

Cass County Health Department

BOARD OF HEALTH

November 17th, 2021

The Cass County Board of Health met at the Virginia office of the Cass County Health Department on November 17th 2021. President Amy Parlier called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Board of Health members present were Amy Parlier, Kim Hance, Cathy Gibson, Jennifer Allen, Cecy Reza, Ann Chelette and Zach Flinn.

Health Department employees present were Teresa Armstrong, Dirk Debergh, Tiffany Angelo, Andrew English, Franci Sweetin and Krystal Myers. Robyn McKinley was present to take minutes of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Cathy Gibson and seconded by Ann Chelette to approve the minutes of the October meeting as presented. The motion carried with all in favor.

Approval of financial report

Dirk Debergh, Financial Director, reported that overall all programs are doing well.

Dirk reported accounts receivable dropped about \$80,000 as there have been some issues with the MCO's paying but they are slowly starting to pay. Teresa stated this is a system wide issue, not just with us.

Teresa reported that on the revised budget they included Pike County Health Department, covid tracing grant, mass vaccination grant, IPHCA pandemic navigator grant and the new building.

Dirk went over the monthly graphs with the group.

Administrator's Report

Teresa Armstrong, Administrator, reported that to date (11/16/21), Cass County has 2,715 positive cases of Covid-19, with 43 fatalities and 2,646 individuals recovered and 2 covid positive patients hospitalized. Teresa also noted that Cass County now has 22,318.27 cases per 100,000 people, which remains the highest county per capita average in the State of Illinois. Cass County has finally started to see our cases per week stabilize, as we've had between 14-22 cases in the past five weeks. Our test positivity 7-day rolling average is currently 3.0%, with the region at 3.5%.

Teresa reported that as of November 16, 2021 our State of Illinois numbers stand at 1,747,513 cases and 26,137 confirmed deaths and 2,819 probable deaths.

Teresa reported we currently have no outbreaks. We continue to work with all long term care facilities and schools to contract trace, isolate and quarantine. A-C Central currently has 17 students/staff in isolation or quarantine (with 11 of those doing "test to stay"), Virginia has 5 and Beardstown School has 2. All three school districts are now doing their own weekly testing of unvaccinated staff and all have implemented "test to stay" for those students who are exposed to Covid through a non-household member.

Teresa reported that the Pfizer vaccine has been approved for youth ages 5-11. Evening clinics have been scheduled at all three school districts which are happening this week. Teresa stated that once we have been at each school, all of our regularly scheduled clinics will also offer vaccine to those ages 5-11. Teresa noted that we continue to offer Covid-19 vaccine twice a week through our scheduled clinics as well as pop-up clinics.

Teresa reported that the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson boosters have both been approved. The Moderna booster is approved for those 65 and older, those 18 and older with underlying medical conditions, and those 18

and older who live or work in high-risk settings. The Johnson & Johnson booster is available to anyone who received Johnson & Johnson at least two months prior.

Teresa reported that CCHD has administered over 12,151 doses of Covid-19 vaccine to Cass County residents and others employed in the county and there have been 14,054 administered to Cass County residents as well as 995 booster doses have been given to residents of Cass County.

Teresa noted that to date, Cass County is 53.11% fully vaccinated. Teresa stated that the State of Illinois is at 57.27% of the population fully vaccinated. The Cass County 65 and older population is 81.03% fully vaccinated, those 18 and older are 60.36% fully vaccinated, those 12 and older are 41.93% fully vaccinated and those 5-11 are 00.00%.

Teresa provided a break down by zip code of those fully vaccinated: 62627 (Chandlerville) 38.39%; 62611 (Arenzville) 43.14%; 62612 (Ashland) 47.53%; 62618 (Beardstown) 52.91% and 62691 (Virginia) 56.62%.

Teresa reported that our Emergency Group meeting is on hold. A meeting will be called if we see an increase in covid activity or a change that requires us to meet. Teresa continues to attend several IDPH meetings weekly.

Teresa reported that in other news she is waiting on a closing date for the property in Beardstown. The Project Manager has completed measuring the building and Teresa will be meeting with him on Monday.

See handout.

### Clinic Report

Tiffany Angelo, Clinic Director, reported that Vanessa Thurman has decided to come back as Medical Assistant full time in the Beardstown office. Kimberly Westlake has resigned from her position as phlebotomist/medical assistant due to medical reasons. Tiffany stated that right now we will not be replacing that position and will move Maria back to floating between offices to do labs. Maryia continues to work part time as she continues to take nursing classes. As of January she will start nursing classes 5 days a week and will then move to PRN.

Tiffany reported that Nora has started providing counseling services in JBS this month. Nora is spending half a day a week there right now and it is going well.

Tiffany reported that Erin has stepped down from the behavioral health supervisor. Sarah Seely will be stepping into that role adding some additional admin time at home. Erin will be picking up more time in the Beardstown School, counseling kids and will have flexibility to pick up time at JBS or other school districts as the need arises.

Tiffany reported that testing is still being offered 5 days a week in Virginia and the Beardstown office. We are currently rotating back and forth between locations and adjusting for weather as needed. To date we have completed 5,787 tests in Beardstown with 1,266 positives and 3,453 tests in Virginia with 614 positives.

Tiffany reported that our dental upgrade in our Nextgen software took place on November 11 and is going well.

Tiffany reported that the outreach team was very busy with events in the month of October. During the month our team completed over 50 resource requests and 12 community based referrals. These continue to be focused around food assistance and covid kits. For outreach, the team attended multiple food pantries and/or food pop-up distributions in Cass, Morgan and Mason Counties as well as helped with all of the community flu clinics

Tiffany reported that for the month of October we reported on 8 measures. Of those 8 measures we exceeded our goal or increased from last reporting period on 5 measures. The 3 measures that were not met were Cervical Cancer Screening, Colorectal Cancer Screening and Prenatal Health. Alerts will continue to be placed on the patients charts and staff talked to about the importance of getting these measures completed.

Dental reported on 1 measure: Carries Risk Assessment. This measure was 90% compliance. Amy spoke with the hygienists and stressed the importance of completing a carries risk assessment on all patients between the ages of 6-9.

See handout.

### Environmental Health

Franci Sweetin, Environmental Health Director, reported that there were 5 food establishments that required follow up during their routine inspection.

Franci reported she has received her certification to begin teaching and administering the exam for the Food Service Manager class. Franci noted we hosted our first class on August 16<sup>th</sup> and she has scheduled our next one for December 6<sup>th</sup>.

See handout.

### Quality Assurance

Krystal Myers, Quality Assurance Nurse, reported no changes at this time.

### Public Health Education

Andrew English, Public Health Educator, reported there have been some staffing changes which include the introduction to two new contact tracers while Kim Cooper has transitioned out of Contact Tracing and into Women's Health programming.

Andrew reported that during Fiscal Year 2022 Public Health has contracts for which we are managing, implementing and reporting on the Tobacco Free Communities grant, Ticket for the Cure Breast Cancer grant, Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant, Increasing Access to Well Woman Services grant, Immigrant Welcoming Center grant and Hepatitis B grant. These programs are in addition to the Contact Tracing grant and Mass Vaccination grants that have been extended with end dates still up in the air.

See handout.

### New Business

A motion was made by Zach Flinn and seconded by Cecy Reza to approve the budget revisions. The motion carried with all in favor.

A motion was made by Kim Hance and seconded by Zach Flinn to approve personnel policy revision. The motion carried with all in favor.

### Executive Session

A motion was made by Kim Hance and seconded by Cecy Reza to enter Executive Session at 12:34 p.m. to discuss employee wages.

A motion was made by Zach Flinn and seconded by Jennifer Allen to exit Executive Session at 1:29 p.m.

### Adjournment

Zach Flinn motioned to move forward with option #3 that was presented by Administrator for wage increases and seconded by Jennifer Allen.

Ann Chelette motioned to move forward with a 6% increase to Administrator salary and seconded by Jennifer Allen.

A motion was made by Zach Flinn and seconded by Jennifer Allen to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with all in favor. President Amy Parlier adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robyn McKinley, Admin. Asst.