



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lee County Board of Health Report September 13, 2022

The Lee County Board of Health met at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at the Lee County Health Department.

Board members present were Dr. William Long, Sue Shippert, Dr. Saad Blaney, Emily Rose, Dr. Shailee Patel and Katie White. Board members absent were Courtney Kennedy and Janice McCoy. Also present at the meeting were health department employees Cathy Ferguson-Allen, Angel Lillpop, Jen Kolb, and Jenny Conderman.

Guests Present: None

President Dr. William Long called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. New board members Emily Rose & Dr. Shailee Patel were welcomed; and everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

The minutes for the July 12, 2022 meeting were approved.

Public/Visitor Comments:

None

Monthly Financial Reports:

The July & August Financial Reports and August & September Claims Registers were reviewed and approved.

Administrator's Report:

Cathy reported:

- MPV cases are currently declining slightly in Illinois. We are awaiting vaccine and will then offer to high-risk individuals or close contacts of someone who has tested positive.
- We are also awaiting bivalent COVID boosters and will schedule clinics as soon as we get them.
- We've had a very difficult time filling front office positions. One spot was vacated by an employee who relocated and the other by an employee who is moving into our MCH division. A very good candidate recently declined due to the pay.
- Cathy is a new member of the board of NICIL-Northwestern Illinois Center for Independent Living.
- Our new CDC Public Health Associate will report for duty on October 11 for a two-year placement.

- LCHD's state review of our well and septic programs was today and went very well.
- The Lee County finance committee, for the 2nd consecutive year, cut our levy after our budget hearing. Both years Cathy left the hearings believing our levy was intact, but unfortunately, the committee later decided to cut our levy by \$100,000 each year. This despite the fact that we were already projecting an end of year reserve level of 6 months. Cathy told the committee at the hearing that she didn't like our reserves going down, but if we stayed at 6 months, she was ok. Going under 6 months would make her anxious. 6 months is the rule of thumb the county board uses for its reserves.

Division Reports:

Maternal & Child Health:

Cathy reported for Lisa:

- Immunizations are slowing down a little with schools back in session which is good as we are getting calls for flu and bivalent boosters, so clinics will be starting for those.
- The state WIC disaster plan was extended to the end of this year, so we continue to offer in person or over the phone appointments. Some clients are choosing to come in, but many continue over the phone.
- Adverse Pregnancy Outcome Reporting System (APORS) and High-Risk Infant Follow-up: nurses Christian & Ashton completed the 2-day pediatric assessment class and will need to complete 12 hours each of peds assessment under our Physician Assistant's supervision. Then they will meet program requirements and be able to do and bill for peds assessments.
- Lead calls continue to come in and Christian is doing weekly testing.
- Our state Family Case Management review is later this month.

Fiscal & Front Office Services:

Angel stated that she too was concerned about our cash reserves going down due to levy cuts; and wanted the board to know how careful the department is about spending tax dollars. The board acknowledged this and thanked staff. Angel also reported that all FY23 state grants have been executed but one. We're still waiting on Family Planning, but that is not unusual.

Community & Personal Health:

Jenny mentioned our various upcoming flu clinics. We'll be offering clinics in outlying communities as well as here at the department. Bat calls and submissions have gone down. We have a list started of people who have called in wanting the bivalent COVID booster once we receive it.

Environmental Health:

Jen presented numbers of inspections performed the last 2 months at full-time establishments and temporary events, as well as septic and wells. Summer is always busy with festivals and events. Sam & Ashley did a great job with their first Petunia Festival. Tracy has worked diligently on the aeration maintenance contract list, and of approximately 230 systems, only 3 have been referred to the SA's office for noncompliance. Ashley has begun training with the IDPH regional lead inspector to be able to perform home inspections for persons with elevated blood lead levels.

New Business:

Cathy presented the completed IPLAN document, which the board approved. Cathy will now submit the IPLAN to IDPH for approval.

The board's regularly scheduled meeting in November would fall on a county holiday. An alternate date of November 16 was selected.

Old Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Health is November 16, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Ferguson-Allen, M.P.H.
Administrator