



STORY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

STORY COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
900 6TH STREET
NEVADA, IOWA 50201

Minutes

AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE FULL MEETING MAY BE FOUND IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT OR BY VISITING WWW.STORYCOUNTYIOWA.GOV.

DATE: February 4th, 2025

Molly Lee, DVM, MPH – Chair

John Paschen, MD – Vice-Chair

Mike Badger

CALL TO ORDER: 2:00 PM

PLACE: Public Meeting Room – Story County Administration
900 6th St
Nevada, IA

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: Molly Lee, John Paschen, Mike Badger, Sherrie Pleis, Betsy Matos, Lisa Heddens (ex-officio).

Quorum was established.

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Jane Esterly-Rettig, Eric Adelmund, Sydney Strong, Mindy Speake, Heather Krusemark, Diane Luth, Philip Becraft, Kimberly Grandinetti, Matthew Cory, Laura Johnston, Allie Hoffman (Recording Secretary).

1. Call to Order

Lee called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Paschen, seconded by Pleis to move item 6.1 to be after Public Forum and approve as amended.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Paschen, seconded by Pleis to approve minutes from December 3rd, 2024 meeting & December 13th, 2024 special meeting, as amended.

4. Public Forum:

None.

Motion by Pleis, seconded by Paschen to approve minutes and agenda as amended for today. Motion passed on voice vote.

5. Additional Items:

5.1 Discussion & Consideration for Chapter 69 Waiver Request Related 2230 State Avenue, Ames; Kimberly Grandinetti

Grandinetti explained why the waiver request is necessary and what it entails. Paschen asked when the code changes will go into effect? Grandinetti answered that the changes will be in place in the summer of '25, June hopefully. Paschen inquired if the regulations do not change, then what happens? Grandinetti replied that EH has the extra measures of sampling that will continue to happen as it does now and if a sample does come back bad, then looking into it and discussing options such as replacement at that time. Therefore, if code does not change and system is failing, discussions would start about bringing system up to current regulations. Paschen asked for clarification on the waiver then being no longer in place? Grandinetti stated that yes, the waiver is conditioned to this permit only. Paschen questioned whether the waiver would still hold during a Time of Transfer inspection? Grandinetti provided that yes, the waiver is tied to the permit and not the owners. Badger inquired if the waiver gets recorded? Grandinetti informed the Board that it is not required to be recorded but it has to be kept on file by the DNR. Lee asked if the Board chose to do item #2, then it would remain in place until the system needs replacing, and that is determined by the every 6 months testing? Grandinetti answered yes, exactly. Paschen supplied that the waiver holds as long as the system is working? Grandinetti answered yes, no item to formally hold if it goes away. Matos questioned if Grandinetti has documented the conversations with DNR? Grandinetti stated no, nothing in writing from the DNR but there have been phone conversations. Matos asked if this is the first time requesting approval for a waiver? Grandinetti answered yes, this way. Matos then asked if EH knows of any counties that do waivers for any system or specifically this type of system? Grandinetti replied that some counties are in fact using waivers but not sure for this type of system specifically. Lee inquired since Board gave EH signatory authority, do these items need to be brought in front of the Board in the future? Grandinetti replied that DNR stated that they specifically want BOH approval on these in regards to State rules specifically.

1. **Motion by Paschen to approve waiver request to repair existing system, allowing current tertiary treatment to remain sized as is with the condition that extra protective measures of routine sampling 2 times per year remain in place until such time as the system needs to be fully replaced or the rules no longer require tertiary treatment, Badger seconded, MCU.**

6. Agency and Departmental Reports:

6.1 Community & Family Resources (CFR); Heather Krusemark

Krusemark provided the update for CFR. Lee questioned why there are no chapters here? Krusemark replied that there are none in the state and no advisor for local currently. Lee inquired why there are no policies? Krusemark responded that there are smoke-free home policies however, those contacted to adopt and implement them did not want them. Lee asked how the free trainings are advertised? Krusemark informed the Board that they are advertised by CEUs, word-of-mouth, and social media. Agency report included in agenda packet.

6.2 Youth and Shelter Services (YSS); Mindy Speake & Sydney Strong

Speake and Strong provided the update for YSS. Matos asked what the requirements for mentoring are? Speake replied that there is an application, background check, and training orientation. Matos then questioned how many matches there are? Speake answered that there are about 130 matches but it changes daily and the current number is listed in the packet/report included in the agenda packet. Lee inquired about who mans the anonymous phone line? Strong informed the Board that Human Health Services (HHS) has employees that are trained to do it. Strong also noted that if anyone wanted to be a mentor, or knew someone who did, to reach out. Agency report included in agenda packet.

6.3 Story County Public Health (PH); Eric Adelmund, Jane Esterly-Rettig

Adelmund and Esterly-Rettig provided the update for PH. Paschen stated that students need a note from the doctor and that the law is great but not well written. Esterly-Rettig noted that with the wastewater results, there are RSV, Covid, and Flu A in the water. Lee inquired if the wastewater treatment samples will be public? Esterly-Rettig responded that the Infectious Disease team at Mary Greeley Medical Center (MGMC) will be notified if any diseases come up in the samples. Matos asked how this will help? Esterly-Rettig replied that the team at the hospital can be prepared and monitor/track the disease(s). Matos inquired if the media will be ready in case it hits a certain number for concern? Esterly-Rettig informed the Board that no, MGMC will not handle it as the State Hygienic Lab (SHL) will. Matos stated that having the information public helps with mistrust for government. Matos then questioned how the communication is with Iowa State's Thielen Student Health Center (TSHC)? Esterly-Rettig replied that HHS requires schools to report information, not TSHC. Matos asked how the information is distributed? Matos and Paschen agreed that PH should coordinate. Paschen inquired if there are any relationships to News outlets? Adelmund responds that yes, PH has access to News outlets through MGMC. Paschen noted the KHOI radio show. Matos inquired if the News person at MGMC knows about the communication coming? Matos also inquired if it is possible for PH to put how far into the Fiscal Year (FY) they are for their report? Pleis questioned if other towns besides Nevada and Ames have let PH test their water? Esterly-Rettig replied that PH has not reached out to other towns yet. Pleis commented that it would be good if PH could get all the small towns to get their water tested to monitor it for any potential disease outbreaks. Esterly-Rettig responded that PH would push socials if needed. Paschen asked who is in charge of the Bird Flu? Pleis comments that the USDA is. Lee added that the USDA is responsible for poultry, livestock, wild birds, and other mammals and CDC is responsible for humans. Pleis stated that reports on crossovers to dairy cattle as well are from the USDA. Lee added that the USDA website has all the information posted on it. Matos commented that with the recent round table information about homelessness, she has seen reductions at the Ames library specifically. Adelmund commented that the round table discussion has brought more awareness and PH is able to share the resources they have and know to help. Lee questioned if there is a comparison for our county versus other counties regarding vaccine immunizations? Esterly-Rettig answered that she is unsure if the State number has come out yet and that PH can look at Story County's data only so far since it is PH's data. Paschen stated that it is getting worse, there are religious exemptions too. Matos noted that she is looking forward to data. Esterly-Rettig noted that the data should be usable next fall. Agency report included in agenda packet.

6.4 Story County Environmental Health (EH); Kimberly Grandinetti

Grandinetti provided the update for EH. Paschen asked whether or not it is onerous to just give radon test kits away? Grandinetti replied that EH loses a little to EH's current price now and EH is not sure if people actually use them if they are free. Lee questioned if EH collected info to be able to reach out again? Grandinetti responded that yes we did but it took awhile to get responses when we tried. Paschen inquired about what is being discussed regarding tanning? Grandinetti informed the Board that it is the no one under 18 restriction. Lee questioned if Grandinetti could expand on the HHS during disasters legislation? Grandinetti answered that it puts on more restrictions takes away the isolation, and possibly related to vaccines. Paschen commented that he is very impressed with how well EH handles wastewater issues, well sampling, and other things. Lee noted that Laura deserves a shoutout in regards to the well water sampling because she is always thinking about it. Agency report included in agenda packet.

7. Additional Items:

7.1 Discussion Of Story County Board Of Health Position Statement On Gender Affirming Care For Transgender And Gender Diverse Children And Adolescents; John Paschen

Paschen introduced the statement and explained why it is important. Discussion was had between the Board members. After a long discussion, Lee questioned if there were any new points to be added? Paschen noted

that the Board should acknowledge the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Alliance on Mental Illness if the statement goes forward. Lee stated that the Board should consider everything said today and to go forward, bring amendments to the next meeting. Lee also commented that the last two sentences are major points. At the next meeting the Board will consider a motion and vote.

8. Comments:

Staff: None.

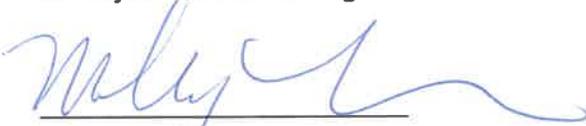
Board:

Lee: We all received an email report from MICA.

9. Adjournment

Matos moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Pleis.

Lee adjourned the meeting at 3:45 PM.



Approval of Minutes

BoH Chair 4-8-25

Title and Date