



JOHNSON CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Vital Records
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December 7, 2022

Johnson County Board of Health Meeting

The Board of Health met on December 7th, 2022 in the conference room of the Johnson County Health Dept.

Those in attendance were Dr. James Pease, Chairperson, Dr. Michael Pauszek, Dr. Steve Stropes, Amanda Stevenson-Holmes, and Jeannette Etnier. Those in attendance from the Health Department were, Dr. Qualls, Betsy Swearingen, Cheryl Snider and Lisa Brown RN.

A motion was made by Dr. Pauszek to approve the October meeting's minutes. Dr. Stropes second the motion. The motion passed.

Health Officer's Report:

There was an article in the Daily Journal concerning the Governor's Public Health Commission. Its focus was on the core of public health. Here in Johnson County we are covering about 90 – 95 percent of that core with our current budget. Dr. Qualls feels the State is creating a bureaucracy so to speak. There are things he would like to implement such as mental health and drug overdose programs. He feels funding would probably help some of the smaller counties around Indiana who do not have the programs the Johnson County has. He feels we could help some of the surrounding counties with what we have with our grants.

Dr. Qualls mentioned we will be breaking ground on the new building in March or April. The building is expected to be done late summer of 2024.

Nursing Report:

Lisa reported in the last couple of weeks there has been a rise in flue related absences in the schools. If schools go over 20% absence rate, they are required to submit a daily report. It is then up to the school corporation and local health department to determine the next step. There are two schools in the Clark Pleasant district at 19 %. They did close the preschool for the rest of the week. Flu is on the rise as is COVID. It is not know the percentage of vaccinated people in the relationship to unvaccinated and sickness. Johnson Memorial Hospital has gone to stricter restrictions because of the rise of the flu and COVID cases. There were 193 recorded COVID cases this past week. This is double of the past few wks. People coming in for COVID boosters is steady on walk-in days.

There is one active TB case.

There is one lead case at 6.5. This is just slightly elevated from the 5.00 level. Annie did a home check with education, though nothing stood out to her as high risk. The State has an appointment with the family to use their XRF to asses any risk on the surfaces of the home.

Annie had a patient with a case of Dengue fever. The patient had traveled to India and got sick while there. He was prescribed an antibiotic while in India but they made him ill. Once he was back in the states, he entered into the hospital where he received supportive care and went home a few days later.

We are administering 3 monkey pox vaccines. All three are second doses.

People are not responding to our HIV, Hep B screenings. The few people we have seen are those who we are required to screen as they are starting TB meds. Those who were tested, none of them were positive. There was a bit of discussion on how to get the word out better for the testing. Dr. Pauszek offered treatment for those tested if needed.

Environmental Report:

We have a new part time person, Kevin Paulin. He is currently job shadowing in hopes he will want the full time position when available in January. This is not Jen's position once she retires. Her position will be filled at a later date. Kevin is currently the JV baseball coach at Center Grove schools. He was wanting a job change with a little flexibility. He has a bachelors in science degree. We are also bring on Caleb who started with us 3 years ago for the COVID clinic. He is entering college in January and we will be keeping him on while he gets his environmental science degree.

Once a year the inspectors go through their files and pull out their establishments who they don't think they are affective with anymore. We then redistribute to other environmentalist who will work with them with hopefully better results. With that, we pull our problem facilities and send those facilities letters explaining we will be withholding food licenses if issues aren't fixed within a specific time frame. We have 13 facilities which fit that category. At this time the Willard is the only one who has fixed their issues. We are working with Athens's (among others), who is not happy about replacing equipment. There was sewer gas smell in one of the bathrooms, Betsy explained he needed to get a plumber to look in to it. He exclaimed he smelled nothing. Athens is a work in progress.

The Red Carpet Inn's court date had a continuance. Because he is an LLC, he has to have a lawyer represent him and his business. He had fired his lawyer, so he received his continuance of his case. Betsy stated the building is in tragic condition. It is moldy and smelly. She stated the people who are living there are almost cult-like. The city of Greenwood is adamant about closing the business. The people who live there are a indigent population, addicts and a criminal element.

Emergency Management:

The State has received an opioid settlement. The Johnson County Health Department would like to use those funds for those with mental health issues coupled with addiction problems. There are two grants, one restricted and the other is not. The counties have received an amount while all cities and town have received an amount. Our hope is to join money with the smaller towns and cities and provide programs countywide. Tobacco Settlement money along with Health Maintenance funds are to last through 2036.

We will be participating in the District 5 Health Collision table top exercise and there is an EMS task force meeting later today.

Vital Records:

There were 94 deaths in September and 105 in October.

September:	Cancer-27	Child-1	Communicable-1	Drugs-4
October:	Cancer-18	Child-1	Communicable-3	Drugs-6

Breast Cancer Awareness:

We have helped over 50 ladies get screening mammograms. Three of those ladies returned for diagnostic mammograms follow-ups. One lady had a cancer diagnosis. We have 9 more ladies to be scanned in December. We will be out of money in the IBCAT fund, but have permission to pay for the remaining screenings with money from the 1168 funds.

Billing has been extremely slow coming from both Franciscan Alliance for St Francis and also from Johnson Memorial. I am anxious to get all the vouchers sent in for payment, and to do my final reports.

JoEllen received notification from the State of Indiana that her grant was renewed for a little over \$24,000.

JoEllen thinks this year has been a great success. She is personally looking forward to 2023 and screening even more ladies. This grant is really filling a need for uninsured ladies here in central Indiana.

New Business:

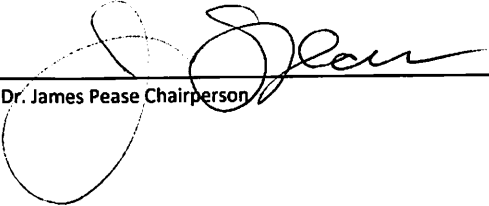
Even though Jeanette is new we will be reappointing her for a new term.

Dr. Pauszek asked about the paramedic shortage. Some dollars are set aside to focus on the shortage under the Public Health Commission. The problem is the hospitals and groups that have been training EMS are no longer training. The reason why is not known. There are jobs out there with no one to fill them. Finding a good paramedic is hard to find. The Health Department has one of the good ones for our paramedicine program. We plan to do what we can to keep him. Dr. Qualls thought paramedics ought to be brought back under the jurisdiction of the Fire Departments with benefits. Without funds, fire houses are cutting back and not funding paramedics.

Public Health Day at the State House is January 26th.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned



Dr. James Pease Chairperson Date