



**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 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT, OR BY VISITING [WWW.STORYCOUNTYIOWA.GOV](http://WWW.STORYCOUNTYIOWA.GOV)**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**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:** Margaret Jaynes, Environmental Health Director; Cathy Bazylnski, Environmental Specialist; Matt Cory, Environmental Specialist; Stephanie Jones, Recording Secretary

**OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT:** Ethan Anderson, Les White, Treasa Ferrari, Roxy Strike, Ruth Buckels

### 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 being 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 Tabatabai to approve agenda (MCU)**

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion by Tabatabai, Second by Speck to approve the December 1, 2020, December 17, 2020 and January 20, 2021 minutes. MCU**

### 4. PUBLIC FORUM

Roxy Strike stated she is concerned about the lack of communication from the county and health care providers on COVID immunization services. She was interested in knowing what is being done to communicate information with people that do not have internet access. In addition, she would like to see agencies coordinate together a plan for distribution of the vaccine and do a quicker & better job updating information on websites and social media so that current information is available to the public.



**STORY COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH**  
STORY COUNTY ADMINISTRATION  
900 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEVADA, IOWA 50201

Discussion took place about a variety of ways to get information about COVID vaccinations out to the public. Stephanie Jones stated that there is a link on the county website that goes to the Mary Greeley website for COVID vaccine updates. Information has also been posted to social media. Heddens stated that there is a mailing that will be going out soon about mask usage, as well as vaccine information.

**5. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

**Community and Family Resources Presentation**

Todd Anderson provided information about mental health first aid trainings that are being offered regarding recognizing signs and symptoms of mental health disorders. The trainings are open to anyone in Iowa at no cost. Heddens asked if the training is an 8-hour course or if it can be broken up into different time frames. Anderson stated that the first 2 hours is a self-paced course and then the additional training is completed on Zoom, which is 5-6 hours.

**COVID-19 Vaccination Update**

Les White provided a COVID-19 update and provided the following information on current positivity rates and vaccine distribution:

- 9,044 total cases in the county, 8,188 have recovered.
- 14-day average positivity rate is down to 5.4%, which has remained stable for the past week.
- 40 deaths in the county.
- One long-term care facility currently has an outbreak.
- 6,663 have been vaccinated, 1,567 have completed the vaccine.
- Providers in the county have given 8,826 vaccines, with 2,062 completed. White stated the reason the number is higher is that some may work in Story County, but live in a different county.
- Test Iowa site has been relatively slow. Overall positivity rate for the site 11.3%.
- COVID mailing should be sent out in about a week.
- White provided information about the vaccine clinics. Public Health is working with McFarland Clinic, Story County Medical Center, Unity Point, Primary Health Care, and NESCO. Allocations have been provided to them and they are contacting their clients. If there are individuals not associated with a primary care provider at any of the clinics, they can contact Public Health who will connect them with one of the clinics to be vaccinated. The larger clinics are starting with the oldest and working backwards to the youngest. The smaller clinics are reaching out to those at higher risk first. Public Health will continue to provide vaccine immunizations to the clinics.
- Public Health is immunizing the 1B Tier I group, which includes first responders, Pre K-12 staff, early childhood education, and childcare workers.
- Immunization clinics are beginning to be set up with school districts and first responders.
- Immunization allocations are still not routine and some have not been received at all. Planning the clinics is difficult because there is not a consistent amount of vaccine being received, nor is the day



**STORY COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH**  
STORY COUNTY ADMINISTRATION  
900 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
NEVADA, IOWA 50201

vaccines are received on a consistent day.

- Additional funding for \$205,369.00 was received which will mostly be used for salaries. Eight additional nurses have been hired and they will be going out to schools to do vaccinations. When Tier 2 is started, there will be enough staff available to start vaccinations at manufactures.
- The B117 Variant from the United Kingdom has now been detected in Iowa. Monitoring will continue to be done. IDPH feels the current vaccines will cover that variant.

Speck asked how many vaccine allocations are being received. White stated this week that 1,400 doses were received and distributed between all clinics, and approximately 300 doses kept back by Public Health to start vaccinations with schools and first responders. Speck asked how much is coming in each week. White stated 975 should be coming this week, but they have not yet been received. Speck asked how many doses are in a bottle. Pfizer contains six doses per bottle and Moderna contains 10 doses, with an occasional bottle that has 11 doses. Paschen asked for clarification about the original plan for half of the vaccine allocation would go to those 65 and older and the other half to teachers and first responders. White stated that recommendation was changed by IDPH, and the goal is to allocate the best they can between the groups.

White stated there have been questions about how Polk County is working with pharmacies. White stated that there has not been enough vaccine to be able to provide to the pharmacies. However, there is talk about a federal pharmacy program where pharmacies could receive vaccines direct from the Federal Government.

Lee asked if the 1,400 doses received this week is just for primary doses for the 1B group or if that number also includes second doses for the 1A group. White stated those are primary doses, and the second doses are booster doses which are sent separately.

Paschen stated that Remivir is being used at Mary Greeley as treatment, but they are discouraged by it. Monoclonal antibodies are being used for outpatient treatment for COVID positive and persons with high risk factors but not sick enough to be admitted to the hospital.

#### **Environmental Health Department's Fee Schedule**

Margaret Jaynes stated that each year the fee table is presented to set fees and provided the current fees. No changes are being recommended.

#### **Motion by Speck, Second by Lee to approve the 2021 Environmental Health Department's Fee Schedule as presented. MCU**

#### **Proposed Tanning Ordinance**

Jaynes stated that about a year ago the Board of Health discussed the tanning ordinance when IDPH was no longer able to continue the tanning program. IDPH continues to permit the tanning facilities, but dropped the inspection contracts. Jaynes stated that the state regulations would be adopted, with the addition of prohibiting minors from tanning.



## STORY COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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

Heddens asked if there are other counties with an age restriction. Jaynes stated she is not aware of any counties in Iowa.

Heddens had some concern that there may not have been enough of an opportunity for the public to provide comments. Paschen suggested tabling the item until the next meeting to allow time for feedback from tanning facilities. Heddens stated that the legislature has attempted addressing this issue in the past statewide. Cathy Bazylinski stated that Scott County does not allow minors under 18 years of age to tan without parental permission. Paschen stated it should be ran by Ethan Anderson to be sure the proposed ordinance is not overly restrictive.

### Agency and Departmental Reports

**Environmental Health** – Jaynes provided an update on 10 well permits, six well pluggings, two well rehabs, and 68 water samples. Grants to Counties has \$21,100 remaining. Complaints were received on burning, landlord tenant issues, and mobile home trailer storage on a rural property. 82 septic permits. Conceptual reviews for a minor subdivision and alley vacation were completed, as well as, interagency reviews for a trucking company, triathlon, subdivision and an Ames Urban Fringe amendment. Meeting/trainings have been virtual. The new Septic ordinance was effective January 1, 2021. Mail inserts are going to be included in Planning and Development's zoning notifications as well as the Assessor's tax mail out. January is Radon Awareness Month and free test kits are available to anyone interested. Paschen stated that when the final plan of water monitoring is available he would like that brought to the BOH.

**Public Health** – Treasa Ferrari stated that they would soon be starting COVID vaccinations at schools. The VA announced they would be vaccinating all veterans. Those 65 and older that do not have a local physician can call public health to be placed on a vaccination list. COVID related issues continue to take up most of the time, with other diseases remaining low. No new TB clients and no reported influenza cases.

**YSS** – Ryan Doyle provided information from the January Prevention Services Report. Topics in the report included: Sexual Resistance Avoidance Education Grant, Community Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grant, Child Safety Programming, Mentoring Month (school-based mentoring, community-based mentoring). Human Trafficking Prevention program, Tobacco Grant. The Story County Prevention Policy Board met recently and it was reported that Kratom advertising signage had been seen near the Ames Public Library. Kratom is a leafy substance that can be smoked or ingested and works as a stimulant or depressant. It is currently a drug of concern, but not currently restricted.

### 6. COMMENTS:

**Staff:** None

**Board:** Lee stated that the morning radio talks with KHOI are going well. A report is given on case statuses and questions from the host, which are typically related to what is popular in the media at that time. Paschen stated thought should begin to be given for a timeframe on a vaccination mailing so it will be ready to go when the vaccine is more readily available. Heddens and Paschen thanked Roxy Strike for



**STORY COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH**

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

the communication comments and the importance of getting information to the public about vaccinations.

**ADJOURNMENT** 3:29 p.m.

  
Approval of Minutes

  
Title and Date

