



## JOHNSON CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Vital Records  
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December 2023

### Johnson County Board of Health Meeting

The Johnson County Board of Health met on December 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 7:30 am in the conference room of the Johnson County Health Department.

Those from the Board who were in attendance were, Dr. James, Pease (Chairperson), Susie Baker, Dr. Michael Pauszek, Chele Heid and Amanda Stevenson-Holmes. Others in attendance were, Paul Hass (Board Attorney), Dr. Qualls, Betsy Swearingen, Cheryl Snider, Lisa Brown, Jaycie Miller and Andrew Miller.

Dr. Michael Pauszek made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 2023 meeting. Susie Baker second the motion. The motion was passed.

### Health Officer:

The IDOH is having boot camp for Health Officers. Dr. Qualls attended the one in Bloomington. He was asked to speak to the group about how the Johnson County Health Dept. handled the tornado outbreak in the spring of this year. He went into the details of opening the family center and how they worked out how to help the families after the fact. The second tornado was not as severe and we were not needed as badly. We learned a lot from the pandemic and were able to fall back on that. This also has taken years of preparations to enable us to function as well as we did. Dr. Qualls also applauded our health department to the state. He feels we have an excellent group of people.

He and Betsy took a tour through the new building. The walls are up and they are working on all the mechanical plumbing and electrical things.

He will be watching the other counties to see what they will be doing with the State money. He will be putting pressure on the commissioners in 2024 to accept the money from the State to expand our programs as it is in the best interest of our constituents. These funds will let us help our partners such as the hospitals, and our partners with opioid abuse. He would like to establish a chronic disease clinic.

### Nursing Report:

So far this season the nursing department has given 130 Covid vaccine and 222 Flu. Currently we have 43 on TB treatment, one active TB case.

There was a national recall on applesauce in the pouch. Right now Johnson County has 3 cases with elevated lead levels. Out of the 3 cases, two are sibling. The sibling that ate multiple packs of applesauce a day had a lead level of 30. Two weeks after they stopped eating the pouches, the siblings lead level dropped to level 2 and the child with the level of 30 was down to 21. These children will be followed. A couple of our environmentalist went to all the Dollar General stores to make sure all of the pouches had been pulled off the shelves.

### Environmental:

We have sent out food permit renewals. We met with the city of Greenwood to talk about the new food code model. This food code will be effective in June 2024. We have a meeting set with two of the

commissioners and county attorneys to see about adopting this as our ordinance and add verbiage that would affect our mobile units with some stricter rules.

We have a new environmentalist to take the place of Jennifer Warner. Her name is Mia Pappageorge. She graduated from the University of Vermont. She was found on "INDEED" she has jumped right in and is getting her feet wet in many different areas.

Jaycie, our Health Educator stated her goals for next year is to get into some schools and do some education there. She is striving to get out into the community to get information out where needed. Much of her work deals with harm reduction, opioid addiction and getting Naloxone out into the community. She works with a nonprofit organization called "UPSTREAM PREVENTION" they are in the process of starting a RECOVERY CAFÉ where those who are struggling can go get information and help in there recovery. Jaycie is also on a committee we are trying to get up and running with the "Opioid Settlement fund". There was a letter drafted by Lynn Gray to go out to all municipalities to pool the money together and having one county wide effort towards spending those funds.

Andrew Miller is heading up trying to clean some of the establishments up that are having repeated critical violations and citations. If they are repeat offenders, we do close them for a period of time to try to get them to clean up. Our goal is not to close a facility but to work with them to help them. If we have no other choice, we will close them. We do have a list of facilities who we are going to hold their food permit until they clean things up. They do have through December to bring the facility up to standards. Then hopefully we will not have to hold their permit after January 1, 2024

The demolition injunction has been lifted on the Fanta Suites, so the demolition will continue. By December 27<sup>th</sup> the building will be demolished then a lean will be put on the site.

#### Emergency Management:

Lisa Brown has taken over as Assistant Preparedness coordinator. Her job is to back up Betsy, she has been attending a lot of meetings.

We are sitting on the management team for the April 2024 eclipse. Franklin is in the line of totality for the eclipse. This will be something so unique that it will not be seen again until 2092. We are expecting an influx of people to the county of about 500,000 people. We are working with INDOT and other agencies to work out the details. We will have 4 minutes of total darkness to the point we have purchased special glasses for people to wear. Schools will be on e-learning days, government has already closed offices (except the Health Dept.). Sheriff's, Department and Highway Department will also be working that day. Internet will possibly be down as well as cell phones. A normal trek home may take as long as 8 hours. People have been encouraged to stay home that weekend, however, Franklin is having a 4 day festival to celebrate the eclipse. Churches and schools are talking about selling spots in their parking lots and baseball/football fields at \$500 - \$1000.

Our homeless population has been displaced. Hotels have sold their rooms for \$700 a night for 3 night minimum. Those living at the hotels for next to nothing have been told to go elsewhere for a period of time. So we are looking for places to house those people.

#### Vital Records:

##### October:

Deaths 105  
Births

##### September:

Deaths 94  
Births 27

#### September:

Tobacco related deaths 6

Drug related deaths 5

Suicide related deaths 2

Breast Cancer Awareness:

Next year's grant has been signed

New business:

Amanda Stevenson-Holmes was re-appointed for another four years to the Board of Health. She is now our Johnson County Council appointee. In January, Chele Heid will be the Mayor of Greenwood's appointee. With these appointees, our board will meet all requirements for the Board of Health composition set forth by Senate Bill #4.

There was no more business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 am.

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Dr. James Pease Chairperson

Date