

Ripley County Health Department

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October 6, 2022 5:00 p.m.

Ripley County Health Board Meeting Minutes

HEALTH BOARD MEMBERS Present:	Jason Smith, Chairman
Suzanne Martini, M.D., Health Board Member	Cynthia Lauber, NP, Health Board Member
Donna Pitts, Health Board Member	Lynn Fledderman, Health Board Member
Jarred Meinders, Health Board Member	
STAFF Members Present:	
David J. Welsh, M.D., Health Officer	Candy Guenther, Public Health Nurse
Sara Bowling, CoAg School Liason	Lexi Bushhorn, Administrator, MCH/PHEP
Missy Byrd, Public Health Assistant	
Public:	
Deanna Youngman, MMH	Student

1. **Call To Order:** The Ripley County Board of Health meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m., presided by Jason Smith, Chairman.
2. **July 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes:** The Ripley County Board of Health received the minutes prior to the meeting via email. Lynn Fledderman moved to approve the Minutes: Cindy Lauber seconded the motion; on call of the roll, motion carried.
3. **Health Officer's Report: Dr. Welsh**
 - Dr. Welsh reported he is proud of the local health department. The department has a real positive presence. What is shared on social media is easy to share on his personal page because they make him look great. The department has been working extremely close to schools.
 - Dr. Welsh reported that cold weather is around the corner. Remember to help your neighbors. Preventive measures for all illnesses are very similar. Remember to check the property for standing water as mosquitos populate there.
 - Dr. Welsh reported that luckily Ripley County is not a hotspot for Monkeypox. He has been working closely with the Public Health Commission. There are positive changes coming in all

aspects. Ripley County is planning to move as a district as they have always worked closely with surrounding counties. Ripley County Health Department will start on becoming accredited and moving in the direction needed to get there.

- i. Dr. Martini- Who all is in our District?
- ii. Lexi- It depends on which department we are referring to- For preparedness, Dearborn, Decatur, Jefferson, Jennings, Clark, Scott, Ohio, Switzerland, Harrison, Franklin, and Floyd County. For other divisions, there are different counties.
 - Cindy Lauber- How are the STDs outbreak?
 - Lexi Bushhorn/Deanna Youngman- there have been an uptick in chlamydia and gonorrhea in the past few months. We are starting to see younger individuals as well.

4. Old Business:

A. Nurses Update

- Candy Guenther reported that the flu vaccine effectiveness is 40-60%. There is a supply of 173.5 million doses and 91.24 million doses have currently been distributed. There are 4 strains of flu that are being monitored this season. Clinic days are very Thursday from 8:00am-6:00pm. Every 3rd Saturday of the month from 8:00am-12:00pm. This is for all vaccines. We have been in the community a lot doing outreach.

B. MCH Update

- Lexi Bushhorn reported that she is noticing an issue in the district. Since January, there have been referrals for more than 5 individuals who are 12 years or younger who are pregnant/expecting. She is looking for ideas to provide education to the younger individuals and the parents. Other than the issue, the safe sleep program is really taking off and the car seat program is also very successful. RCHD did receive their car seat shipment from ICJI and currently have car seats on hand.

C. Environmental Update

- Lexi Bushhorn reported that the housing investigation is still ongoing. There is progress being made at the home, but it will take time for it to be livable again. For food division, the fair, pumpkin show, and the shoot all went well. Septic is also moving forward very well; it is starting to get busy as the end of season is near. Department employees- Megan Meyers, Missy Byrd, & Lexi Bushhorn attended the IEHA Conference and learned many new tools to bring back to Ripley County!

D. Harm Reduction Update

- Missy Byrd reported that the office looked into the Let's Get Checked more in detail and are having a difficult time trying to find out how to receive the toolkits and testing for free for the community. For SHARP collections, there were 34 brought in and 30 that were distributed. There were approximately 3,205 needles taken in safely. RCHD distributed 113 condoms, 35 hygiene kits, and 30 drug test kits. 26 Naloxones were given to volunteer fire department due to theirs expiring. The Naloxboxes are currently full with 8 in each box.

E. Vital Records Update

- Missy Byrd reported that there is an issue getting communication from IDOH. The office is having a hard time filing a delayed birth certificate for an individual needing to get into a nursing home.

F. Vehicle Purchase

- Lexi Bushhorn reported that she is looking to move forward with the Health Maintenance funds to purchase a vehicle. She asked for suggestions from the board for what type of vehicle. The vehicle purchased will be large enough for hauling and the department to fit for trainings and will be AWD or 4WD. Lexi stated that she will discuss with the commissioners how the maintenance of the vehicle will be.

5. New Business:

A. Health Department's Salaries

- Lexi Bushhorn presented the current salaries, proposed salaries, and approved salaries. This was requested to be discussed by Donna Pitts and Jason Smith. Lexi had told the board what had happened with Ripley County Council hearings and that in the end, a 5% raise was approved.

B. 2023 Meeting Dates

- The proposed meeting dates for 2023 Meeting dates were all agreed on and will be as followed: 01/10/2023, 04/11/2023, 07/11/2023, and 10/10/2023 at 5:00pm

C. Appointments

- Jason Smith stated that there are a few board members who will need reappointed by December. Jason and Lexi are going to look into the initial appointment dates.

6. Public Comments


- Margaret Mary Health-** Deanna Youngman presented for MMH she reported that the CDC made changes in their guidance on a Friday. There is now internal discussion in regards to lifting restrictions. Since late August, they have had at least 1 flu positive. It is projected that RSV is going to be high this season as there is already an uptick. Out of the 4 positive patients for RSV, 3 were sent home and 1 was transferred to Children's. After 2.5 years, it is difficult to imagine lifting masking completely especially when there are still respiratory illnesses. Deanna is looking forward to working with Lexi in trying to combat the chlamydia, gonorrhea, and teen pregnancy education.

D. Adjournment: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn; on call of the roll, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m. Donna Pitts moved the motion, Dr. Martini seconded the motion; on the roll of the call, motion carried.

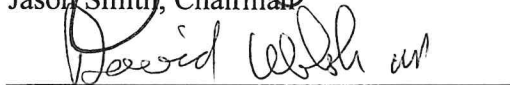
E. Next Meeting- 1.10.2023

Respectfully submitted,

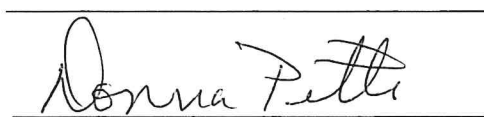
Lexi Bushhorn, Administrator, Maternal Child Health Coordinator, Preparedness Coordinator



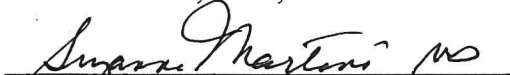
 Jason Smith, Chairman



 David J. Welsh, M.D., Health Officer



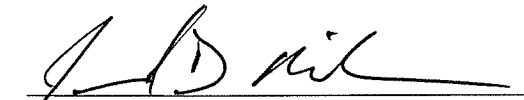
 Donna Pitts, Pharmacist

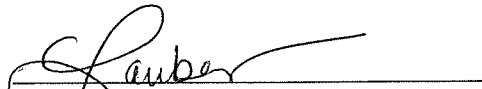


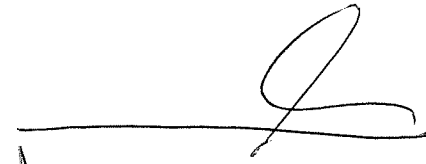
 Suzanne Martini, M.D.



 Lynn M. Fledderman, Attorney


Jarred Meinders


Cynthia Lauber, RN


Amy Gleser-Capen