

Clinton County Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
March 2, 2021

**Board of Health Members Attending:**

Brian Klostermann, Chairperson  
Terry Linton, SLP, Secretary  
Paulette Evans, RN- Vice Chairperson  
Robert Hyten III, DMD- Treasurer  
Cynthia Kues, NP  
Kimberly Hugo, RN  
Stacy Albers, RN  
Deanna DuComb, MD  
James White- Voting County Board Member  
Deb Wesselmann- Ex Officio  
Bob Netemeyer- Ex Officio  
Mike Strleker - Ex Officio

**Others In Attendance:**

Chris Leldel, CCHD  
Marlon Voss, CCHD  
Bryan Hunt, Breese Journal  
Larry Johnson, Clinton County Board  
Todd Marver, Union Banner

**Call to Order**

The March 2, 2021, meeting of the Clinton County Board of Health was called to order by Dr. Brian Klostermann via google at 6:03 PM.

**Hearing from the public**

There was no one who wished to address the board.

**Minutes Approval-**

**January 5, 2021 Executive Session Minutes**

The minutes of the January 5, 2021 executive session were presented. Cindy Kues made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Ducomb with changes as noted. Motion carried unanimously.

**February 2, 2021 Minutes**

The minutes of the February 2, 2021 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Terry Linton to approve the minutes, seconded by Paulette Evans. Motion carried unanimously.

**Administrative and Financial Report**

Chris Leldel reported vaccine rollout has been slow in the past weeks, largely due to 2nd doses being needed. The Department has received an ultra cold freezer so that we can now receive

Pfizer vaccines and have appropriate storage for them. There have been no problems getting the second doses. Johnson and Johnson's vaccine was approved last Friday, and we are expecting a shipment soon. We have vaccinated 8.73% of our population as of today. Those residents who are immunocompromised have now been added to the 1B, part 2 list for vaccines. We have added a Spanish Speaking portion to the sign up list. Our auditor recommends increasing the levy for the Health Department to 6% this year.

James White asked why should we increase our levy? Chris Leidel stated that it is to offset the cost of the new building and possible new programs. Chris will check with the auditor to see if there needs to be a vote to increase the levy.

James White stated he is opposed to increasing the levy, especially during Covid when businesses were not able to be open.

Deb Wesselmann stated we need to consider financing mental health, because businesses have closed down and she feels it is very important that we put aside monies for mental health- at what point will we need the money, and then we may have to wait for it, and the mental health issues can snowball while we are waiting for the money.

James White stated that he is opposed to raising a levy for 'services to be determined', especially when we don't know the cost yet.

Dr. Ducomb stated that we are supposed to 'keep up with our levy' but we got behind on increasing our levy under past administration. We had a lot of overtime for Covid, and our budget reserve was eaten up by that, but we were fortunate to receive grants to supplement our reserves.

James White feels it is important to be able to document the need for the funds before we levy a higher percentage. In addition, the County pays insurance and utilities, and he feels the Board of Health and the County Board should get together to discuss where the monies will come from and how they will be used.

Chris Leidel reiterated that the auditor was simply stating how we can raise the levy- he does not necessarily recommend we do this. Chris will check on when we need to increase the levy, if that's what is decided.

Larry Johnson also suggested that Chris discuss this with the State's Attorney. The Board of Health uses the same auditor as the County Board.

Marian Voss noted we didn't increase our taxes when Cheryl Lee was the administrator.

Larry Johnson again asked if the Board of Health could meet with the County Board to discuss who will pay for what with the building.

Marion Voss stated she feels we are missing out on funds since we haven't increased our levy.

Dr. Ducomb noted we are hoping to expand our services, and we may need a levy to support those services.

Dr. Klostermann noted that we should then set up a meeting with key individuals from both the County Board and the Health Board to make some decisions about funding.

Chris reported that our Region positivity rate is 4.4% and our counties rate is now 1.8%. 5,544 positive cases have been reported in the County to date.

Kim Hugo noted she had seen an article in the paper regarding several cases at the County Jail, but they have stopped. She wondered if the outbreak was affecting the housing at the jail?

James White noted 23/35 of the inmates had tested positive, but the situation has improved now. The Health Department did the testing for the inmates and did supply extra PPE to the jail.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business this evening.

#### **Old Business**

##### **a. Building Committee Update**

Dr. Ducomb noted that we have had concerns noted with the recent bidding for surveyors for the new building.

James White noted we need to get a professional services contract with a local provider. He feels we should go through the proper procedures working with the State's Attorney to get the bids.

Dr. Ducomb stated Mr. Karasek is ready to begin, but the survey is holding up the process.

#### **Executive Session**

There was no need for executive session this evening.

#### **Adjournment**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2021 in the County Board Room with a Zoom option. Terry Linton made a motion to adjourn, seconded by James White, motion approved unanimously.