



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Lee County Board of Health Report March 12, 2024

The Lee County Board of Health met at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at the Lee County Health Department.

Board members present were Sue Shippert, Dr. Saad Blaney, Emily Rose, Janice McCoy & Dr. William Long. Board members absent were Dr. Shailee Patel and Katie White. Also present at the meeting were health department employees Cathy Ferguson, Angel Lillpop & Lisa Wiggins.

Guests Present: None

President Dr. Long called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

The minutes for the November 14, 2023 meeting were approved.

Public/Visitor Comments:

None

Monthly Financial Reports:

The November, December, January & February Financial Reports and December, January, February & March Claims Registers were reviewed and approved.

Administrator's Report:

Cathy informed the board that she is serving on the strategic planning workgroup for the Illinois Public Health Association. All work is being done virtually.

An internal team is working through the department's various emergency response plans. After the real-life experience of COVID, looking at the plans through this lens identifies needed changes.

Division Reports

Community & Personal Health:

Cathy reported for Jenny on a very complex TB case.

Measles protocol has been updated and sent to local healthcare organizations and schools.

The state is rolling out a new disease surveillance system in the near future.

We are in the process of updating our bloodborne pathogens plan.

A 2nd 2023-2024 monovalent COVID vaccine has been approved for ages 65 and up.

Our billing coordinator reassessed prices for our services and several fees were changed/sliding fee scale was updated.

Courtney & Michelle did STI/FP education at DHS recently.

Courtney completed the required wet mount/slides competency at KSB.

We are beginning to plan for offering strep tests.

The residential sharps collection program is going very well. Jenny is coordinating pick up of sharps containers/drop-off of used sharps with residents.

Fiscal & Front Office:

Angel informed the board that after a very lengthy time, we have finally received approval from the state for the destruction of archived records. She is looking into vendors now. We have 400 banker's boxes waiting to be moved. So much more is being done electronically now, so moving forward we won't have near the volume of paper records.

She also told the board that Reid, the new finance director for the county, has been able to produce some reports from the county's software that have been very helpful to her.

Maternal & Child Health:

Lisa shared with the board that we are going to be working even more closely with Head Start. We're hoping to host some registration events at which children can receive physicals, immunizations, lead testing, hemoglobin testing, families can be offered WIC services and parents offered Family Planning services. This could be a great collaboration that benefits Head Start families.

Our breastfeeding rates have declined amongst our WIC clients, so we are resuming an in-person breastfeeding class for pregnant and postpartum moms. Our breastfeeding peer counselor and WIC nurses will be there to provide education; currently breastfeeding post-partum moms can encourage breastfeeding for our pregnant clients; and WIC services can be received at this time as well.

Environmental Health:

Cathy reported that Molly Sedig started in December so EH is fully staffed.

Molly is being trained in foods to begin with; while Sam & Amanda continue to learn more about wells and septic. Eventually they will all be able to do all aspects of EH.

They are working beautifully together as a very cohesive team. Amanda has applied to take the LEHP exam.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Health is May 14, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Ferguson, M.P.H.
Administrator