

**Kankakee County Health Department
Regular Meeting
April 15, 2021**

Members Present: Mr. Rodney Gustafson, Mr. Antonio Carrico
Dr. Abraham Kurien, Dr. Olatunji Akintilo
Mr. Jim Johanek, Dr. Simon Wu, Dr. Jeffrey Long,

Members Absent: Mrs. Neelie Panozzo, Dr. Syreeta Jones

Staff Present: Mr. John Bevis, Mrs. Erin Weakley, Ms. Nicole Finnegan

Staff Absent: Mrs. Amy LaFine, Mr. Keith Wojnowski

Others Present: Mr. Larry Kerkstra, Marta (resident of Momence)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gustafson at 5:05 P.M.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the April 15th, 2021 agenda was made by Mr. Johanek, seconded by Dr. Kurien, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marta, a resident of Momence, expressed that she had trouble finding updated information on our website and she previously had COVID-19 and would like to find out more information about it from the website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Johanek to accept the March 11, 2021 Board of Health minutes, seconded by Dr. Akintilo, the motion passed unanimously.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

Mr. Bevis announced that we recently hired a new Client Service Representative, Angelica Avalos. We are also happy to report that Julie Larsen and Shelby Shiver have started as Health Educators. We also made an offer for a new Sanitarian to replace Julie Larsen's position. We currently have two contractual Contact Tracer positions open that we are actively interviewing for.

DIVISION REPORTS

Client Services

As reported last month, STDs are still on the rise and we have made it a priority to continue to keep our clinic open for those clients. We are also continuing to serve WIC clients by phone and through our curbside pickup.

Environmental Health

Mr. Bevis indicated that there is not much new guidance to report on and we have had very few masking complaints. We are actively approving temporary food applications and expect that to continue to increase as we get into warmer weather and more festivals scheduled in the months ahead.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Bevis explained that we are continuing to actively vaccinate in our conference room two days a week onsite at the Health Department and have also been actively out in the community vaccinating factories like Johnsonville and Silva. Our current vaccination rate in Kankakee County is currently at 12.2%. We recently had a National Guard event in which we were able to give 2050 out of a possible 2100 doses. We were also recently approached again by the National Guard to host a 3-day event in which we had to move locations from KCC due to a scheduling conflict. The issue arose from a change in vaccine from Johnson and Johnson to Moderna, creating a secondary clinic four weeks later which conflicted with KCC's Graduation date. The new event will be held at the First Church of the Nazarene and we will be administering Moderna, due to Johnson and Johnson being put on hold until further review. The Region 7 positivity rate is currently at 6% and our positivity rate in Kankakee county is currently at 4%. We are making every attempt possible to work with all the vaccine providers in our community to make the vaccine readily available to everyone who is eligible and wants it at this time. We are also hopeful that the Johnson and Johnson will not be on hold for very long as our first National Guard event was a huge success and we felt that many people in the community were eager to get vaccinated with the one dose shot.

The Board expressed that they would like our website to be updated and Mr. Bevis thoroughly agreed. He also explained that we are actively working with the company that purchased our website from the original company that created it and they are currently making changes to our COVID-19 section now. We also expressed that when our original website went live it was over a year and a half behind on content which we were never able to get updated once COVID-19 took over as priority. Mr. Bevis agreed that we will make it a priority to have our website updated and the Board agreed that they would like to see an update in May.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Financial Status

Mrs. Weakley updated the Board on March 2021 financials. For March 2021, we are at 33% of the year. For our cash on hand: we have \$1,019,880.19 in the IPTIP account, \$1,014,680.74 in the money market account, \$982,331.33 in the checking account, and there are \$21,934.52 in outstanding checks. Total Cash on Hand is \$2,994,957.74. Dr. Long made a motion to approve the March 2021 financials, seconded by Dr. Kurien, the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Bevis announced that the Mass Vaccination Grant has just been approved for \$275K by the State.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bevis explained that we submitted our Adolescent Health Grant, and we are currently waiting on edits from the State as it has not been approved yet. Mr. Bevis also gave an update on our current Contact Tracing Grant, indicating that it has now been extended until December 31st, 2021 and we will continue to contact trace as it proves to be very important, especially with these new breakthrough cases. Mr. Bevis then announced that there was an amendment to the Local Health Mini Grant, in which it was increased by \$8500 for COVID related expenses.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Gustafson moved to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Mr. Johanek 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