

CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES

AUGUST 18, 2020

The Crawford County Board of Health met Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 7:00 a.m. at the Robinson Community Center. The following directors were present:

Koert Bartman
Kayla Blank, PharmD
Bonnie Finn
Shannon Goebel
David Rotman, M.D.
Robert Walsh, D.O.

EXCUSED: Guy Rumler
William Schaefer, DDS

OTHERS
PRESENT: Darla Tracy, Certified Public Health Administrator
Jenna Thompson, Nursing Supervisor
Eric Paulin, LEHP, Director of Environmental Health
Amy Marley, Lawrence County Health Department Administrator
Cole Shaner, Crawford County State’s Attorney
Jonathon Goff, Crawford County Board member
Kevin Dart, Crawford County Board member
David Hasty, Prospective Board of Health member
Bobbi Branson, Executive Secretary to the Board of Health

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 07:03 a.m. by Kayla Blank, Chairperson with Mr. Bartman, Mrs. Blank, Mrs. Finn, Dr. Rotman, and Dr. Walsh present at time of roll call.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mrs. Tracy stated the agenda had been revised to include the addition of School Care Coalition and Liaison, Agency Objectives, JCAR discussion under the Environmental Health Report, and the Financial Update included two months.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 30, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Rotman and seconded by Dr. Walsh to approve the June 30, 2020. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

CIRCULATION OF JUNE 30, 2020 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Mrs. Goebel arrived at 7:05 a.m.

Mrs. Blank circulated the June 30, 2020 Executive Session Minutes for Board of Health members to review.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs. Tracy asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF JUNE FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Tracy reviewed the Financial and Expenditure Reports for the month of June, 2020.

A motion was made by Mrs. Goebel and seconded by Dr. Walsh to approve the June, 2020 financial reports as presented. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF JULY FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Tracy reviewed the Financial and Expenditure Reports for the month of July, 2020.

A motion was made by Dr. Walsh and seconded by Mrs. Goebel to approve the July, 2020 financial reports as presented. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL CARE COALITION AND LIAISON

Mrs. Thompson discussed ongoing collaboration with the schools. She reported she serves on a committee for CUSD#2 that has been meeting weekly with subcommittees to best prepare for the school year with best practices in place. She stated she and Mrs. Marley will be meeting with Mr. Patchett from Oblong School District, as they would like assistance as well.

Mrs. Thompson explained the department works closely with Lawrence County Health Department regarding communicable diseases as many cases overlap the two counties. She stated the department has contracted a nurse practitioner through Lawrence County Health Department to assist the schools via telehealth and in person one day a week.

Mrs. Marley explained a nurse practitioner who specializes in pediatrics will provide school linked health care this year. She explained the school-based clinics will help identify, mitigate, and prevent spread. She stated the main objective is to keep children in in-person learning as long as possible.

Mrs. Marley stated kiosks will be located inside the schools for the children to have direct access to the nurse practitioner for telehealth. Additionally, school nurses will be trained to do rapid tests for Strep, Influenza, etc. on site to immediately eliminate other illnesses. She noted the nurse practitioner can provide required school physicals on site if necessary and will also help identify anxiety in children and staff members and monitor their mental wellbeing. She stated Lawrence County Health Department's Behavioral Health will offer services for Robinson schools as well.

Mr. Bartman inquired if the department would be sharing the cost of this service.

Mrs. Marley stated a contract or memorandum of understanding would be developed.

Mrs. Thompson announced a question and answer forum between Crawford County Health Department, Lawrence County Health Department, Crawford Memorial Hospital and Community Unit #2 School District and parents will be held Thursday evening.

CONTACT TRACING GRANT

Mrs. Tracy announced the department received a one-year Contact Tracing grant in the amount of \$817,632. She stated all single county health departments received this amount with very specific items to apply for. She reported this is the largest grant the department has received in her nearly twenty-seven years.

Mrs. Thompson explained the contact tracing process to identify and isolate positive cases to prevent spread.

Mrs. Tracy noted a large portion of the funds can be used for infrastructure. She reviewed expenses covered by the grant including personnel, equipment, an SUV, office supplies, contractual services, a new phone system, a mobile trailer workspace with up to six offices, staff training, etc.

Mrs. Tracy reported the department has hired a behavioral health staff member and a fiscal assistant, but is still looking for a contact tracing registered nurse. She stated all staff will receive training in contact tracing and a hazard pay allotment.

Mrs. Tracy stated she wanted to inform the Board of what was included and approved in the Contact Tracing grant as she would like Board approval to purchase the items as soon as possible. She stated only items that will be grant reimbursed will be purchased.

A motion was made by Mrs. Goebel and seconded by Mrs. Finn to approve Mrs. Tracy to purchase items lined out in the contract grant and move forward with those. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENT/MODIFICATIONS

Mrs. Tracy stated the Contact Tracing grant allows \$130,000.00 in building improvement/modifications. She noted the FY'20 budget included funds to go toward remodeling the front reception area, but this is now covered through the Contact Tracing grant and will improve design flow and social distancing as well as the installation of security doors and a security system.

Mrs. Blank noted a motion was not necessary for this agenda item as the expense was covered in the preceding Contact Tracing grant motion

ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT NOTICE

Mrs. Blank stated Mrs. Tracy has announced her retirement to be effective January 7, 2021.

A motion was made by Dr. Rotman and seconded by Dr. Walsh to accept Mrs. Tracy's retirement notice. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF SALARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Blank appointed Mrs. Goebel, Dr. Schaefer, and herself to serve on the Salary Committee with Dr. Walsh to serve as alternate.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 30, 2020 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Rotman and seconded by Dr. Walsh to approve the June 30, 2020 Executive Session Minutes. Upon roll call, motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY OBJECTIVES

Mrs. Tracy asked that everyone review the agency objectives for the first and second quarter of 2020 at their convenience and contact her regarding questions.

NURSING REPORT

Mrs. Thompson reviewed the nursing report for the month of July. She noted in addition to the contact tracing completed for COVID, there had been a recent Hepatitis outbreak to investigate.

Mrs. Thompson reported the achieved WIC caseload increased to 93% in July.

Mrs. Goebel inquired as to when regular flu vaccine clinics will begin. Mrs. Thompson stated the department plans to begin October 1, 2020 and noted CDC recommends everyone be vaccinated by the end of October. She stated the department will offer as many drive-through clinics as possible.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT/JCAR

Mr. Paulin reviewed the Environmental Health report for the month of July.

Mr. Paulin discussed Governor Pritzker's ruling passed by JCAR involving mask compliance. He noted the department has already received a complaint that he will need to discuss with the State's Attorney.

Mr. Shaner stated these complaints will be addressed on a case by case basis and told staff to call him at any time. He stated it is difficult to enforce or punish a business for the acts of someone in their store. He stated if someone does not comply with personal business rules, the business can call the police to have them talk to the individual or have health

department staff talk to the person. Mr. Shaner stated if the person still refuses to leave, the police can issue a citation and it will go to Mr. Shaner for him to decide what to do.

Mr. Bartman stated he does not want the health department to be the enforcer.

Mr. Shaner stated if an individual is told to leave for not complying with the store rules the owner can call the police and if they still refuse to put a mask on at that point they would be trespassing.

ADVISEMENTS

RETIREMENT

Mrs. Tracy announced Mrs. Finn has decided to retire from the Board of Health after twenty-one years. Mrs. Tracy stated she has been a wonderful board member and chairperson and will be greatly missed. Mrs. Tracy presented Mrs. Finn with a plaque in honor of her retirement.

Mrs. Tracy introduced Mr. Hasty as a prospective Board of Health member to fill Mrs. Finn's position.

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Mrs. Tracy reported the Receptionist/WIC clerk position and Receptionist/Behavioral Health Clerk position have been filled. She stated the department is still searching for a Registered Nurse Contact Tracer.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mrs. Tracy stated in addition to the counseling and psychiatric nurse practitioner appointments Lawrence County Health Department provides at the department, they began providing substance abuse counseling in August in individual and group sessions. She stated Catholic Charities has also returned to the department for in person counseling one to two days a month.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Mrs. Tracy recommended Board meetings be held at 7:00 a.m. at the Robinson Community Center for the remainder of the year; Board members present agreed.

Mrs. Tracy stated she would present the budget at the next meeting and would appreciate Board member attendance.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Bartman stated he wanted to make sure the health department works with people in the county and keeps good communications.

Mrs. Goebel expressed appreciation on behalf of the Robinson school system. She stated there has been a great amount of work and preparation that has gone into planning and she has not heard anything but excellent comments on the school side for the department helping prepare and recommend solutions. She added it has been very overwhelming and ever changing and the school appreciates everything the health department has done to assist.

Dr. Rotman stated the public needs to be made aware that they need to stay home when ill and added education is key.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Dart questioned why bad flu outbreaks have not been treated the way COVID-19 has. Dr. Rotman stated there is treatment for influenza, but not for this virus. He stated New York had a flu epidemic at the same time as COVID and it was very deadly. Mrs. Thompson stated the health department has educated the public for years on how serious influenza is and have worked with influenza outbreaks. She stated the department promotes flu vaccinations because the flu is deadly. Mrs. Goebel stated there have been serious flu incidences in the last couple of years with children out of school one to two weeks. She noted they have been kept home to prevent spread.

Mrs. Marley stated the Communicable Disease divisions of health departments follow the same procedures with COVID as influenza and other communicable diseases.

Mr. Goff questioned if the health department had access to Apple's Coronavirus Tracker. Mrs. Thompson stated the department does not have access to this information and stated to her understanding that is a feature users must activate if they wish to use it.

Mr. Goff stated he wanted to clear the air and expressed he and Mr. Dart have no grudge with the health department or the Board. He stated what happened a few months ago was unfortunate. He stated when business owners contacted them very upset, they felt it was their job to be the voice of the people they represent. He stated it is unfortunate that it escalated the way that it did and that he wants to work together, communicate well, and have a good relationship. Mrs. Blank expressed her appreciation to Mr. Goff for his comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 a.m.

_____, **Secretary** **Date:** _____