



**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:** May 20, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:09 p.m.

**PLACE:** Zoom Meeting

Dr. John Paschen, Chair  
Mark Speck  
Dr. John Kluge  
Dr. Louisa Tabatabai  
Dr. Molly Lee Vice-Chair  
Lisa Heddens (Ex-officio)  
\*Absent

**STAFF PRESENT:** Matt Cory, Environmental Specialist; Taylor Jorgensen, Environmental Specialist; Stephanie Jones, Recording Secretary

**OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT:** Linda Murken, Latifah Faisal, Ethan Anderson, James Withers, Ardy Baldwin, Laura Donaldson, Heather Johnson

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. John Paschen called the meeting to order at 7:09 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 Speck to approve agenda (MCU)**

### 3. PUBLIC FORUM: None

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA:

New hire, effective 5/18/21, Taylor Jorgensen – Environmental Health Specialist

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

### 5. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

**CDC's Updated COVID-19 Guidance For Masks For Fully Vaccinated People**



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Paschen asked that Ethan Anderson, Assistant County Attorney, provide an update on the latest legislation. Anderson reminded the Board of Health that from the beginning of discussion of a face covering regulation, the Board of Health did have the power to enforce reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with the state as necessary for the protection of public health. However, at that time it was concluded that the law did not leave room for local control, but the Board of Health decided to do something to protect the public and at the urging of the County Attorney, the penalty was removed which minimized liability risk of the regulation. HF847 appears to now explicitly preempt face covering regulations. Paschen asked if the Board of Health can still make recommendations. Anderson felt that the Board of Health is still able to make requests and recommendations, but not require masks.

There were no comments on the updated CDC Guidelines. Les White was not able to join the meeting, but Paschen stated that the county now has over 60% of adults vaccinated.

### Face Covering Regulation

**Motion by Paschen, Second by Kluge that the Story County Board of Health recommends to the Story County Board of Supervisors to retract the Story County Face Covering Regulation. However, the Story County Board of Health recommends that businesses request employees and patrons to use a face covering, if not fully vaccinated. Furthermore, the Story County Board of Health recommends the use of face coverings in unimmunized students through the remainder of this school year.**

**Voting Aye: Lee, Speck, Kluge, Tabatabai, Paschen**

**Voting Nay: None**

Kluge asked about the City of Ames nullifying the county regulation. Paschen stated that if the Board of Supervisors rescinds the regulation, there will no longer be a need to nullify the county regulation. Molly asked if it would be worthwhile to say for people in public settings to wear face coverings, if not vaccinated. Paschen felt that the recommendation should be kept as simple as possible.

### 6. COMMENTS:

**Staff:** Taylor Jorgensen introduced herself as the new Environmental Health Specialist.

**Board:** Tabatabai stated that she is worried with summer coming and new variants that could spread, and how that could affect students in the fall that have not been immunized. Heddens stated it shows the importance of education and pushing for people to get vaccinated, and continuing to wear masks and social distance. Murken thanked the Board of Health for all of their work. She knows that things ending this way is a bitter pill to swallow, but the regulation was in effect for eight months and she feels it did help.

Paschen stated he hopes to meet in person for the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and requested that anyone not vaccinated to wear a mask or use Zoom.



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**ADJOURNMENT** 7:32 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Title and Date

