



**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: October 6, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Zoom Meeting

Dr. John Paschen, Chair

Mark Speck, Vice-Chair

Dr. John Kluge

Dr. Louisa Tabatabai

Dr. Molly Lee

Lisa Heddens (Ex-officio)

*Absent

STAFF PRESENT: Cathy Bazylnski Environmental Specialist; Matt Cory, Environmental Specialist; Stephanie Jones, Recording Secretary;

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT: Dani, Heather Bombei, Les White, Linda Murken, Mark Lambert, Todd Anderson, Todd Lundvall, David Sprau, Lauris Olson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. John Paschen called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Paschen read the special note to public: Due to recommendations to social distance in order to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the capacity of our meeting room is significantly limited.

Therefore, public access to the meeting is provided via Zoom. Members of the public can participate by using the information at the bottom of agenda. Board of Health members are also present via Zoom.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA MCU

Motion by Speck, Second by Kluge to approve agenda (MCU)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Kluge, Second by Lee to approve the September 9, 2020 and September 18, 2020 minutes. (MCU)

4. PUBLIC FORUM

None

5. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Community and Family Resources Presentation

Todd Anderson provided information about prevention/education training for recognizing signs and



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symptoms of mental health disorders both in-person and virtually. Anyone in Iowa that is 18 or older is free to attend these no cost trainings. Heddens asked if the mental health training is similar to the CICS region training. Anderson stated it is the same type of training, but just under a different grant or agency. Lee stated she has previously taken the training and it is a good opportunity.

Proclamation of October 2020 As Watershed Awareness Month

There were no questions or comments.

Motion by Kluge, Second by Lee to Proclaim October 2020 as Watershed Awareness Month with the correction to change the approval from the Board of Supervisors to the Board of Health. (MCU)

COVID-19 Home Quarantine Order

Les White provided an update on the number of COVID-19 cases. Today's positivity rate is 6.8%, which has remained stable for the past two weeks. White shared information about new quarantine guidance from IDPH and stated that all the schools within Story County are following the new recommendations. Paschen asked White for her opinion regarding the new guidelines. White stated the recommendations are based on research related to students wearing a mask and whether or not exposures take place if all students are wearing masks; and, it was found that exposures were not taking place if masks were being worn. White provided information about Story County zip code levels of data being released and stated that all towns are large enough and would be eligible for information to be released except for one town within the County.

White stated that currently testing at the Story County testing site is averaging around 200 tests a day and the average time to process is one day. White shared that they are also able to provide mobile testing in the event that a business is in need of testing employees.

White provided information about the COVID-19 immunization program. Nursing homes, first responders, older people, people with underlying conditions, critical workers, teachers would be addressed and sometime after the first of the year the vaccine should become more readily available.

Heddens asked about outreach to businesses and childcare centers with regard to the new quarantine guidance. White stated they are working with other individuals as well as schools to provide the new guidance.

Speck asked what type of COVID testing is most accurate. White stated the one that is most accurate is the mid-turbinate, which according to Paschen is the type that Vet Med is now using, and is the swab that people refer to as going clear to the back.

White stated that some counties are having difficulties with people being non-compliant and shared an order that could be used as an example in the event of someone not following quarantine orders.



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White stated that since March, there had only been one complaint, but after discussion with the individual, there were no additional complaints. Ethan Anderson stated he feels this is very similar to the order previously approved in March. Anderson felt the same plan as previously approved at a March 2020 meeting is still appropriate to use in the event of enforcement of quarantine. Anderson went over the proper procedures that would be involved in approval of an emergency quarantine order and the steps to call an emergency meeting.

6. AGENCY AND DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Story County Public Health

White complimented her staff for the extra work they have been doing with additional tasks due to COVID-19. Treasa Ferrari stated they have reached out to places where foot care clinics were offered prior to COVID to offer flu shots. Ferrari updated on disease cases. White stated that in working with Mary Greeley there would be a temporary position posted soon for a COVID response nurse to help at the Test Iowa Site and with vaccines.

Story County Environmental Health

The Environmental Health staff report is available on the Agenda Center for review due to Margaret Jaynes being absent.

YSS

Ryan Doyle provided program updates on Child Safety, Child Abuse Prevention, Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, Youth Development, Mentoring, Substance Abuse, and Tobacco Program. Some of the programs are in person and some virtually. A youth program for Tobacco Prevention is being worked on. Doyle provided information about current use of vaping and cannabis use. Paschen asked about the opioid problem in the county. Doyle said that he has not seen any new data recently. He has conferred with law enforcement and he is not aware of much overdosing occurring within the last few months.

7. PUBLIC HEARING:

Face Covering Regulation Requiring the Use of Face Coverings by Certain Individuals in Public Settings

Paschen stated the Face Covering Regulation is mostly the same as approved at the last meeting, with the addition of taking away the penalty going into effect until the Emergency Proclamation expires or the Governor allows locals to mandate. Paschen stated that he would like to discuss the possibility of religious exemptions being allowed before the public hearing. Paschen could not think of any reasonable exemptions and from personal experience at his own church, all duties were doable with some restrictions.



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Public Comments None

Speck asked if the regulation could be implemented without the authority from the Governor. Paschen stated that without, a mandate is only a suggestion. Discussion took place on The City of Ames passing their mandate without penalties. Anderson stated that the situation is balancing the limits of authority with the desire by the Board to do something. Authority is limited by overwhelming consensus among Iowa attorneys. Some attorneys view differently that the Board of Health has authority apart from the Board of Supervisors, which enabled Johnson County to pass their mandate. Anderson advised that by removing the penalty, the potential is taken away to be sued. Once the Governor gives authorization, the Board of Health can pass rules and regulations, but currently with the proclamation in place, the legal consensus is that the authority rests with the Governor. Paschen stated the reason the penalties are still in the regulation is in the event that the Governor lifts the Proclamation or allows local governments to mandate, then the language is already in the regulation without going through another public hearing. Anderson agreed that doing the Regulation this way is a time saving measure and the Regulation would be effective upon publication.

Motion by Kluge, Second by Tabatabai to pass the Face Covering Regulation requiring the use of face coverings by certain individuals in public settings as amended.

VOTE:
Ayes: Paschen, Tabatabai, Kluge, Lee
Nays: Speck
(4-1)

Motion by Kluge, Second by Tabatabai to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the passage of a Resolution Implementing Board of Health Face Covering Regulation.

VOTE:
Ayes: Paschen, Tabatabai, Kluge, Lee
Nays: Speck
(4-1)

8. COMMENTS:

Staff: None

Board: Speck stated that he has noticed it seems like people are doing better about wearing masks. Paschen feels this is due to the mask mandate in the City of Ames, but feels there are still issues in the other rural areas within the county. Tabatabai stated that the information White provided in her presentation was helpful. Kluge felt there could be a benefit by having a joint Board of Health/Board of Supervisors meeting if additional changes needed to be made in the Regulation to try to expedite the process. Lee stated that she did an interview for a radio show this morning and discussed routes of virus transmission and its dispersal as well as why masks wearing is important. Lee asked that if anyone has ideas for next month's radio show to let her



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know. Heddens thanked everyone for the work done on the Regulation and read some comments that Lauris Olson had posted from the Zoom Chat. Paschen stated that COVID-19 continues to be a threat. Face coverings work to keep the virus from passing from one person to another.

Paschen read the following statement directed to the Board of Supervisors: We have given you a mask mandate with appropriate penalty guidelines. COVID, though the numbers are declining, as they have done in the past, continues to be a threat to Story County, Iowa and our Country. Face coverings work to keep this virus from passing from one person to another. They are safe and doable. Paschen understands that his position is appointed and that the Board of Supervisors are elected positions, but during this time of upheaval and disease, we need leaders and not politicians.

ADJOURNMENT 3:28 p.m.

John Paschen, MD

Approval of Minutes

Chairman, 12/9/20

Title and Date