



## JOHNSON CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Vital Records  
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April 27, 2022

The bi-Monthly meeting of the Johnson County Board of Health was held at the Johnson County Health Department on April 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 7:30 am.

The board members present for the meeting were Dr. James Pease, Chairman, Dr. Michael Pauszek, Tyler Klassen and Amanda Stevenson-Holmes. Those from the Health Department were Dr. Qualls, Health Officer, Betsy Swearingen, Director, Cheryl Snider, Jennifer Warner, Lisa Brown and Jacie Blanford.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:30 am. A motion was made to accept February's minutes by Tyler Klassen and the motion was second by Dr. Pauszek. The minutes were approved.

### Health Officer's Report:

There were hops for a new building for the Health Dept. It was to be on Drake Road over by Johnson Memorial Hospital. The Commissioners have decided to put it elsewhere. Instead of having a new building next year, it may be at least three to five years. They are hoping to relocate the Highway Department and will take the eleven ackers from that area and build a county wide campus.

COVID has calmed down through March. Johnson County has been having two to three cases per day. Now (April) it has elevated to ten to fifteen cases per day. Deaths from COVID are down. Once the cases hit approximately forty five per day, the county will go from the green shade to yellow. We would then decide whether to take action. As long as the numbers stay low, there is no reason to change current strategy.

Dr. Qualls attended a Governors' conference on public health. On a national average Dr. Quall stated our staff is being underpaid. He is trying to encourage our younger people to continue their education and get a master's in public health. IDOS is currently looking for ways to increase pay for workers at the local health department level.

There is avian influenza in a flock in Bargersville.

Overdose and suicides deaths are up. We are on two different task forces to try and turn these numbers around. Fentanyl is a real problem. People do not realize they are getting a more pure or concentrated dose or something that is laced with Fentanyl.

### Nursing Report:

Schools have very low COVID counts at this time.

We have one active case of TB, 17 Latent cases and 14 referrals which mean they are suspect.

Annie is closing out her lead cases as she can. Betsy stated that we were approached yesterday with the proposition of a state lead grant of 72 thousand dollars. With this grant the Health Department can be reimbursed for the cases closed out.

The county health ratings came out for the State of Indiana. Johnson County has come up from ninth rank to sixth. Amanda congratulated the department on its hard work for the community and county. Dr. Pauszek also noted that Dr. Joseph Kenny who lives in Johnson County has been awarded the Community Physician of the year award.

We will be starting Hep C & HIV testing. The nurses will be starting some training in the coming weeks.

In Bargersville a hobby flock of forty one ducks, chickens and peafowl were showing signs of avian flu. As of yesterday they were "depopulating" the flock. Anyone with exposure to the flock will need to be monitored for up to ten days, however, there is a very slim chance of sickness.

#### Environmental:

Jen reported there are 25-30 renovations and building projects of restaurants at present. Food trucks are the trend right now and each one has to be inspected before it can start operation.

Each environmentalist has taken the "Safe Serve" class and have all passed the test.

Septic season is upon us. Our newer environmentalist are taking some training on septic and learning the Presby system and filtration systems.

Pool season has begun. Newer environmentalist have all been certified in pool inspections.

Tattoo inspections continue and some environmentalist have gone to Marion County to do some training with inspections.

#### Emergency management:

##### Preparedness grant:

The new grant starts July 31. A new grant was presented to us from IODS, however, the criteria for the grant asked us to spot check providers of the COVID vaccine which was something we considered beyond our scope of expertise. This grant was turned down.

The Covid clinic will be ending June 30<sup>th</sup>. We have hired a school liaison to complete the grant requirements. She will be helping with Vaccine clinics whether it be COVID or regular childhood vaccinations. She will also be helping school nurses track children who are behind on their vaccines. We will be receiving 24 thousand home test kits.

#### Vital Records:

Cheryl reported a baby was born as a home birth almost a year ago which was not reported in a timely manner. A case worker from Florida called wanting a birth record for this child as she was in state custody. The parents were both in jail and there were people who were waiting to adopt the child, both the grandmother and the aunt were calling trying to get a birth certificate but were giving conflicting stories. There were no witnesses to the birth so the best we could do is get the apartment complex to issue a statement the mother lived there at the approximate time of the birth. After a couple of weeks of trying, we received the statement and required paperwork and a birth record was submitted.

	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Suicides</u>	<u>Drug overdose</u>	<u>Communicable Disease</u>
January	23	122	3	2	21
February	31	112	3	2	8

Jody will be leaving the Health Department sometime in July. Rikki David is being trained to take her place.

**Breast Cancer Awareness for February:**

We were able to provide screening for 10 Ladies through the partnership with St Thomas Clinic in 2021 with funds from the PHEP which is a combination of the Base/CRI Preparedness Grants.

We were awarded the IBCAT Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Grant for \$10 thousand dollars. With the money from this grant we expect to be able to screen over 50 Ladies. We have agreements with our providers to bill us at the Medicare Rates.

We have started planning several events beginning with April 7<sup>th</sup>. In partnership with St. Thomas Clinic, Major Hospital in Shelbyville, and thanks to Dr. Pauszek, the patients will be able to come, have an examination and go directly to have the mammogram. This event was a success couple of years ago, and we are looking forward to the same successes. Our target population is women who are at or below the 250% poverty rate. To fall within these parameters, a person living alone would make under \$720 a week and a family of four \$1,025 a week.

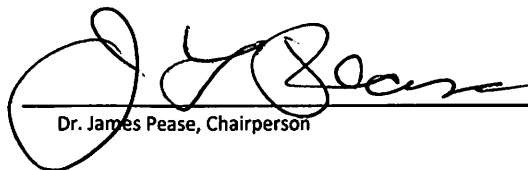
Update – The event at Major Hospital provided exams for 27 ladies and one needed more testing.

**New Business:**

Jaycie reported her interest in the opioid crisis. She reported Johnson County has increased in opioid deaths by 114% in 2020. She has proposed and received commissioner approval to put up community aid boxes where there are drug hotspots. She has become a certified trainer for layperson administration of the Naloxone and has been asked to go to different places to train people on the use of the nasal spray. She has held community training with the Health Department, Indiana Funeral Care and a fire department. Naloxone is a reversal medication which will not work unless there is actual opioids in the patients system.

She asked for the board's approval and support in this endeavor. Amanda Stevenson-Holmes made a motion to place the Naloxone boxes, Dr. Pauszek second the motion, the motion passed.

Meeting was dismissed at 8:15 am.



Dr. James Pease, Chairperson

Date