



JOHNSON CO. HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Vital Records
460 N. MORTON STE. A
FRANKLIN IN 4613

(317) 346-4367
FAX: (317) 736-5264

February 22, 2023

Johnson County Board of Health Meeting

The Board of Health met on February 22, 2023, in the conference room of the Health Department.

Those in attendance from the Board were Dr. James Pease, Chairperson, Dr. Michael Pauszek and Amanda Stevenson-Holmes. Those in attendance from the Health Department were, Dr. Jefferson Qualls, Betsy Swearingen, Lisa Brown, Bob Smith and Cheryl Snider.

A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Dr. Michael Pauszek and Amanda Stevenson-Holmes followed with the second motion.

Health Officer's Report:

Dr. Qualls went over the 2022 Annual Report. See insert.

Nurse's Report:

There has been an increase in latent TB cases. Any time a person tests positive for TB it is supposed to be reported to the county health department. There is now a push by the state to run reports through their system to see if there are any cases that have not been reported. We found 44 cases for 2022. The nurses will now try to find out who fell through the cracks and follow up on those patients.

Immunizations are slow right now. Kindergarten round up will start soon and Jordan will be starting reminder calls for all 6th & 12th graders.

IDOH is putting a strong emphasis on lead testing. We are now doing lead checks on 12 & 15 month old children. The threshold range has been lowered from 10 to 5. If the number hits 5, it requires case management. Anything below 5 does not. At 3.5, the nurses follow up and do some educating with the parents. Then they will retest in 3 months.

Environmental report:

Bob reported we have a new Environmental Health Specialist. Kevin Paulin has worked in the business world for about 25 yrs. and is now looking for something different. He is the reserve baseball coach for Center Grove. He is being trained by the Indiana State Department of Health in sanitary engineering.

Betsy and Bob attended the LEPC meeting. The table top exercise training this year is going to be a train derailment. It will be table top planning this year and an actual exercise next year. It will include all emergency agencies and include the long term cares.

Emergency management:

We are merging the local fire department teams into one countywide peer support group. Firestorm.org out of Phoenix forms web sites for your area for first responders to find help from their peers. With this web site, first responders can go to this web site and get links to different therapists and peer coaches. It will cost the Health

Department \$1200.00 and will be taken out of the preparedness money. It hits the capability of first responder health and safety. The health department will sit on an oversight committee for the group to link the support for fire responders and law enforcement.

Vital Records:

There were 140 Deaths for Johnson County in December of 2022 and 4 for drug overdoses.

Last meeting I mentioned the ability for the Coroner to see deaths from all over the state of Indiana had been removed. Derek Wilson, Assistant Coroner traveled to the State Department of Health to object to said removal. They did reinstate the viewing for all Coroner's offices. He also at that time, requested the ability for vital records to be able to see birth and deaths for across the State. Dr. Qualls also sent a letter request on behalf of this ability. This will probably not be seen for vital records.

Breast Cancer:

We received the first installment of the funds for the IBCAT grant.

We have scheduled 16 patients for mammograms already for the 2023 year. We've had 13 referrals from Windrose Health Network, 2 through the Health Department and 1 through St. Thomas.


JoEllen is working on several projects to make the reporting and accounting more efficient. She is planning on contacting the patient after their appointment to make sure they kept the appointment or if they need to reschedule. She would like to work with the radiology department to get instructions for the mammogram in Spanish.

She is also working on information packets to mail to area doctor offices with the IBCAT funding information, patient qualifications explained along with contact information requirements.

New Business:

Amanda mentioned the Health Department Facebook page. She thought it was put together really well. She also asked if the health department had what we need or is there something the board can be advocating for on behalf of the department. Dr. Qualls thought the big question is the Governor's Public Health Commission can potentially double our budget. Dr. Quall has stated before we are already doing 98% of what we need to be doing anyway. Dr. Kristina Box at the State level is pushing us to take this grant. It comes down to a decision by the Johnson County Board of Commissioners. This grant is a regionalization in which the Johnson County Health Department were paired with the surrounding "donut" counties which includes Marion County. These counties are larger, wealthier counties. He would have preferred to be paired with the more southern, smaller ones that might need our help.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned.



Dr. James Pease, Chairperson date