



**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:** November 10, 2020

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:17 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:** Matt Cory, Environmental Specialist; Stephanie Jones, Recording Secretary

### **OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT:**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. John Paschen called the meeting to order at 6:15 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 Kluge, Second by Lee to approve agenda (MCU)**

#### **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

None

#### **4. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

#### **Request From Story County Public Health For COVID-19 Related Temporary Housing Funding**

Les White began to present the item, but experienced technical difficulties and lost her internet connection. Paschen asked if anyone has thoughts on the proposal. Tabatabai thinks the proposal is good, but does wonder if there is any funding available from the Cares Act. Lauris Olson stated that she did speak with Les White and Jodi Stumbo and that there are two options for funding available. There is Cares Act money available and Governor Reynolds just issued a proclamation a few days ago, that gave funding to hospitals and 3 million that must go to public health purposes. The County will receive the funding and it must be



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used for public health services so it would fit, but it has to be used by the end of 2020. Olson stated that one option for the Board of Supervisors would be to possibly prepay on the contract, but there is Cares Act funding available. White was able to rejoin the Zoom meeting. Paschen asked how many individuals would be able to be taken care of at the Microtel. White stated that if one room is reserved that possibly a family could stay, because there are two beds. Two individuals could also be in the room. Microtel would allow another room to be used if there is availability. White feels that reserving one room at this time would be appropriate and then they would work with the motel in the event of a need for more rooms. White feels the motel is the better option because renting a home would also involve needing to furnish and having a six-month lease. Another advantage of Microtel is that they do serve breakfast as well. Tabatabai asked how many homeless people are in the county that could possibly have a need to use the motel. White stated that to date there has only been one individual that needed accommodations. Tabatabai asked if the City of Ames is involved with finding housing for the homeless. White stated this is more of a county responsibility vs city.

**Motion by Kluge, Second by Tabatabai for approval to use Microtel for COVID-19 related temporary homeless housing.**

**VOTE:**

**Ayes: Kluge, Tabatabai, Lee, Paschen**

**Nays:**

**Absent: Speck**

**(4-0)**

### **Possible Changes To The Story County Face Covering Regulation**

Paschen stated that after the Board of Supervisors passed the face covering regulation there have been questions raised about whether or not clarification is needed regarding 6' distancing issues while inside and to remove face shields as being acceptable to wear. At the time the regulation was written, face shields were acceptable, but now it has been determined they do not work as well as face coverings. Paschen stated that if changes would be made, then they would hold another public hearing, and then it would go back to Board of Supervisors for approval. The cost for publishing was around \$400 for publishing. Tabatabai asked if Paschen is suggesting a change to be made to clarify the indoor face covering regulation, distancing language, and removing the face shield. Paschen agreed that changes would be to adjust language to make it clearer and to remove the face shield recommendation.

Discussion took place about the Governor's new proclamation urging people to wear a face covering, but also about the confusion it created because of regulating a face covering be worn if there is a certain number of people present. Olson stated that she had a chance to review the proclamation and it says individuals must wear face coverings in certain situations with a group of 25 people or more inside; and, more than 100 people outdoors. Olson asked if the Board of Health would be open to look into revising language as to when penalties would take effect. Heddens stated that the wording is unclear because under face coverings it says strongly recommends, but under gatherings, it says must wear face coverings. Ethan Anderson stated he has not had a chance to read the proclamation, but if the Governor has put in must wear face-covering language,



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that should be enforceable. Anderson stated that he advised the board to take some time to think about making changes to the regulation first and then move forward. Tabatabai agreed that some time is needed to look over the proclamation carefully. Kluge asked what would happen if Biden would enforce a mask mandate when he takes office. Discussion took place on whether the County Regulation could now be enforced. Heddens stated to keep in mind that we have to work with the present situation, and that currently we have the Governor's Proclamation that is in effect until December 10, 2020. However, the Governor could remove or change the face-covering portion. Heddens feels that making any change to the regulation should keep in mind any possible future changes. Olson stated that the mandate part is only effective through November 30, 2020. Paschen stated it is a good idea for the board to thoroughly read the Proclamation and think about it prior to the next Board of Health meeting. Anderson provided information that jury trials have now been suspended until February 1, 2021.

**5. COMMENTS:**

**Staff:** None

**Board:** Kluge asked for confirmation about the time of the December Board of Health meeting, which is at 2:00. Paschen felt that due to the situation with COVID numbers rising that he recommended still holding the meeting only by Zoom. Speck texted Heddens and said that he had issues with internet connection so was not able to join the meeting. Heddens stated that the Board of Supervisors are working with The Greater DSM Partnership and other counties to do a large broadband study and hopefully will be able to get a better grip of where the gaps are with broadband within Story County.

**ADJOURNMENT** 6:48 p.m.

John Paschen, MD  
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**Approval of Minutes**

Chairman, 12/9/20  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Title and Date**