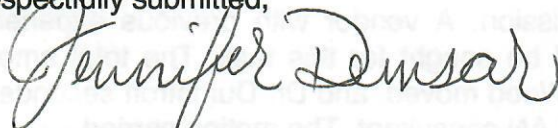
**Nursing**

Ms. Demsar reported that she is seeing the flu vaccine is down for kids.

**Adjournment**

At 7:44 p.m. Dr. Dumstorff moved and Ms. Demsar seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The next Board of Health meeting is November 18, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Jennifer Demsar  
Board Secretary