

Clinton County Board of Health Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2021

Board of Health Members Attending

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

Also Attending

Chris Leidel, CCHD
Louise McMinn, CCHD
Brian Hunt, Breese Journal
Jennifer Steinkamp, Zoom
Ken Knolhoff, citizen

Call To Order

The September 7, 2021 meeting of the Clinton County Health Board was called to order at 6:00 PM. This meeting was also accessible via ZOOM.

Hearing From The Public

There was no one who wished to address the board this evening.

Minutes of August 3rd, 2021 Meeting / Executive Session August 3rd, 2021 Meeting

The minutes of the August 3, 2021, were presented and there were 3 minor corrections, which will be corrected and resubmitted. Terry Linton made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Paulette Evans. Motion passed unanimously.

The executive session minutes of 8-3-21 were presented. A motion was made by Terry Linton, seconded by Cindy Kues to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Administrative / Financial Report

Chris Leidel presented the budget dated June, 2021. He explained that the health department must spend the monies allotted for grants, and then are later reimbursed, so month to month financials may appear to show losses in specific budgets due to the lapse in reimbursement. We have received a flu prevention grant for about \$25,000, and we can use up to \$12,000 for a generator, which could be used to keep power to maintain vaccines stored at the health department to prevent loss. For \$16,000, we could obtain a larger generator which could be used in the new building, which could run the entire building. We did have a power outage last year resulting in the loss of vaccine stores. Chris is working with Oakley to get bids for this. We can only apply \$12,000 toward the purchase of a generator through

the flu prevention grant, but could use an additional \$4,000 from other funds. Chris Leidel also stated we store breast milk, which could be lost. Chris has been in touch with facilities department, specifically Chris White, to ask for their input regarding the purchase of a generator, temporary set up in the old building, to be moved to the new building after construction. Oakley representative noted that the smaller generator would be able to run the whole building except for air conditioning, and the smaller generator is currently 8% off until this week Thursday. Ken Knolhoff (Clinton County Board – Facilities Dpt.) has been working with Oakley from Okawville, Illinois to obtain bids.

Paulette Evans asked if we could get bids for the larger generator to get a price locked in. Chris Leidel is meeting with Oakley this week and will get bids for the larger generator. Ken Knolhoff noted that Oakley would not get the small generator in until January if we purchase the smaller one.

Dr. Klostermann noted that vaccines were lost at about \$10,000 due to a weekend power outage last spring. The Health Department must reimburse the state for these losses.

Region 4 positivity 6.4%

Clinton County Positivity 5.2%

112 positives in past 7 days

6, 580 positive countywide to date

Test sites are still busy with about 100 people testing per day, 4 days a week, from 9 AM to 11 AM.

Carlyle schools were in a major outbreak and went on remote learning last week and are fully masking currently.

Other schools are not quarantining, but are testing to stay on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 after an exposure. If students are exposed within the school, students may test on days 1, 3, 5, and 7, with parent permission, at school, and with a negative test, universal masking and no symptoms, those students can remain at school.

Dr. Klostermann stated 5.2 is a good positivity rate, and these negative tests are counted within our positivity rate. All tests done in school are being reported to the health department.

Chris Leidel noted that we are seeing a lot of people at our testing size, and this has kept our positivity rate low.

Terry Linton asked if students that are fully vaccinated could be quarantined for close contact. Louise McMinn stated no, they will not quarantine after the 2 week interval following the 2nd dose.

Vaccination clinics are still being held and are well attended. There are questions as to when the Moderna boosters will come out, but Pfizer boosters will begin on September 20, 2021.

James White asked about the total vaccination rate from our county—is the information up to date?

Chris Leidel noted that the reports of vaccinations are made to home residence Health Departments in real time.

Chris Leidel noted that most people should wait 8 months after their shot to get a booster shot, but people who are immunocompromised can get their booster 4 weeks after their second dose.

Dr. Ducomb asked if immunocompromised people can be tested for antibodies?

Dr. Klostermann noted that the generic antibody test does not work to show a positive reaction to the vaccine for this subgroup. He asked if the health department has been getting requests for the Moderna booster? Louise McMinn stated yes, they are getting those calls.

Chris Leidel noted Moderna is a few weeks behind in getting approval for the booster. He stated it will hopefully be available in October, 2021.

Paulette Evans asked if Louise McMinn could add the number of vaccinated vs unvaccinated people when reporting positives. Louise noted that would have to be tracked manually. Louise also stated that without the PCR test, deaths from Covid are reported as 'probable', but not certain deaths from covid. She states she needs to be careful about reporting 'probable' deaths as being covid deaths.

New Business

A. FY22 Budget

Chris Leidel presented the FY22 budget. No additional taxes were requested. He used conservative numbers for revenue. All grants are accounted for in the budget, and we are awaiting approval from the state. We are gaining a mental health grant, no grants were lost. Dr. Klostermann asked about contact tracing expenses and mass vaccination clinics- where would the monies come for those services—will the grants continue?

Chris Leidel the mass vaccination grant ends in November, the tracing grant ends in December. Chris states there are a lot of man hours spent on contact tracing and the remaining \$200,000 will be spent by the end of the year. Chris noted all the health department has pitched in to complete vaccines and contact tracing. Chris noted that the state will have to issue more grants if they want us to continue contact tracing this year. Dr. Klostermann stated if there are no more funding grants for testing we need to consider charging people for the services and possibly limiting our services to only our own Clinton County residents.

James White asked the cost of the testing kits?

Chris Leidel noted we are funded from the state, so no billing occurs currently. If the states stop funding, most health departments will stop the testing.

James White asked at what point do we stop testing as we are entering an endemic stage—just like the flu and other diseases?

Chris Leidel said at that point (endemic stage) testing will go back to private providers.

Administrators have addressed this with IDPH, and there is likely an end in sight as grants will expire in December.

Chris Leidel pointed out that salaries are noted within the budget, with a 4% increase due to current union talks. This number is an estimate at this time.

A motion was made by Cindy Kues, seconded by Terry Linton, motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

A. Building Committee Update

Dr. Ducomb reported. The committee has been working on the mental health area of the building. They are seeking the input of several professionals in the field to design this area. The committee was advised not to go into marital counseling as this is a very unique area of counseling. Several rooms of varying size may be needed to address all needs within the community. Mr. Karasek is working on these suggestions at this time.

James White noted that the current building will likely not be around too long. James White noted the Covid eligible money that is coming into the county is prioritized in part for the new Health Department building. He feels we should turn over the building of this building to the facilities board of the County and allow the health department as advisory to the facilities department. We have a set number of years to build this building. James White noted that the district has put in for 2.5 million for the building.

Chris Leidel noted that in his interactions with Ken Knolhoff, Ken has been very supportive and cooperative to taking the Health Department's needs to heart, and making good recommendations to him.

Paulette Evans asked who else is on the facilities committee? James White noted that the committee is made up of Ken Knolhoff, Mike Strieker, Bryan Wessel, Keith Nordike.

Dr. Klostermann asked if James White could facilitate a meeting between the health building committee and the facilities committee.

Dr. Ducomb stated we need to make sure we have a building that will do what we need it to do.

James White suggested that all plans for the building expenditures (and expenses for utilities , any agreements made between the Health Board and the County Board) should be put in writing. James White stated that the County Board is working with Bellweather to manage the paperwork for the Covid grant, and they are waiting for approval of line items within the Federal grant plan.

Ken Knolhoff stated that when bids are put out, we need to make sure that all bidders are working with the same information and bidding the same thing. He asked if we have plans? Dr. Ducomb showed him the rough draft of the current plans. Ken Knolhoff stated that when the plans are more sure, they would appreciate having copies to the facilities members.

Adjourn

There was no need for executive session. A motion was made by Terry Linton, seconded by James White, motion approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM