

Kankakee County Health Department  
Regular Meeting  
April 16, 2026

Members Present: Mr. Antonio Carrico, Dr. Ashu Bansal, Mr. Jim Johaneck, Mr. Rod Gustafson,  
Dr. Edward Kent Frye

Members Absent: Mrs. Neelie Panozzo, Mrs. Kathryn Hamblen, Dr. Olatunji Akintilo, Dr. Jeffery Long

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

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carrico at 5:02 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Gustafson, seconded by Mr. Johaneck, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

*None*

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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

#### **EMPLOYEE INFORMATION**

Mr. Bevis reported that we received one resignation from Amanda Puchalski, and we currently have 2 openings, an RN Case Manager and an MCH Coordinator.

#### **DIVISION REPORTS**

##### *Environmental Health*

Mr. Bevis reported on behalf of Mr. Wojnowski that we will soon be starting up our 2027 Vector Program. On May 13<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a Larvicide training for local communities that operate a vector program. This is a requirement from the EPA that all operators be trained on what types of larvicide they distribute and the safety of such operations. Soon the staff will begin mosquito collections and perform two tick drags to determine if any new vectors have migrated into our community that may pose a risk to health. Summer temporary food events will also be starting soon with our Farmers Market kicking off soon.

Mr. Bevis also updated the Board on our progress thus far with Gov Tech. The contract was approved last month by the Board, so we have since been in contact with them and confirmed they are diligently working on getting the information loaded and transferred into the new system and we hope to be ready to use the new program by the time licensing goes out this fall.

##### *Client Services*

Mr. Bevis reported on behalf of Mrs. Amy LaFine that Maternal Child Health has been busy working on grant submissions and approvals for FY27, so far including Women's Infant and Children (WIC), WIC Farmers Market and Better Birth Outcomes. On the communicable disease side, we are hosting a Well Women's event

that will include pap smears, physical exams, point of care screenings, STD screenings, lipid panels, Glucose, A1C and Hemoglobin testing. The clinic is by appointment only and can accommodate 22 patients. It is scheduled from 8am until 2pm on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Kankakee County Health Department.

### *Administrator's Report*

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

On March 14<sup>th</sup> the KCHD hosted a Mental Health panel discussion put on through the NAACP and local mental health providers. The event was well attended and covered many aspects and questions regarding mental health issues within our society today. The KCHD received a letter of thank you for our involvement in the event from one of the participants.

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Chamber Partnership for Progress where attendees discussed the issue of homelessness in our community at the Bradley Meeting Hall.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the KCHD will participate in a Hotwash for the tornado response from March 10, 2026. A Hotwash is a collaboration of all agencies involved in the response to discuss the good, the bad and the areas for improvement to help plan for the next response so that all can better serve our community even better.

On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, I will meet with Jackie Haas for her next 79<sup>th</sup> District Healthcare and Senior Citizens Advisory Council Meeting to discuss the priorities, and concerns of our community to help build a better district together.

On April 16<sup>th</sup> I plan to attend the IAPHA (Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators) where we will discuss the latest on Data and Health Informatic Platforms, Partner updates, current funding issues and grant information, Illinois Workforce Transformation updates and many other pertinent issues.

Recent grant submission and approvals for the FY 27 so far include Women's Infant and Children (WIC), WIC Farmers Market, Better Birth Outcomes, Sexual Risk and Abstinence Education (SRAE). The KCHD has over 25 grants and many have yet to be opened at this time. Remember KCHD is 70% grant funded, so this is a crucial component to our funding.

Our social media continues to promote public health and collaborative events within the community such as World Down Syndrome Day, Rock your Socks to discuss uniqueness in our genetics program, acknowledge Alcohol Awareness month, Child Abuse Awareness .month and Sexual Awareness Month, Adolescent Immunization Week, and Public Health Month to recognize all the services at the Health Department that impact each of us and our everyday activities, as well as information on many other health related topics and issues and MUCH more.

Our Radio Program Who Knew, began its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and continues to showcase our great programs and staff, includes 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 1030 am to 11am 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 March 2026 Financials and if anyone had questions, please ask now.

For March 2026, we received just over \$204,000 in outstanding grant revenue, so that brings us to 21.47% for the year. For Fees, we received a little under \$20,000 for the month. Total fees are at 55.04% for the year, or about \$310,181 of the \$563,600 budgeted. The total interest for the month was \$18,181.30 due to the February 2026 Money Market interest also being posted to March. This brings interest to just under \$52,000 for the year, or about 39.28%. Total revenue received for the month was

just under \$242,000; thus far for the year we are at \$981,921.93, or 23.24%, when we should be at about 33.33% on the year. Total outstanding Accounts Receivable as of the end of March 2026 is not completed yet as the quarterly billing for January- March 2026 is not due until 4/30/26.

On the expense side for March, we are at 25.40% for Personnel & Fringe. We have 2 open positions (MCH Coordinator and RN Case Manager). Total operating expenses for the year are at 21.94%, bringing the overall total expenses to 24.01% for the year, still below the 33.33% budgeted. Currently we are showing \$1,014,554.61 in expenses, and we are now showing a negative balance of about \$32,630.68 for the current year. We have been keeping track of the expenses incurred from the damage from the storm on 3/10/26, and so far have paid out approximately \$2000. That does not include the roof or any major repair expenses; this is just the immediate repairs to mitigate the damage done to the building and property. Cash on Hand is currently at \$5,422,666.83 at the end of March 2026. \$2,337,243.01 of that is in the IPTIP invested funds, and \$2,213,588.60 is in the money market. The remainder is in the checking account minus the outstanding checks due to vendors. Mr. Johaneck made a motion to approve the March 2026 Financials, seconded by Mr. Gustafson and a roll call vote, the motion passed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Bevis updated the Board saying that we are still working on more information from other Health Departments in relation to the development of a regular fee timeline and we will revisit this once we have ideas for a solution.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

*None*

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Bevis announced that he has been in contact with Mr. Wheeler in relation to setting up a Gotion plant tour for Board members that were interested in attending to see what they do and how they do it. We will be sending out an email for all interested members to reply to, at that point we can determine how many people and arrange the tour on possibly a Friday afternoon with or without lunch based on preference.

Mr. Bevis also reminded the Board members that have terms expiring in June and wish to continue serving on the Board of Health to please fill out the application and get that turned into either us or Eric Cavender if they haven't already done so. Mr. Bevis then added that the Statement of Economic Interest deadline is approaching soon (May 1<sup>st</sup>) so to please get that turned in if you haven't already done so.

Mr. Carrico announced that he wanted to get an idea from Board members if they would prefer to try to make some changes to the Board of Health meeting dates, suggesting every other month or every two months instead of monthly. After some discussion from the Board, this was something to think about and we will discuss potential options in the future.

Mr. Carrico reminded the Board about CHI, a program created a while ago by the Board to educate the residents of Kankakee on important health topics. This didn't take off as we hoped because it was difficult to get providers to participate. As an effort to bring back CHI, Mr. Carrico thought it would be better to incorporate a solution that he is already doing with the Waterways Committee by using a podcast to focus on

safety, education, and restoring the river. There will be more details to come on how to incorporate this as part of CHI and help from our current Board members will be discussed soon. Mr. Carrico also announced that he is hosting a Vessel Safety Check with members of the Coast Guard, and he is excited to share that the event is free to the public and is designed to educate boaters on what equipment they need and to perform a safety check with no penalties or fines as this is for educational purposes. If you know anyone who has a boat, please share the event taking place on May 16<sup>th</sup> at Beckman Harbor as fees will be higher this year and safety checks will be more likely.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*None*

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Johaneck made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Mr. Gustafson 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