

## MINUTES

Linn County Board of Health Meeting

May 27, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Harris Building - Conference Room #234A/B, 1020 6<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Cedar Rapids, IA

Contact: Kim Honn, 892-6000

\*Indicates Action Items

1. Call to Order BOH meeting with a quorum – Mary Tarbox, Chair  
**Dr. Tarbox, Board Chair, established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.**  
**Board Members Present: Mary Tarbox, Karl Cassell, Dr. Levett, Leslie Wright, Heidi Carmer – Legal (Phone) and Kim Honn - Recorder**  
**LCPH Staff Present: Pramod Dwivedi – Health Director, Larry Hlavacek, Jim Hodina, Heather Meador, Dustin Hinrichs and Kyle Lundberg**
2. Recognize Guests – Mary Tarbox
  - **Jennifer Martin – Childcare Nurse Consultant in Linn County**
  - **Diana Strahan – HACAP, MCH Director**
3. Public Comment – Limited to Three Minutes Each  
**None**
4. Approve Agenda \*  
**Motion made to approve agenda as presented.**  
**\*\*MSC Wright/Cassell**
  - BOH member/s excused absences  
**Stacey Walker**
5. Approve May 13, 2020 Minutes \*  
**Motion made to approve May 13, 2020 minutes as presented.**  
**\*\*MSC Levett/Wright**
6. BOH Committee Reports:
  - A. Finance and Administrative Review – Karl Cassell, Committee Chair
    1. April 2020 Finance Statements \*  
**Motion made to approve April 2020 Finance Statements as presented.**  
**\*\*MSC Cassell/Levett**
  - B. Policy and Government Relations Committee – Mary Tarbox, Committee Chair
    1. Discussion associated with a public health subject.  
**Board member Cassell made a motion to write a letter for a support in favor of a dispensary in Linn County. Motion not seconded; motion failed.**
7. Health Director's Report – Pramod Dwivedi
  - **Mr. Dwivedi introduced Mr. Lundberg, Laboratory Supervisor, to the Board because he is retiring after 38 ½ years with public health. With his retirement there will be some realignment with staff.**

- BOS approved a contract with Ethnic Minorities of Burman Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC) to assist our immigration populations with their needs such as food, housing, mental health employment and education. Thanks to Supervisor Walker, this will also LCPH to assist this population to My Care Community for their long term wellbeing.
- Linn County BOS is considering an Ordinance relating to the operation of all terrain vehicles – it has passed two readings already with finally reading will be next week.
- As the county reopens for business, LCPH staff will return to the field to conduct inspection at the various related establishments. Developed requirements for staff to wear PPE while in the field if unable to maintain social distancing and decontaminate upon returning to office.
- Jones County BOH approved and signed the contract for environmental health services for FY2021.
- Multiple air and septic permits are being issued – work is picking up.
- A new majority industry is coming to the area who allegedly makes tissue paper.
- COVID-19 Update
  - Mr. Dwivedi provided COVID-19 updated the numbers as of 10:12 AM today. The staff have been working very hard since March with a reprieve this past weekend.
  - Tracking four long term care facilities, with Heritage totally recovered as of today.
  - Tracking several group homes that serve adults and children with intellectual and developmental mental disabilities and one that works with youth and families.
  - There was some news media about Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in children.
  - Test Iowa: extended through Friday, 5/19, 6AM – 6PM and anyone can be tested
  - Reopening guidance is posted on the LCPH website and staff receiving lots of calls.
  - Contact tracing help: hired 14 local contractors.
  - Also interviewed three CDC Foundation candidates and were recommended to hire. They will be with us for one year.
  - No more weekly press conferences if important information needs to be shared one will be held at that time.
  - Virtual Town Hall meetings are held on certain topics, with the next one on June 5<sup>th</sup> and is about Make It Okay campaign focusing on mental health issues.
  - LCPH is being proactive and working with our partners to be ready for mass vaccination clinics once a vaccine becomes available.

8. Board of Health Attorney Report – Heidi Carmer

**None**

9. Next Meetings:

**Board of Health Meeting – Wednesday – June 24, 2020 at 4:00 PM**

- **Finance & Administrative Review committee meeting June 18, 2020 at 2:00 PM**
- **BOH Policy & Government Relations committee meeting June 18, 2020 at 3:00 PM**

10. Adjourn

**With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 PM.**

**\*\*MSC Cassell/Levett**

*To adhere to social distancing requirements, Linn County employees and the public may participate in this meeting as follows:*

- 1) *Conference call – telephone #1-888-904-9570 Access code 4266846#*
- 2) *Email questions or comments prior to or during the meeting to: [health@linncounty.org](mailto:health@linncounty.org)*

*For questions about meeting accessibility or to request accommodations to attend or to participate in a meeting due to a disability, please contact Linn County Public health at 319-892-6000 or [health@linncounty.org](mailto:health@linncounty.org).*