



# STORY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

STORY COUNTY ADMINISTRATION  
900 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEVADA, IOWA 50201

## Minutes

**AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE FULL MEETING MAY BE FOUND IN THE ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT OR BY VISITING [WWW.STORYCOUNTYIOWA.GOV](http://WWW.STORYCOUNTYIOWA.GOV).**

**DATE:** February 6th, 2024

John Paschen, MD – Chair

**CALL TO ORDER:** 2:00 PM

Molly Lee, DVM, MPH – Vice-Chair

**PLACE:** Public Meeting Room – Story County Administration  
900 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Nevada, IA

Mike Badger

Betsy Matos, PhD, MPH

Sherri Pleis, DVM

Lisa Heddens (Ex-Officio Member)

**Special Note to the Public: This meeting was also offered via Zoom.**

**Board Members Present:** John Paschen, Molly Lee, Mike Badger, Betsy Matos, Sherrie Pleis.

**Quorum was established.**

**Board Members Absent:** Lisa Heddens (ex-officio).

**Others Present:** Sarah Walker, Megan Thompson, Andrea Dickerson, Jennifer McEvoy, Ashley Monahan, Jane Esterly-Rettig, Eric Adelmund, Sherry Zook, Kimberly Grandinetti, Matthew Cory, Laura Johnston, Allie Hoffman (Recording Secretary).

**1. Call to Order**

Paschen called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

**2. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion by Pleis, seconded by Lee to approve agenda as submitted. Motion passed on voice vote.*

**3. Approval of Minutes**

*Motion by Pleis, seconded by Lee to approve minutes from December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting as corrected. Motion passed on voice vote.*

**4. Public Forum:**

None.

**5. Agency and Departmental Reports:**

**6.1 HHS Realignment Update; Heather Bombei (Not Present)**

Esterly-Rettig was asked to give a brief summary of the 4 options that could happen with the new HHS realignment. Option A eliminated BOHs and made PH employees state employees, the state called this their most simple plan even with the disadvantages it would bring. Option B1 is a mix as it also eliminated BOHs yet had regional health districts to be the governing bodies. Option B2 is similar to B1 yet counties can choose to retain their local BOH or to be governed by the regional health district. Option C is most similar to how it is currently structured which means local BOHs would stay and the state would still incentivize counties to work together in a region sort of way. Option C would then have a cross-jurisdictional sharing system as the state calls it. Report included in agenda packet.

## **6.2 MICA; Megan Thompson (in-person), Kristina Burma (zoom)**

Thompson & Burma provided the update for MICA. Dr. Paschen questioned who MICA refers people to when they need dental care? Thompson stated that they have two dentists at Primary Health Care (PHC) that will see patients that have Medicare/Medicaid, are uninsured, and have a sliding fee schedule which is why they mostly partner with PHC. MICA also has dental vouchers but no dentists accept them yet. Thompson also shared that MICA has seen dentists agree to doing pro bono work when the patients are high risk. Dr. Paschen inquired about the legislation and if Thompson or Burma knew of any new items to help this issue? Thompson did not recall anything and Burma stated that there needs to be more oral health and medical integration, so piloting hygienists at the doctor's office for well child visits to put fluoride on kids' teeth that have Medicaid could be an option to reach some of the kids. Matos asked how MICA determines the schools that they bring their ISMILE program to? Thompson replied that the schools are chosen if they have a 40% or higher free & reduced lunch rate. Pleis probed about if there is going to be a change to the paperwork amount and amount paid so that providers will accept Medicaid/Medicare? Thompson stated that she is unsure as it is an ongoing issue, she knows that there is a new dental MCO coming soon and hopes it is a lot easier to work with but does not see any movement happening soon.

## **6.3 CFR; Jennifer McEvoy, Prevention Specialist; Ashley Monahan, Prevention Specialist**

McEvoy and Monahan provided the update for CFR. Dr. Paschen queried if problem gambling is in video machines? McEvoy replied that problem gambling is in videogames, online and in apps, and a good example is the game Candy Crush when you run out of lives and have the opportunity to buy more so you can continue to play the game. Matos requested to know what division or office CFR is working with at Iowa State University (ISU)? Monahan stated that CFR is trying to get ISU to adopt a gambling policy to hopefully prevent ISU students to engage in gambling. Matos looked for clarification as to which office at ISU CFR has contacted? Monahan clarified that CFR has contacted quite a few offices and the departments they got a response from was ISU's Policy Administration, Ann Lelis and General Counsel, Barbara Biederman. Lelis and Biederman advised CFR that ISU is not interested in having a gambling policy right now. Monahan states it is their job to keep trying and pushing to find the workaround to get in and talk with people because it is a pressing issue. Another note from Monahan is that suicide rates for gamblers is higher (16%) than the general population (0.7%). Monahan also stated that gambling is an epidemic which needs to get under control. Matos asked CFR if they would speak with her after the meeting to discuss possible resources she could give them because there are recovery programs through the Student Wellness center and the Student Affairs division. Pleis commented that they will probably have better luck to get in with the other recovery groups through the Wellness center and it is better to curb these issues when people are young and then they do not have these existing addictions when graduating. Monahan commented that they are trying to get into the Student Wellness Center and Student Affairs' programs yet it will most likely be not be no gambling ever. Lee asked for clarification about the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders and if the outreach is targeted at the parents mostly? McEvoy responded that yes, it is targeted towards parents and CFR has met with the principal of Roland-Story too discuss the program they want to start for problem gambling for their students either in their health or gym class to explain what gambling is and the issues it can cause in your life. CFR is trying to reach out to principals, counselors, or anyone who will meet with

them to listen about problem gambling. Pleis questioned whether CFR had looked into attending PTA meetings because parents may not understand the apps and the gambling within them? McEvoy stated they have a PTO meeting and the Fellows Elementary night coming up and will try and explain how the gambling within the apps work for clarification for the parents. Dr. Paschen inquired as to whether CFR's programs overlap with YSS's programs since they sound similar? Monahan explained that they work under different grants and it is different education and programming for these grants but schools do not understand and will state that YSS has already done the program there. Dr. Paschen found it interesting that legislation would allow a smoke/vape shop to open near an elementary school, like in Nevada. Pleis joined the commentary and stated that the smoke/vape shop is only 3 blocks away from the elementary school but Nevada cannot say no to the business because it is a legal business. CFR is worried young kids will get introduced by their older siblings or parents due to the shop having snacks too. Dr. Paschen recommended CFR use scare tactics like they did in the '80s. Monahan stated that they are not allowed to do so.

#### **6.4 Youth and Shelter Services (YSS); Andrea Dickerson, Director of Behavioral Health**

Dickerson provided the update for YSS. Dr. Paschen inquired how the Behavioral Health Campus is coming along? Dickerson responded that it is coming along amazing, the plan is to have it open in August or September to be able to move all of the kids out there and get the programs going before the school year starts. Dr. Paschen asked about YSS holding an open house? Dickerson replied that yes, they will. Report included in agenda packet.

#### **6.5 Story County Public Health (PH); Eric Adelmund, Sherry Zook, Jane Esterly-Rettig**

Adelmund, Esterly-Rettig, and Zook provided the update for PH. PH's intern shared a video with everyone about universal changing stations. Pleis questioned if there are any portable options especially during events such as the special Olympics or any ISU sporting or other big event? Esterly-Rettig replied that when Changing Spaces was at the Public Health Conference of Iowa 2 years ago they were set in the ground or attached to a wall due to safety concerns however their intern can definitely look into options. Matos inquired about where the bathrooms would be installed? Esterly-Rettig provided the Board that they would mostly be 1 stall, family restrooms so either gender could go in. Matos followed up with asking if PH is looking for family restrooms? Esterly-Rettig confirmed they are looking for family restrooms. Matos also commented that most public spaces like library's do not give much space for restrooms even though we should. Dr. Paschen added that at the end of the PH intern's presentation it mentioned wanting support from the board and he went on to clarify if that meant PH needing a motion or are they not ready for that yet? Esterly-Rettig responded that their intern wanted ideas on how to proceed and support to then go to the BOS. Pleis suggested approaching the DOT to get the changing systems into their rest stops on I-35 due to the quantity of people traveling and the accessibility of the rest stops to reach the most amount of people and looking into portable options for Ames due to the events they hold. Lee agreed that the ideas to approach the DOT and ISU are great options especially for funding purposes in addition to locations. Lee also commented that approaching the BOS is a good idea yet she is unsure of their mechanism for approving funding and selecting specific locations for the changing stations. Lee strongly recommended the BOH support the project and encourage the BOS to consider funding it. Matos seconded Lee's recommendation and stated that she learned a lot from the presentation. Badger agreed with Lee and Matos on supporting the project. Badger queried if the changing stations can be found online to see what they look like and if there are brands of them? Esterly-Rettig confirmed there are brands and on the Changing Spaces website people can see what they look like. Dr. Paschen agreed in support of the project and then questioned again whether a motion was needed. It was decided unanimously that no motion was needed so the Board is supporting the project without acting on it. Esterly-Rettig did state that PH had an action item hiding at the end of their report to endorse the Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice's legal clinic. Dr. Paschen and the board let PH know the action item needs to be submitted separately so that it is known that an action is needed and since it was not submitted correctly

to the agenda then it will have to be on the next one. Dr. Paschen also asked PH to then give a presentation with it next time so the Board got a better idea of what it entailed, the rest of the board agreed to include more in their presentation. Esterly-Rettig confirmed they will and stated they will bring Susan Benner who is in heading this up to speak. Pleis clarified to make sure that PH includes that there is an action item for the agenda. Dr. Paschen asked for clarification if clinics around the county that see children specifically but do not give out vaccines because the vaccines are VFC? Esterly-Rettig clarified that physicians who go out on their own for family practices do not handle VFC vaccines due to having to enroll in the program. PH and Dr. Paschen came to an agreement that they all will look into it and try to find out more. Matos posited whether CFR could try to collaborate with PH for contacts or help to get into schools to help spread their programs? Zook replied that yes, absolutely they are welcome to collaborate with them. Matos commented that maybe with this collaboration CFR could then reach ISU with their programs as well. Report included in agenda packet.

#### **6.6 Story County Environmental Health (EH); Kimberly Grandinetti**

Grandinetti provided the update for EH. No questions were asked.

### **6. Additional Items:**

#### **7.1 ISU Public Science Collaborative; Sarah Walker, GTSB Early Treatment Partnership Grant**

Walker gave a synopsis of the 1-year project. Pleis questioned if the project is a substance and mental health resource website and what ages will it have resources for? Walker replied that it will have resources for all ages however it will be more targeted to the ages of 14 and up due to the fund coming from Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau and those are the driving ages. Walker also noted that some information will be for early prevention and warning signs to watch for to get treatment started before it becomes an addiction or lifelong issue. Pleis inquired if Walker was going to schools or PTO meetings with handouts? Walker confirmed that some partners are taking the resources to schools, career fairs, and ISU. Walker also noted that one partner doing this is the Sheriff's Department and the Sheriff's Department has agreed to take them everywhere they go and also hand them out when they come into a situation that is substance related, whether it is an arrest or not to help people before their situation could turn tragic. Dr. Paschen wondered if the project is a clearinghouse? Walker confirmed their goal is to be the resource hub for Story County and help network the pieces together. Dr. Paschen brought up the First Five and discussed with Walker how it is similar to this project. Dr. Paschen also suggested to Walker to reach out to providers to do a referral system to their website or an agent and to do a follow up if possible. Pleis did note that a follow up and referrals might be difficult to justify with the GTSB for funding purposes. Report included in agenda packet.

#### **7.2 Election of Officers for Story County Board of Health; Dr. Paschen**

Dr. Paschen nominated Molly Lee for the position of Chair for the Board of Health. Motion by Pleis to approve Lee as Chair and Dr. Paschen as Vice-Chair for the Story County Board of Health; Badger, Pleis, Lee, Paschen, Matos: Aye; Heddens: no vote, not present. Motion passed on voice vote.

### **7. Comments:**

**Staff:** None.

**Board:**

Lee: There is an Iowa Antimicrobial Stewardship Summit on March 28<sup>th</sup>, all day at the Gateway hotel in Ames. If anyone would like to attend let Lee know so that she can help you get registered. Also, if anyone wants to talk on the radio, let Lee know.

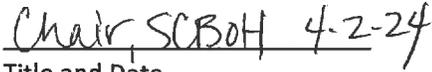
**8 Adjournment**

*Matos moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Pleis.*

**Lee adjourned the meeting at 3:34 PM.**

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read "Matos", written over a horizontal line.

Approval of Minutes

Handwritten text "Chair, SCBOH 4-2-24" written over a horizontal line.

Title and Date