



## JOHNSON CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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August 2024

### Johnson County Board of Health meeting

The Johnson County Board of Health met on August 28, 2024 at 7:30 am in the Johnson County Health Department board room.

Those in attendance from the Board were, Amanda Stevenson-Holmes (acting as Chairperson), Susie Baker RN, Dr. Chele Heid, Ruth Freese, Steven Stropes and Dr. Michael Pauszek. Also in attendance were Paul Hass, Board Attorney, Betsy Swearingen, Lisa Brown RN Jaycie Miller and Cheryl Snider.

A motion was made by Dr. Pauszek to accept the minutes of the June meeting and that motion was second by Dr. Steven Stropes. The motion was passed.

### Health Officer's Report:

Dr. Qualls filled out the application for liability insurance for the Health Department. The Health Department will cover that cost. This insurance will also cover us liability wise as he will be writing scripts daily as we move into some of our other programs such as the STI program. The question was asked by Dr. Pauszek why these patients aren't going to be sent to St. Thomas Clinic. Betsy answered that we will be doing the initial testing, it's not known what will happen after, and counseling has not been determined as of yet. Dr. Pauszek stated his students at the clinic would love to do the counseling. Jenny Lee will be doing the initial exams at the Health Department. She is a nurse practitioner from Johnson Memorial Hospital.

ASSIST, an advocacy group in Franklin for domestic violence and trauma, will be partnering with the Health Dept. to sublet half of our old building to start a child advocacy program then run their offices out of the other half. We would like to further develop this with the new HSI grant. Those we partner with will be asked to develop some of the new programs.

### Nursing Report:

We have had a travel associated West Nile Virus. This patient was hospitalized in Florida but has since been released to come back. We also had a travel associated Dengue Fever. This patient had traveled to Porto Rico but was not hospitalized. Dengue Fever is another mosquito carried virus. Another travel associated virus was a case of Cyclosporiasis. This is a food borne illness.

We have 4 active cases of TB and 49 latent cases. Kyle, our TB nurse has stepped away from the immunization clinics for now as all of her time is being spent with TB cases.

Right now we do the rapid testing for HIV and HEP C. STI testing is going to include, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia. Dr. Pauszek stated the patients could be sent to St. Thomas Clinic for treatment and counseling.

We looking to start drawing blood test for TB testing. This would be great as the client would not have to come back a second time to have the test read. We do have all the supplies to do these blood test but, it is something Lisa will have to go in front of the Commissioners for as nursing will have to charge a fee. Right now TB test cost \$10.00 once the blood test have begun, the fee will be \$20.00. This will have to be handed down to the client at some point. Betsy suggested we start doing the blood test and cover the cost until the Commissioners approve the fee ordinance.

A motion was brought forth by Dr. Pauszek to start the blood drawn TB test and absorb the extra cost by the Health Department, until the matter could be brought before the Commissioners for approval. Susie Baker second the motion. The motion passed. The skin test will still be an option if the client still choses.

### Environmental Report:

Septic applications are on the rise. Our "On Site Sewage" ordinance was passed. There were a couple of items on the ordinance which needed to be changed so Betsy will go before the board again. Our office would like to be a little stricter to protect the citizens of Johnson County.

We have been bring a few of our problematic food establishments to the office to speak with them about the condition of their restaurants. Usually cleanliness. This procedure has been successful. The owners have been asked to bring improvements they have made since the last inspection and it can be different as night and day.

Our interns are wrapping up their summer with us. Mia, one of our newer environmentalist, is going to take over and run the program starting next summer.

### Emergency Management:

We are into our new BT1 grant. This is our preparedness grant which is based in the CRI. We have entered year 1 of another 5 year cycle.

### Vital Records Report:

In June, there were 32 births and July there were 42. Deaths in June, were 102 and July there 101 deaths recorded. In June there were 2 drug related deaths, 2 suicides and 13 Tobacco related deaths. In July, 1 drug related, 1 suicide and 10 tobacco related deaths.

There will be an IVRA conference coming in October in Angola Indiana. Cheryl is hoping to get some updated information from the IODH for doing amendments. It has been difficult to get the State Department of Health to approve amendments in the last year or so as some rules have changed.

### Breast Cancer Awareness Report:

There was no update at this time.

### New Business:

Dr. Pauszek mention he had a 67 year old polio patient at Major Hospital. Betsy mentioned, years ago when trying to plan a POD for a polio outbreak, the idea of trying to get enough people to staff 3 PODs was astronomical. Trying to get enough vaccine would be nearly impossible. Now, children get vaccinated at two, four and six months, adults don't get vaccinated. The patient in the hospital probably was not vaccinated as a child. There are 3 types of polio. Type 2 was eradicated in 1999 and type 3 was eradicated in 2019 via WHO information. There was an outbreak of type 2 in New York 2 years ago, and this patient way type 3.

### Community Health:

Jaycie has been working to develop a health outreach program at the Health Dept. She has been certified to be a community health worker. She is working to expand the animated health program including fire departments, Johnson Memorial Hospital and different partners to have referrals to come in for drug prevention, suicide prevention, self harm among others to educate with resources and help those in need. She has been working the last year with substance abuse programs, and in the last 2weeks has been able to go to a home and get the client into a rehab program. The Health Department has partnered with a non-prophet agency called Action Prevention who works with recovery. They have opened up a Recovery Café in Johnson County which is actually a nationwide program. This is a holistic approach to recovery. Indiana is the 18<sup>th</sup> state that has opened up a café and has been a huge success. There are a couple of fund raisers for the café. There is a Pickle Ball tournament coming up and a Dream Dinner. This is free dinner for those who would like to attend. This dinner is to celebrate any recovery one might be experiencing. All donations go back to provide for the recovery initiatives. October is Recovery Awareness Month. September is Suicide Prevention and Overdose Awareness month.

Betsy mention having the Community Health Worker may be the piece that we need to get some of the people out in the community the help they need whether it be a hoarder or some other need that should be addressed.

There was no more new business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 am.

