



JOHNSON CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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October 25, 2023

Johnson County Board of Health Meeting

The Johnson County Board of Health met on October 25, 2023 in the conference room of the Health Department.

Those in attendance from the Board were Dr. James Pease, Chairperson, Dr. Michael Pauszek, Chele Heid, Dr. Steven Stropes, Ruth Freese and Amanda Stevenson-Homes. Others in attendance were, Paul Hass Attorney, Dr. Jefferson Qualls, Betsy Swearingen, Lisa Brown, Bob Smith and Cheryl Snider.

A motion was made by Dr. Pauszek to accept the August 2023 minutes, Dr. Stropes second the motion and it was passed.

Health Officer's Report:

The new building has the walls going up. The State has started sending statistics on how well Johnson County is doing health wise in comparison to the rest of the state. Johnson County ranked # 7 in adult obesity. He sees childhood obesity as a health issue in the future. We rank #53 in vaccination rates. The smoking rate is at 20%. The childhood smoking rate is down but vaping is going up. Lisa mentioned that the vaccination rate may be a little off because the state has said that the reporting program is not working correctly. There are kids that are behind however, there probably needs to be more accountability with doctors' offices and schools to report correctly. COVID vaccines are up. As far as regularly scheduled vaccines, unfortunately are lower than the norm for this time of year.

Nursing Report:

The COVID vaccine is in and there is a great response adults and pediatric doses. There were 30 doses give last Wednesday. RSV is on hold right now.

There are 6 lead cases above the 5 mark. All of which had their home specimens, now it's a matter of deciding if the home needs remediation. The test will then be resubmitted. We have 25 between 3.5 and 4.9. These are a lot more work but does not require a home visit.

There is one active TB case right now. The test came back negative, it only shows up on a chest X-ray and the TB nurse is waiting on a diagnosis. It is being treated as an active till ruled out. There are 60 latent TB right now which is the highest we've ever had.

The nursing division hired Ashlyn Scott a medical assistant to come in and help on Tuesdays and Thursdays with clinics and right now for the COVID clinics on Wednesdays.

Environmental Report:

We were approached by Traci (Johnson Co. WIC) to absorb Shelby County's WIC into our payroll. Shelby County's WIC was under the control of the Human Services Department. There were some issues there and the WIC office was removed from their control. We will keep their staff as is, and they will work under Traci.

We will assume their whole budget. It remains to be seen of what their exact name will be, whether it be under the Johnson Co. Name or Indiana WIC or what not. We service approximately 3600 families and they have approximately 900.

Bob: The environmental staff has been undergoing some training in septic system and plumbing to better serve the food industry and homes which have septic systems. These classes are to better help environmental staff to be able to understand how things are put together to help back flow and back-siphoning and help spotting incorrectly put together plumbing. This training was well attended by building inspectors and county inspectors. There were approximately 50 individuals representing over 20 counties, cities and towns.

As of 2022, the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency no longer regulates eyelash extensions and has given that process to the Indiana Department of Health. This potentially gives the local agencies the authority to regulate these shops.

Holding tanks is another issue that has changed. Whereas currently holding tanks are not permitted, this will change in the near future (with stipulations). Some of the more practical uses for holding tanks could be for pool houses, workshops etc. We are in the process in figuring pricing and minimum requirements. All is to be approved by the county.

This week is "Red Ribbon" week. The schools are teaching on the dangers of using drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Empower Johnson County has been distributing information and putting up signs describing the dangers of drug, alcohol and tobacco use. The hope is that this will start conversations with families and peers.

The old "Sale Barn" now has a new sand line septic system.

Emergency Management:

Lisa has joined the team of working on the 2024 eclipse. Johnson Co. Health Dept. will "co-chief" the logistic team portion of the incident management team. Brent Shepherd from Johnson Memorial will be in charge of logistics. Betsy met with Lydia Wells to see what to do with the homeless population at the 3 day stretch. Hotels who have been housing these people have sold the rooms out from under them. We have about 20 families that currently reside at these hotels who are funded by the area township trustees. We are currently working with the 3 schools which are our PODs (point of distribution) to resign our MOUs to see if they are still have interest in being used as our POD facility. Now, we are looking at possibly new locations at I69, north I65 and south on I65. Hopefully some churches will step up and consider being mass care shelters.

We bought 3 self-compression machines for Franklin Fire Department. It automatically does compression while the EMTs are busy. A person is 50% more likely to survive with the compression arm than if a person does the compressions.

We got our Local Health Maintenance revision in, Immunization grant, vaccination templet and asthma templet in.

Commissioners did not accept the Governor's Health Grant. There were 5 counties did not accept the grant. Because of this there are positions that will need to be funded in other ways. One is our "School Liaison" position. We are looking at ways to keep her position. We really need to take the funding next year. We have many other groups that could use our support such as EMS, schools, other non-profit organizations and community outreach partners. Early next year Dr. Qualls stated he will be encouraging everyone to write letters (he would like to see a copy of the letters). It will be approximately 3.5 million dollars.

This money will be funneled to other agencies and community private as well as public. This money can also go to other county government agencies such as Juvenile Detention, Probation or medication treatment in the jail and many other ways it could be used.

Opioid Settlement Fund: It has been suggested it would be best if all agencies would pool the Opioid funds together and have a community outreach through our "Para-medicine" program. This will remain as Integrated Mobile Health per Indiana Homeland Security. Lynn Gray is going to draft a letter to all town board and municipality governments to see if we can agree to pool the money together. We had applied for a grant which was denied. This grant would have been over 1 million dollars. The numbers of our opioid deaths were not high enough and bigger counties such as Marion County was awarded the grant as was the State Dept. of Health. Our plan was to open a recovery café which would be a one stop resource shop. They would be able to do their community service, group work or even get checked by a health care provider. This would be anything a recovering addict would need to help in their recovery.

Vital Records Report:

<u>Death report:</u>	July 95	August 95
Smoking related:	July 14	August 5
Drug related:	July 0	August 2
Homicide	July 0	August 1
Suicides	July 1	August 3

<u>Birth report:</u>	July 33	August 30	September 27
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There was an Indiana Vital Records Association (IVRA) conference in southern Indiana on October 12-13th. Several things were talked about such as issuance of death certificates and baby boxes. Also certification tests were taken.

We are currently training a new vital registrar.

Breast Cancer Awareness:

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. We are doing a real push to reach as many people as we possibly can this month. We sent October flyers out to local doctor offices, have done a push on Facebook and have a yard sign for the second and third week of October.

So far this year, we have helped 73 ladies with screening mammograms and another 10 who needed diagnostic procedures. Thankfully, we have not had any recorded positive cancer diagnosis.

Jaycie Miller is taking our promotional information to her events at the Johnson Co. Fair Grounds. The Resource Drop-In Day is the second Tuesday of each month and is open to all residents of Johnson County

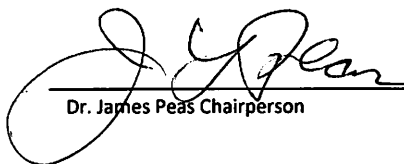
The 2024 IBCAT application has been submitted. We expect to hear later this year.

New Business:

The Health Department has won an award for being "Best Community Partner". UPSTREAM held a recovery celebratory dinner for those who are in recovery from addiction. It was held at the Garment Factory and was a very nice dinner.

The Legislature wants to regulate the structure of our health board, what it should look like and who should have input. Chele Heid has all the qualifications that the legislature has put forth, she is up for re-appointment. Being from the biggest municipality, the Mayor of Greenwood has to nominate her for the new position and then the commissioners approve her. Dr. Pease is also up for re-appointment.

There was no more business and the meeting was adjourned.



Dr. James Pease Chairperson

Date