

Kankakee County Health Department
Regular Meeting
November 17, 2022

Members Present: Mr. Antonio Carrico, Mr. Rodney Gustafson, Mrs. Neelie Panozzo, Dr. Edward Kent Frye, Dr. Olatunji Akintilo, Mr. Jim Johaneck, Ms. Kathryn Hamblen, Dr. Syreeta Jones

Members Absent: Dr Jeffrey Long

Staff Present: Mr. John Bevis, Ms. Nicole Finnegan, Mr. Keith Wojnowski

Others Present: Pedro Gonzalez, Sara Gonzalez, Diane Cinnamon, John Coghlan

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carrico at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion to approve the November 17, 2022, agenda was made by Mrs. Panozzo, seconded by Mr. Johaneck, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Panozzo to accept the October 13, 2022, Board of Health minutes, seconded by Dr. Frye, the motion passed unanimously.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

Mr. Bevis announced that we have received one resignation from a CSR that is going back to school. We currently have 4 openings, a Public Health RN, an LPN, an RN Case Manager, and Health Promotion Coordinator.

DIVISION REPORTS

Client Services

Mr. Bevis gave an update on our clinic services, confirming that we have had our second positive case of Monkeypox. We continue to hold Tuesday/ Thursday walk in COVID and Flu clinics from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for all vaccines and age groups. We have now begun administering the pediatric vaccine for 6 months-5 years old for Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. We also now have Novavax for anyone who wants to be vaccinated for the first time. We also have Pfizer and Moderna Bivalent Boosters that contain the Omicron and BA5 variants as these are the prevailing strains showing up in current positive cases now for ages 5 years and up. Our Flu clinics have been well attended and we have vaccinated more than we can recall from the past 10 years.

We have also been involved with some great events in our community. On October 22nd we participated in the United Way Strong Neighborhoods "Family Skate" Fall Fest at the Community Cup Church parking lot. We were able to provide education to the community on family and health services that we provide.

Administrators Report

Mr. Bevis reported that we have 34,580 confirmed cases of COVID-19. An increase of 540 cases from last month and an average of 20 new cases per day. We have reported a total of 381 deaths attributed to Covid, an increase of 3 deaths from last month. We are considered low for community transmission and our fully vaccinated rate for Kankakee County is 51.055%. People considered high risk are recommended to get vaccinated, wear masks indoors in areas of high risk spread, stay home if sick, get tested and wash hands frequently.

Mr. Bevis announced that November is Prematurity Awareness Month and National Family Caregivers Month. It is also American Diabetes Month. We have and will continue to post information on our social media to provide education and resources for these and many other relevant topics including Holiday Food Safety for Thanksgiving.

Lastly, we will be celebrating the retirement of Sharon V. our Environmental Health DOM who is leaving after 33 years of service to the Health Department, County and citizens of Kankakee.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Financials

Mr. Bevis updated the board on September 2022 financials. For September, we should be at 83.3% of the year. For our grant revenues, we only received \$137,290.90 in September. These were a couple of the DHS grants for July & August 2022. Our interest received continues to be higher, and due to the rates, we received almost \$4200 in interest in September. Under the "miscellaneous income" line item, that is for \$15,000 we received in POP training earlier this year. Total revenue for the year through September 30 is at \$3,470,386.88, which translates into approximately 68% for the year.

On the expense side for September, we are underspent for Personnel and Fringe at 74.67%, due to the openings we have not yet been able to fill. Our Operational expenses are under budget at 54.36%, with total expenses at 63.42% for the year thus far. Overall, we are still underspent by about \$228,000. However, there are some revenue dollars that we had received in advance for 4 of the grants (Genetics, Covid Response, Covid Mass Vax, and Tobacco), but have not yet been spent, so as December nears, the expenses will catch up with the revenues received.

For our cash on hand, interest rates have continued to increase, and that's true for both the money market and the IPTIP as well, combined with the checking account interest, totaled just about \$4200 for September. Our checking account is higher this month which is typical in September with the closing out of the previous fiscal year in grants, and with the property tax payment due dates and distributions. Total Cash on Hand is \$3,753,791.07 as of 9/30/2022. After some questions and discussion from the Board on how to read and understand the monthly financials, a motion was made by Mr. Akintilo to approve the September 2022 Financials, seconded by Dr. Jones, the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

There was some discussion and questions at our last meeting regarding picking a slate for 2023 Election of Board of Health Officers because we had just recently elected new officers based on two members in office not being reappointed. Our slate unanimously agreed that they would like to recommend keeping our current officers in place. After it was determined there were no new floor nominations, a role call vote was taken to keep the current officers in place, which passed unanimously. Mr. Carrico will remain our President, Dr. Jones as Vice President, and Mr. Johanek as Secretary.

Mr. Bevis gave an update on the parking lot repair. After some discussion, the board mutually agreed that we should break the bid into two parts, one for the front and one for the back. Mr. Bevis indicated that he will be in touch with Mr. Greer to coordinate both bids and we will have a bid opening at our January Board of Health meeting, with the hope that this project will be completed in the Spring.

Mr. Carrico gave an update on the progress he has made since last meeting in regards to introducing a program that can help educate the public on Cardiovascular death by providing education to decrease cardiovascular deaths in our county while partnering with Bob Gessner, Riverside, and the Health Department. Mr. Carrico indicated that he would like to know if Board members have interest in volunteering their time to speak about nutrition, exercise, and stress management. Mr. Johanek was interested in hearing more about the opportunity with Mr. Gessner and how it can help with the addiction problem in our county. Dr. Frye also indicated he was interested in the Opioid addiction issue and Mr. Carrico explained that he would be meeting with the drug court on December 1st to discuss a proposal for using the seed method as a replacement for their current needle acupuncture program to help combat addiction for the inmates. As more updates become available Mr. Carrico will continue to share how we can collaborate with other organizations to help with both Cardiovascular and addiction concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Carrico explained that in an effort to prevent any future issues with election of officers going forward, he wanted to look into the bylaws being changed. Currently, we select officers and then as we lose members we have to vote new members and re-elect. There was some discussion if we could change the dates and the language so that there are no other issues in the future. It was discussed that this was a very rare occurrence in which two of our longstanding members who also held office were not re-appointed which has never happened. Through discussion, it was determined that if you are appointed, you serve until you are replaced and there could be an overlap. The board itself appoints by election and if you are just filling a vacancy it will not count against you for your two terms. Mr. Coghlan explained that the Statute prevails, and we are not able to change the bylaws, therefore it was mutually agreed to keep doing what we are doing as it seems unnecessary to change language when this was a very rare situation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Dr. Jones made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Mrs. Panozzo and passed unanimously.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by,

Mr. Jim Johaneck, Secretary

Minutes Reviewed by, Mr. John Bevis, MPH, Public Health Administrator

Minutes prepared by, Ms. Nicole Finnegan, HR Administrative Coordinator