

Kankakee County Health Department
Regular Meeting
February 19, 2026

Members Present: Mr. Antonio Carrico, Mr. Rod Gustafson, Mrs. Neelie Panozzo, Mrs. Kathryn Hamblen,
Dr. Jeffery Long, Dr. Olatunji Akintilo

Members Absent: Dr. Edward Kent Frye, Dr. Ashu Bansal, Mr. Jim Johaneck

Staff Present: Mr. John Bevis, Ms. Nicole Finnegan

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carrico at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mrs. Panozzo, seconded by Dr. Long, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Akintilo to accept the January 19, 2026, Board of Health minutes, seconded by Mr. Gustafson, the motion passed unanimously.

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

Mr. Bevis reported that we are very excited to announce that we have filled 3 out of the 5 open positions. Please help us in welcoming the following new employees, Boyd, our Environmental Health Inspector, Jessica, our Phlebotomist, and Michelle, our Health Promotion Coordinator. We are currently hiring an MCH Coordinator and have a shadowing scheduled for a potential candidate for our Bilingual Client Service Representative.

DIVISION REPORTS

Environmental Health

Mr. Bevis reported on behalf of Mr. Wojnowski that the 2026 Food Licenses are complete, and he is happy to report that we did not have to take any legal action. Mr. Bevis also updated the Board that the fees also went to the full County Board where they all passed unanimously for the first time, so thank-you to everyone who helped with this process.

Client Services

Mr. Bevis reported on behalf of Mrs. Amy LaFine that on the Maternal Child Health side clinic staff are currently educating clients and community partners to the Federal Food Package (effective 2/25/26) and Infant Formula contract (effective 2/1/26) changes for Illinois WIC program participants. The (HWIL) Foster Ward Case management: KCHD Healthworks nurses are currently case managing 206 DCFS wards in Kankakee County. For our Better Birth Outcomes Comprehensive: KCHD nurses are currently case managing 232 Dyads (households) with pregnant or postpartum individuals up to 6 months after birth and/or infants up to 6 months after birth, with elevated risks per defined program criteria. On the Communicable Disease side,

Measles in Illinois has recorded its first measles case in 2026. The individual is an adult from the Metro-East area with unknown vaccination status. Notifications related to exposures that occurred during a cruise and flight are being assisted by Federal partners. As of February 13, 2026, the CDC reports 910 confirmed measles cases in the U.S. in 2026 from 24 jurisdictions.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Bevis included his report in the packet which listed the following:

On February 5, 2026, I attended the Continuum of Care Coalition, a large group of agencies that meet monthly to discuss the current situation of homelessness in our community, its impacts, ideas, suggestions, and current needs. The topics are more important now as we are in the worst of the cold spell which only increases the risk of health issues due to frostbite, and with exposure to the cold temperatures. Illinois homeless people die almost 20 years younger than housed individuals. Our Health Promotion staff has begun 2026 community presentations with educational trainings such as a Naloxone Training at the Central Citizens Library on January 5th a Naloxone training at Riverside on February 2, 2026, Opioid Education at the Coal City Wellness Night on February 18th 2026, also another Opioid training or the Project Sun organization on February 18, 2026 and an IRIS education in Mid-February, 2026. I also attended the Pledge for Life Directors meeting on February 10, 2026, where current needs, funding and other items were discussed February is Heart Health Month. We will be promoting that in our most recent episode of Who Knew on Valentines Day with information on heart health, heart attacks for both men and women and symptoms, cardiac rehab and ways to prevent. Heart Disease is very common, the leading cause of death for men, women, and most ethnic groups, almost 1 in 4 deaths was caused by heart disease, the effects are very costly with yearly cost approximately 168 billion dollars. Ways to prevent include a healthy diet, not smoking and responsible drinking, exercise regularly and medical screenings. Influenza and other respiratory illnesses remain high currently so remember to get immunized, wash your hands regularly, stay home when sick and cover those coughs and sneezes. Upcoming the KCHD will host another collaboration with the NAACP and Riverside on March 14th, 2026, from 10am to noon with the topic of Mental Health and services within our community. Our first two events were well attended; I encourage any of you to attend as it is a free event. Our social media continues to promote public health and collaborative events within the community such as local warming centers including the Health Department during-normal business hours, safety tips during cold and frigid weather conditions, car seat safety during winter when wearing coats, genetic screening through our genetics grant deliverables, as well as information on many other health related topics and issues and much more. Our Radio Program Who Knew, began its 3rd year and continues to showcase our great programs and staff, including program of our collaborations and many special guests to showcase the community's involvement in the health of the public throughout the year. Listen to us on Saturday mornings from 10:30 am to 11 am on WKAN. Miss the show? We have the episodes on our website. Catch up from previously aired broadcasts.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Financial Status

Mr. Carrico advised the Board that they should have received the 2025 November and December updated Financials, as well as the January 2026 Financials and if anyone had questions please ask now.

For November 2025, this is the updated statement for the end of the year. As a reminder, we can put any revenue received in December and January BACK into November for services provided during that fiscal year (December 2024- November 2025). The revenue received in January for any grant services performed in November and prior has been put back into November (approximately \$72,638.34). Therefore, that brought the grant revenue to \$430,114.57, and to 91.76% for the year, or a total of \$2,563,870.99. There were no further transactions for Property Tax in January, so the final amount for fiscal year 2025 stands at \$614,441.13, or 102.72% for the year. No further fees were moved back into November, so that still stands at 102.22% for the year, or \$531,004.47 for the year. No further adjustments were made to interest, so we ended the year just under \$180,000 in interest. Total revenue being reported for the year is \$3,923,618.76, or 94.36%. Our outstanding Accounts Receivable through November 30, 2025, is still \$91,439.79 (see attachment). That does not include amounts outstanding for quarterly billing that was completed for October - December 2025, where October and November could be counted as outstanding for FY2025, but December would go into FY2026. These final numbers have been sent to our auditors at SKDO, and we are already working with them on the FY2025 financial audit. They may make further adjustments, and we will receive the finalized numbers at the end of May or beginning of June and will bring back the finalized report at that time. No further adjustments were made on the expense side for November. We ended the year at 89.85% for Personnel & Fringe. Total operating expenses for the year were at 80.99%, bringing the overall total expenses to 85.94% for the year. We ended the year showing \$3,573,198.09 in expenses, and we are now showing a surplus of \$350,420.67 for the FY2025 year. Further adjustments may be made by the auditors. No change to the Cash on Hand: Total Cash on Hand is \$5,174,106.92 as of 11/30/25.

For December 2025, this is an update to the report for December 2025 provided last month. There were no changes to the revenue or expenses, just a couple of adjustments made to a couple line items where revenue was coded incorrectly when it was received (i.e. moving it from Plan Reviews to Food Licenses). All of the grant and property tax revenue received in December was moved back into November, so there is less revenue showing in December. For Fees, we started receiving payments for the new 2026 food licenses {49.83% of the annual budget in one month), so overall fees are higher than usual for a month and came in at 25.78% for the year, or \$145,304.44. The total interest for the month was \$13,566. The miscellaneous income for an outstanding lien payment on an old business location. Total revenue received thus far for the year is \$159,395.66, or 3.77%. The Accounts Receivable schedule is now available and attached at the end of this report. The items in yellow are the items that showed as outstanding at the end of December 2025, but we DID receive in January 2026 and totaled \$72,638.34. The items in orange are the items that were billed for FY2025 but are not yet received as of 2/1/26 and total \$91,439.79. Total Accounts Receivable as of the end of December 2025 was \$417,426.11. On the expense side for December, we are at 6.34% for Personnel & Fringe. Total operating expenses for the year are at 7.62%, bringing the overall total expenses to 6.85% for the year, still below the 8.33% budgeted amount each month. Currently we are showing \$289,439.86 in expenses, and we are now showing a deficit of \$130,044.20 for the new year. Cash on Hand was not available at the last meeting but is now shown below.

For January 2026, we received \$80,635.91 in grant revenue which was for December 2025 or January 2026, so it stays in this new fiscal year. For Fees, we received another \$54,450 in Food Licenses, bringing the total to just under \$180,000, or 71.61% for the year. Total fees are at 38.87% for the year, or about \$219,080 of the \$563,600 budgeted. The total interest for the month was

\$7478.82, which is only for the IPTIP interest. The money market interest posted to the account on 2/2/2026, so that will be included on February's reports. Total revenue received thus far for the year is \$321,286.17, or 7.60%. Total Accounts Receivable as of the end of January 2026 is \$439,845.50. The items that are shaded are for services performed and billed for in FY2025 that have not yet been received. On the expense side for January, we are at 12.89% for Personnel & Fringe. Total operating expenses for the year are at 11.78%, bringing the overall total expenses to 12.45% for the year, still below the 16.66% budgeted. Currently we are showing \$525,888.74 in expenses, and we are now showing a deficit of \$204,602.57 for the fiscal year. Cash on Hand is currently at \$5,245,269.63 at the end of January 2026. \$2,322,996.64 of that is in the IPTIP invested funds, and \$2,203,215.72 is in the money market. The remainder is in the checking account minus the outstanding checks due to vendors. Dr. Long made a motion to combine and approve, seconded by Mr. Gustafson and a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Carrico explained that as a result of the Environmental Health fees increase being presented to the full County Board, it was brought up by the Chairman that it would be good idea in the future to have more notice when the fees are increasing or setup some type of regular fee schedule. Mr. Carrico agreed that this was a good idea and asked if the Board of Health had any input in helping to develop that fee schedule as they are the ones who would put that into place. After some discussion, Mr. Bevis explained that he would gather the information necessary to help determine the best process and it will be discussed again in the future to help establish a regular fee timeline.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Carrico announced that after some discussion with the full County Board that some members were not aware of our exact meeting dates. He confirmed that he was happy to announce that he has received confirmation that the agenda is now being sent out to all County Board members and he encourages them to attend in the future.

Mr. Bevis updated the Board on multiple legislative updates including HB4579, HB 4410, and HB 4733, and how they relate to the Health Department as a whole. There are some exciting things that could potentially benefit us including prioritizing lead safety for homeowners with lead pipes, as well as additional education, supply, and prep for HIV. As these updates become available, we will bring them to the Board for discussion so everyone is aware of how they affect us and what we can do to further help our community. Mr. Bevis also explained that we will be reaching out the County Board in relation to our IRIS grant funding and reevaluate how to keep the program successfully running by looking for ways to continue the funding.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Dr. Long and passed unanimously.

Minutes Respectfully submitted by,

Mrs. Neelie Panozzo, Secretary

Minutes Reviewed by, Mr. John Bevis, MPH, Public Health Administrator

Minutes prepared by Ms. Nicole Finnegan, HR Administrative Coordinator