



**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: March 11, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: 6:01 p.m.

PLACE: Zoom Meeting

Dr. John Paschen, Chair
Mark Speck, (Arrived at 6:13 p.m.)
Dr. John Kluge
Dr. Louisa Tabatabai
Dr. Molly Lee Vice-Chair
Lisa Heddens (Ex-officio)
*Absent

STAFF PRESENT: Margaret Jaynes, Environmental Health Director; Matt Cory, Environmental Specialist; Stephanie Jones, Recording Secretary

OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT: Les White

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. John Paschen called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Tabatabai to approve agenda (MCU)

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Kristin Grandon stated that the Collins-Maxwell school announced this week that the kids no longer are required to wear masks if more than 6' apart. Grandon was concerned about students in small classrooms having to wear masks and asked the Board why it is not acceptable to allow the students to remove masks while sitting at desks. Paschen stated that the recommendation from the CDC is that kids should wear masks in school. The Story County Face Covering Regulation is also still in effect which suggests face coverings be worn in schools. Grandon asked if there would be a fine given if students do not wear masks in school. Heddens stated that there could be confusion because the regulation does mention a fine; however, a fine would not become effective until such time that the Governor allowed.



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4. CONSENT AGENDA:

Amended contract between Iowa Department of Public Health and Story County Board of Health for Emergency Response Vaccine Program, effective January 18, 2021 – March 31, 2022

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

5. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Story County's Vaccination Plan And The Addition Of Those 64 And Under With Underlying Health Conditions

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

- Amended Phase 1B, which includes individuals 64 years and younger that are or might be at an increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to medical conditions.

Paschen stated the Pfizer vaccine has been approved down to age 16 and Johnson and Johnson and Moderna vaccines are approved for ages 18 and older. Paschen asked if there is any Johnson and Johnson vaccine available yet. White stated that the state would not be able to order any additional Johnson and Johnson vaccine until March 25.

- Discussed the progression on clinics with vaccinations and stated that most clinics will be ready to begin the age 64 and younger with underlying health conditions group next week.

Heddens asked where the 1,200 doses are being allocated each week. White stated that some of the vaccines are held back by Story County Public Health and the remainder are being split between the clinics. Speck asked if the clinics are able to give vaccinations to patients that may be there for a different reason. White stated that all the vaccines are multi-dose, which once opened have to be used within 6 hours. White stated that she is hopeful that eventually there will be one-dose vials available, but at this time they are not available which makes it difficult to give patients vaccinations that are not scheduled ahead of time so that vaccine is not wasted.

Tabatabai asked about individuals that live in rural areas that are not associated with a medical clinic. White stated they could check with pharmacies to be vaccinated or call public health to be directed to a clinic.

Paschen asked about the possibility of setting up vaccination clinics. White stated that McFarland has held a clinic, which went well, and Story County Medical is considering working with NuCara Pharmacy to set up a clinic. White stated that there are plans to set up a drive through clinic once allocations are increased.



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- The majority of teachers have been vaccinated, with a few having second doses by March 30.
- Next week Tier 2 will be starting with group home settings and manufacturers.

Tabatabai asked if there is an idea of how many individuals would be in Tier 3, 4, 5. White does not feel there will be as many, making it possible to combine the tiers.

- Allocations will be increasing by 400 the week of March 22. Counties must distribute 80% of their allocations weekly or will not be able to receive allocations the following week.
- Public Health is able to vaccinate homebound individuals. CDC recently released new guidance about masks for vaccinated individuals.

Kluge would like it to be easier to schedule a second dose in the county for those that received the first dose out of the county.

6. COMMENTS:

Staff: None

Board: Heddens was contacted by an individual asking why Story County seems to receive less vaccine allocation than other counties. White is not aware of how the state determines allocation other than by population. Lee stated that work on the vaccine mailer is in progress and she is trying to obtain the mailing list from the printer so addresses can be checked.

ADJOURNMENT 7:12 p.m.



Approval of Minutes

 

Title and Date

