

**Kankakee County Health Department
Regular Meeting
September 17, 2020**

Members Present: Mr. Rodney Gustafson, Mr. Jim JohaneK, Dr. Syreeta Jones
Dr. Olatunji Akintilo, Mr. Jim Byrne, Dr. Abraham Kurien,
Dr. Simon Wu; Dr. Jeffrey Long, Neelie Panozzo

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Mr. John Bevis, Mrs. Erin Weakley, Ms. Nicole Finnegan
Mrs. Amy LaFine, Mr. Keith Wojnowski

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Lee Provost, Daily Journal
Tiffany Blanchette

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gustafson at 5:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the September 17, 2020 agenda was made by Dr. Kurien, seconded by Mr. Byrne, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

We received a phone call on September 16th at 2:45 P.M. from Ari Frunze. Ms. Frunze stated that she may not be available to call during the meeting, and if she wasn't available, she would like us to read her statement. An attempt to call Ms. Frunze was made and she did not answer. We read her comment aloud. "Asking that it's important for the Board to consider that businesses are following mandates. We believe that at a controlled capacity it can be achieved to allow indoor dining."

We then received a second public comment via text from Mr. Jim JohaneK's telephone from Mr. Dave Berkler stating, "If the violation is a claimant, is the business allowed to face their accuser? I feel there are more important duties of the Health Department."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. JohaneK to accept the July 16, 2020 Board of Health minutes, seconded by Dr. Akintilo, the motion passed unanimously.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

Mr. Bevis announced that we recently hired a new Clinic Assistant, Tanya Baker. We also now have nine contractual employees that are Contact Tracers, their focus is working on COVID-19 calls and following up with positive cases and their contacts within the county.

DIVISION REPORTS

Client Services

Mrs. LaFine updated the Board on our new I-WIC changes. She explained that this involved a complete conversion of new EMR and printed coupons to WIC debit cards, which can now be electronically loaded. This conversion went live on July 13th, 2020. As of today, our WIC team has converted 900 households in Kankakee county. Our current WIC emergency processes for COVID are telephone and drive up through the end of September, however we are awaiting USDA approval to bring these clients back into the clinic setting. As of August 17th through today, we have distributed 525 Farmer's Market Booklets to pregnant and breastfeeding moms, infants, and children up to 6 years old. These will continue to be distributed through the end of October, and they are able to use them towards the purchase of pumpkins as well.

Mrs. LaFine also updated the Board on the changes that have been impacting our Family Case Management department. The DCFS Wards (foster children in Kankakee county) went to a managed care model as of September 1st, 2020. Our Health Department, as a lead agency, previously worked directly with DHS. There has been many recent changes and numerous contract reviews to get to this point. As of now, we contact Youthcare which is Centene- Illinicare. There have been some challenges with finalizing contracts and working agreements, but our first step is linkage to care with a medical card. Going forward, an EMR transition from DHS's Cornerstone to Youthcare's SACWIS may need to take place.

Mrs. LaFine also announced that our walk-in flu clinics are still ongoing, and we will continue them through the end of October. We are also very excited to announce that we received our new FIT Test machine and will be able to start FIT Testing for the community going forward. Mrs. LaFine also shared that our nurses were at the Career Center on September 16th to give flu shots to the staff, and there is an upcoming event on Oct 1st at Momence High School where we will be giving immunizations.

Environmental Health

Mr. Bevis announced that there have recently been some changes made to the language regarding a new Administrative Rule as of August 7th, 2020 for Environmental Health Nuisance Procedure for Mitigation. This new language states "any and all facilities" which applies to businesses, not individuals and changes the process of how the Health Department handles complaints. The language indicates that if we feel reasonable efforts are being made then we can move on. If there is a business that is not complying, we then give you a set amount of time to come back and if you have corrected the issues then we can move on. There is nothing in the language that defines the amount of time. The question for the Board is what do you consider a reasonable amount of time to let the business try and correct the issue before we come back. Unless

the business is an imminent threat, we do not want the focus to be negative. At this point, we are documenting the complaints for masking, signage, and over capacity. The Board asked if there was any data that supports if outbreaks are coming from restaurants and Mr. Bevis indicated that at this time, we have no data that supports that. We have been instructed by the States Attorney's office that unless there is a business with an imminent threat, then all other issues will be referred to the Attorney General. A motion was made by Jim Byrne to make the timeframe 7 days from the complaint to the first visit, then follow-up in another 7 days to check if the issue has been resolved. If there is a problem facility, then the Board can call a special session to discuss next steps. Jim Johaneck then seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Bevis gave a brief report on COVID-19 and our role within the community thus far. Recently, we have been very fortunate to partner with IDPH Mobile Testing Units, this has allowed us to have a free testing site in our parking lot on select days. We set this up to encourage the community to come out and get tested as an effort to bring down our positivity rate. It has also been very beneficial for our team of Contact Tracers who are able to communicate with schools and parents of children who have been quarantined by letting them know about the free testing onsite. We have also organized the IDPH Mobile Testing Units to be onsite for some community events in the area, including the Pembroke Hispanic Parade. Mr. Bevis then explained that working with IDPH and their ability to bring mobile testing has really been helping our area because it makes the process of getting tested so much easier

Mr. Bevis also explained that we now have a team of nine Contact Tracers who are actively working with the positive and probable cases throughout the county, as well as guiding the schools' principals and nurses with the isolation and quarantine process. We are happy to announce that our Contact Tracers are now all up and running in Salesforce, the software delegated by the state to trace COVID-19. This will allow us to pull specific reports and produce specific data in relation to outbreaks in our area.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Financial Status

Mrs. Weakley updated the Board on July and August 2020 financials, indicating that in July we received a portion of our COVID Contact Tracing Grant. Fees seem pretty good; we had come food licensing money come in before COVID. Clinic Dollars are very low, as well as the interest we received being very low. As of the end of July, we are at 66.6% of the year and have \$3,071,239.06 total cash on hand. Mrs. Weakley then stated that we have received \$117,000 in Grant money and a small amount of property tax for August. Through the end of August, we are at 75% of the year with \$2,962,003.00 cash on hand. Mr. Byrne made a motion to approve July and August 2020 financials, seconded by Dr. Kurien, the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Bevis gave an update on current Board of Health member renewals, indicating that Dr. Jones was set to expire at the end of September, and if she was interested in continuing on the Board that she could reach out to Nicole or Kelly Bylak at the county.

Mr. Bevis also shared that we have two dates for Arbitration set up with the Union. The first date is in October followed by the second date in November. We will continue to keep the Board updated regarding the Arbitration outcome.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bevis announced that we had two new members appointed to the Board of Health, both of which are present tonight. We would like to introduce and welcome Dr. Jeff Long, and Mrs. Neelie Panozzo.

Mr. Bevis explained the Payroll Tax Deferral Program that our President made recently available. The County has elected to opt out the Payroll Tax Deferral Program and they recommend that the Kankakee County Health Department also opt out. Mr. Byrne made a motion to approve opting out of the Payroll Tax Deferral Program, seconded by Mr. Johanek, the motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bevis indicated we do not need to go into Executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Johanek moved to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Dr. Akintilo and passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Dr. Abraham Kurien, Secretary

Minutes reviewed by, Mr. John J. Bevis, MPH, Public Health Administrator

Minutes prepared by, Ms. Nicole Finnegan, Administrative Coordinator