



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lee County Board of Health Report July 9, 2024

The Lee County Board of Health met at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at the Lee County Health Department.

Board members present were Sue Shippert, Janice McCoy, Katie White, Dr. Shailee Patel, Piper Grazulis, and Emily Rose. Also present at the meeting were health department employees Cathy Ferguson & Angel Lillpop.

Guests Present: None

Vice-President Dr. Shailee Patel called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and welcomed new member Piper Grazulis to her first meeting.

The minutes for the May 14, 2024 meeting were approved.

Public/Visitor Comments:

None

Monthly Financial Reports:

The May & Jun Financial Reports and June & July Claims Registers were reviewed and approved.

Administrator's Report:

- Cathy informed the board that the overhaul to the Family Case Management program she'd reported on at the last meeting has been halted. She believes IDHS heard many concerns from local health departments regarding the lack of input and communication prior to the changes. Things will be status quo for this state fiscal year; with some significant changes likely coming in FY26.
- Cathy has been in communications with Linda Clemen from KSB regarding the impact of the impending merger to women's health services and how LCHD will be able to help fill any gaps in services.
- Cathy recently informed the county board chair, the finance committee chair and the county administrator that the unprecedented 5-year, \$350,000 public health infrastructure grant was paid up front in one lump sum. She asked that as they work on budgets, they understand that there are still \$280,000 committed to meet the deliverables of the grant over the remaining 4 years. Unfortunately, this makes our reserves appear higher than they are.

- Public Health in Action example: Last week, Cathy received a call from a hospital social worker regarding a young woman in labor. She had a plethora of needs; including a car seat. Without a seat, she would not be able to be discharged from the hospital. Cathy talked to Lisa who gathered an infant seat, diaper cream, wipes, diapers, baby soap & lotion, and deodorant, lotion, soap, toothbrush & paste for mom. Our intern delivered all this to the social worker at the hospital. We were recent recipients of a large supply drive KSB's Foot and Ankle Center did on our behalf. This is not only an example of public health assisting residents, but of organizations working with and supporting each other.

Division Reports

Community & Personal Health:

Cathy reported for Jenny:

- Elizabeth, our Infectious Disease Coordinator, has been attending needed trainings including qualitative fit testing and certification and multiple latent TB infection trainings. We currently have 6 LTBI patients in Lee County that she is providing case management to.
- We received a call from the state on a recent Sunday due to a local provider reporting a positive mumps case. After working through the situation with the state, and sharing additional information with the provider it was determined the patient likely had side effects from recent MMR vaccine (jaw pain & swelling).
- The new state infectious disease case management platform-IDSS (Illinois Disease Surveillance System) is replacing INEDSS. The rollout for STI/TB cases is July 15.
- The Family Planning program flyer we developed for outreach was featured during the state information & education meeting as an example of something approved by the state committee that contained all required information.
- All positive feedback was received from completed family planning patient satisfaction surveys. Comments included:
 - Courtney is such a nice lady
 - You can tell Courtney anything and she'll give you an honest answer without judgement
 - Great staff!
 - Very informative!
 - Very friendly-always makes me feel safe & comfortable

Fiscal & Front Office:

Angel informed the board that fiscal is wrapping up SFY24 grants and ramping up for SFY25 grants. We've received most of our DHS grants and are awaiting contracts. Still waiting to hear on several IDPH grants.

Maternal & Child Health:

Cathy reported for Lisa:

- We are currently distributing WIC Farmer's Market vouchers-start date for usage is July 10.
- Lead program site review went very well. The state reviewer informed us that the state's threshold for initiating case management/home visits/lead inspector is lowering from 5 to 3.5 blood lead level, starting January 1, 2025. This may double our caseload. There should be an increase in grant funding but at this time we do not know the amount. A plan to require universal testing for children up to age 6 has a potential start date of July 1, 2026.

- Flu vaccine for the 23-24 year is officially done as vaccine expired 6-3-24. We gave flu vaccine in May & June for college/school requirements.

Environmental Health:

Cathy reported:

- We had a positive mosquito pool from Franklin Grove. We continue to collect and test from 4 locations throughout Lee County-Harmon, Franklin Grove, Sublette & Dixon.
- We are done with tick drags until October. August & September are when larvae tick species peak; we're told not to drag during this time; they won't test tick larvae for pathogens. We'll start up again in October, and likely do 6 drags.
- Katie, our county board liaison member, received an inquiry/concerns regarding temporary permits from a resident via a fellow county board member. EH staff and Cathy had a conference call with Katie to address the questions and to provide current, accurate information. Katie reached out to the citizen initiating the inquiry and also offered that our EH Specialist Sam would be happy to answer any remaining questions or discuss concerns.
- Food code changes are currently being worked on. Our newer EH team is looking at things through fresh eyes and identifying a few areas that can be fine-tuned, especially regarding temporary permits and mobile units. We hope to present proposed changes to the board of health at its September meeting.
- We are working with residents for lead mitigation in their home, after their child tested with an elevated blood lead level. During this process, it was determined the home is on the historical registry, which added complexity to the situation. We are able to use funds from our CLEAR Win grant to assist. Our EH Specialist Sam has worked hard on this case, communicating back and forth with contractors, the residents, the state health department, the historical society, etc.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Health is September 10, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Ferguson, M.P.H.
Administrator