

Kankakee County Health Department  
Regular Meeting  
May 16, 2024

Members Present: Mr. Antonio Carrico, Mr. Jim Johaneck, Dr. Jeffery Long, Dr. Syreeta Jones, Mr. Rodney Gustafson,  
Dr. Edward Kent Frye, Ms. Neelie Panozzo

Members Absent: Dr. Olatunji Akintilo, Ms. Kathryn Hamblen

Staff Present: Mr. John Bevis, Mrs. Jennifer Gaddis

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

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

A Motion to approve the May 16, 2024, agenda was made by Dr. Long, seconded by Mr. Gustafson, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Johaneck to accept the April 11, 2024, Board of Health minutes, seconded by Dr. Long, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **EMPLOYEE INFORMATION**

Mr. Bevis reported that we have hired a Contractual Grant Program Specialist, and he will be starting next week. Mr. Bevis also reported that we have had 2 resignations and a retirement this month. Glynis Cailteux, MCH Coordinator will be retiring effective 6/12/24, Stephanie Lutes, EH DOM's last day will be 6/30/24 and Ashleigh Baker, RN for CD's last day will be 6/24/24. We currently have postings for Public Health RN, Public Health LPN, EH DOM and MCH Coordinator.

#### **DIVISION REPORTS**

##### *Client Services*

Mr. Bevis shared that there was not much new to update for Client Services. There are several grants renewing. The Family Case Management Grant is indicating it may reintroduce deliverables that have been paused due to Covid and we are still learning what that means for the grant and staffing. They only provided a couple of weeks' notice statewide.

##### *Environmental Health*

Mr. Wojnowski shared that it is Fair and Festival season. Environmental staff inspect all vendors. This keeps staff busy. Last year there were 577 temporary permits issued and more is expected this year with the addition of the Boat Races returning. Mr. Carrico informed the board that the permit was issued for the upcoming River Dredging. No specific dates yet for that.

##### *Administrators Report*

Mr. Bevis reported that there have been a lot of Social Media postings about upcoming events, NARCAN, Vector diseases such as ticks and mosquitoes. He also reported that KCHD attended several local events this past month including, Healthy Kids Fair, RMC Baby Fair, Genesis Church Fair for Migrants, St Paul Lutheran Migrant Fair, Mental Health event at the Farmers Market and more. Events coming up include Trauma and Resilience Summit and an onsite

Car Seat event and a reminder about the radio show and the success we have had so far with sharing our programs with the community.

Mr. Bevis reported on two press releases recently. The first one was on H5N1. To date it is primarily affecting dairy cattle. However there has been 1 human case in the country. There are several dairy farms who have tested positive, and cattle are being treated. There have been no cases in Illinois. There are no dairy farms currently in Kankakee County. A conversation was had about milk safety. It was shared that the pasteurization process kills the virus. The second press release was about the Cracker Barrel Salmonella outbreak. The restaurant closed voluntarily for cleaning and maintenance. Restaurant management is working well with us and IDPH to do what is needed. This is not a typical outbreak. Typically, it is several cases all at once. In this instance it was multiple cases over a longer period. The board asked questions about safety, timeline, what the restaurant is doing. Mr. Bevis answered all questions and stated that the restaurant is going above and beyond what is required of them.

Mr. Carrico asked about the billboards, specifically the genetics billboard and its relevance. Mr. Bevis explained that the Genetics program is designed to help educate parents on a variety of topics such as the importance of looking at the newborn screening results to ensure early treatment for conditions. Early detection and treatment can improve the quality of life for a child. Mr. Carrico asked questions about the Mental Health Event at the Farmer Market. Mr. Bevis shared that it was specifically an event by Pledge for Life. There were several vendors there, and we were happy to collaborate with them on such an important issue in our community.

Mr. Carrico then asked about what KCHD is doing to help the homeless population in the county. Mr. Bevis reported that he is on the Homeless Taskforce the Continuum of Care Committee. Mr. Carrico mentioned that the Mental Health Court has applied for a grant to help support those with mental health issues and hopefully that will be a good resource.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

### *Financial Status*

Mr. Carrico instructed the Board to refer to the Financials in the Board packets and asked if there were any questions. Board members asked questions about rental income. Mr. Bevis reported that rental income is received quarterly. A motion was made by Mr. Johaneck to approve the March 2024 Unaudited Financials, seconded by Mr. Gustafson, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Bevis discussed with the Board that they had previously made changes to the Administrative Salary structure. With Mrs. Cailteux's departure, it was determined that the Administrative position had not been changed in October 2023. A motion was made by Mr. Gustafson to approve the Administrative Salary Adjustment Proposal, seconded by Mr. Johaneck, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Carrico wanted to have a discussion regarding the Community Health and Wellness Program. The proposal was shared with the Board previously and asked if anyone had any ideas or changes. No one voiced any need for changes. Mr. Carrico stated that he will have it put on next months agenda along with a presentation that will highlight the importance of the program its goals. There will be no funds needed for this as presenters will volunteer their time, however, there has been discussion about applying for ARPA funds should any unforeseen expenses arise.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board Mr. JohaneK moved to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gustafson and passed unanimously.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by,

Mr. Jim JohaneK, Secretary

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

Minutes prepared by, Mrs. Jennifer Gaddis, Assistant Coordinator Client Services