

Grundy County Board of Health

Monday, May 8th, 2023

Called to Order: 7:00am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Monday, May 8th, 2023, at 7:00am in the Conference Room at the Grundy County Annex Building in Grundy Center, IA. Per the Iowa Public Information Board: Electronic Meetings for a Governmental Body, minutes must include a statement explaining why an in-person meeting was impossible or impractical.

Zoom/conference call attendance will still continue to be available to board members and to the public. Meetings will be recorded and uploaded onto Grundy County Public Health (GCPH) Google Drive, with links available in minutes. Meeting recordings will be deleted off of Drive after no less than 1-years-time but will continue to be available upon request on GCPH Administrator, Katie Thornton-Lang's, county computer drive. Appointed board members present in person: Lexie Hach, MA, Chairperson; Tom Boheman, BS. Also present in person: Barbara Smith, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS); Thornton-Lang; Michelle VanDeest, GCPH Office Coordinator. Appointed board members present via zoom/conference call: Mike Nelsestuen, ARNP, LBOH Medical Provider; Crystal Petersen, RDN, LD, Vice-Chairperson; Julie Johnson, PsyD, LMHC. Also present via zoom: Heather Bombei, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (IHHS) Regional Consultant; Natalie Daugherty, University of Iowa (UofI) Intern.

The minutes from March 13th, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Boheman; seconded by Johnson; carried. The minutes were approved as written. Minutes were signed by Chair, Hach, and will be submitted to IowaGrants.gov following meeting.

FY24 Budget Discussion/Action for Approval: LBOH discussed final budget from BOS. BOS has requested that the previously submitted budget of \$165,570 be lessened by \$2185. Options to do so within LBOH line items were discussed. VanDeest recommends changing employee mileage from \$3500 to \$3000, office data processing equipment from \$1200 to \$855 (will not have Gordon Flesh copier following, due to other IT purchases through grants), office equipment from \$5000 to \$1340 (initial equipment estimate was based on previous COVID grant dollars which will no longer be applicable). Motion to cut budget based on VanDeest recommendations: Nelsestuen; seconded by Johnson; carried. GCPH administrator will send updates to Grundy County Auditor's Office/BOS following meeting, along with salary sheets for GCPH employees.

Public Health Report for March/April 2023:

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

- FY24 grant was submitted on 4/17/23 (due date of 4/21/23). Projected funding: \$36,396; FY23 funding was \$36,539 (difference of -\$146). Projected activities will be same as FY23: continued meeting collaborations, LBOH work, disease outbreak investigations, household sharps program, child passenger safety programming, community/school

education/outreach, social media posts, and other needs as they are presented. Future regionalization was discussed amongst board members.

- Thornton-Lang attended the Public Health Conference of Iowa in March, participating in various sessions to broaden public health's role and network with other public health professionals.
- GCPH continues to participate in community meetings/discussions including but not limited to Grundy County Community Partners (board), Grundy Center Wellness Committee (board), Child Passenger Safety State Advisory (board), Black Hawk Grundy Mental Health Center (board), NEI3A (board), LPHS Collaborative (board). Thornton-Lang, as board member of NEI3A board of directors, delivered meals to Grundy Center homebound individuals in March for "March for Meals" program.
- Internships: GCPH currently has two interns from the University of Iowa (UofI) College of Public Health: an undergraduate and a graduate student doing a hybrid in-person/virtual internship. They are working on various topics for their internship and more will be available on next report once they are finished for the semester.
- Disease Outbreak Updates: An isolated suspected case of brucellosis was reported to GCPH on 4/5/23. Following additional testing by State Hygienic Lab (SHL), patient was deemed not a case and closed by Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (IHHS) on 4/10/23. GCPH kept in touch with state epidemiologist during timeframe on procedures/next steps.
- Household Sharps Program
 - Received 8 containers during reporting period.
 - GCPH distributed information on new procedures via email communications to local partners/ stakeholders, as well as on social media.
- Grundy County Child Passenger Safety Program (GCCPSP): no updates for reporting period.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS):
 - Concussion/Bike Safety: programming offered to all kindergarten classrooms in Grundy County. During reporting period, completion of programming at BCLUW, DNH, GR, and GC took place with TC and AGWSR scheduled for completion in May.
 - Hand Hygiene/Staying Healthy: No updates until next fiscal year.

Immunization (I4) Grant

- FY24 grant was submitted on 4/17/23 (due date of 4/20/23). Projected funding will be same as FY23: \$8585. Projected activities will be same as FY23: immunization audit completions, influenza campaign, social media posting, and other immunization needs as they are presented.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS) – Vaccination/Staying Healthy
 - No updates until next fiscal year.

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant

- FY24 grant was submitted on 4/24/23 (due date of 4/27/23). Projected funding will be the same as FY23: \$10,000. Projected activities will be similar to FY23: LifeSkills teaching, Red Ribbon Week materials, community events, social media posting, and other substance prevention needs as they are presented.

- LifeSkills programming was completed at Timothy Christian with middle school students, and at Gladbrook-Reinbeck with 4th graders during reporting period.
- Summer Safety was presented to Grundy Center Middle School students, per teachers request, discussing substance use and other safety topics including bike safety with INRCOG.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant

- PHEP meetings have been held via zoom.
- GCPH participated in tabletop exercise in March during reporting period with Service Area 6 preparedness partners, including Grundy County Emergency Management Agency Coordinator, Chase Babcock. Exercise was in relation to power outage and response needed for community members following.
- Medical Reserve Corps. (MRC)
 - The Grundy County Medical Reserve Corps. (GC-MRC) continues to help at various community events, as needed and desired. There are currently 26 active volunteers.

6YR Preparedness Grant

- The public health emergency declaration for COVID-19 will expire nationwide on 5/11/23. Currently, the state of Iowa no longer requires COVID as a reportable disease. Data and information for COVID will be made available weekly with IHHS respiratory surveillance report which is accessible to the public. The World Health Organization (WHO) ended global emergency the previous Friday.
- GCPH will finalize funding made available for response during FY24.
- IHHS has amended response funding to be made available for possible future response needs and GCPH has signed contract (available in IowaGrants.gov).

Opioid Settlement Funding

- GCPH is working with other county entities on various initiatives for state-wide opioid settlement. Initiatives include school student education, school staff education/trainings, community outreach and other projects. More information will be available in FY24 regarding this funding and programming.

Social Media Stats

- Reporting period March/April 2023 (see attachment): 5096 individuals reached. Facebook and Instagram stats were not available for reporting period.

GCPH Evaluation Discussion: LBOH reviewed templates for evaluations on GCPH Administrator to conduct in upcoming weeks. This same evaluation template will be utilized for GCPH Office Coordinator to be adapted and completed by Administrator. Grundy County Sanitarian evaluation will be discussed at July meeting. Motion to approve template to be utilized for Administrator evaluation by Boheman; seconded by Petersen; evaluation template approved. Discussion of how process will work was given to new board members.

FY24 Board Meeting Dates/Times Discussion: LBOH discussed how future meetings will be held, including possible date/time changes. Currently, for FY24, meetings are scheduled for Tuesday mornings of every two months (July, September, November, January, March, and May) at 7:00am. Will look to still hold these meetings to conduct required/action item business, and possibly have evening/late afternoon meetings in other months for presenters and other information sharing. Will finalize information in November to begin in January.

Landfill Commission Updates: Ryan Bingman, representative, was reached out to by Thornton-Lang, via email. No updates as of initial report. Bingman is not getting information currently; Smith will follow up on this matter. Smith reports that the landfill is currently working on sharps being removed from the landfill with state waste management and that the environmental covenant from the state is being worked on by the commission.

Environmental Health Updates: The following report was emailed from Carie Sparks, Environmental Health Specialist: *Grundy County Environmental Health Update May 2023. I have started doing water tests again now that Spring has arrived. So far since January I have done 10 tests. Those check for coliform bacteria, e. coli, nitrates, arsenic, and manganese. Of those 10, 2 have come back with slight traces of coliform bacteria. Coliform can be reduced in the well with shock chlorination. Also there has been an uptick in manganese in some of the test. 4 of the 10 have come back with some level of manganese. This is common across the state of Iowa which is why IHHS added this testing to our grant program. As with arsenic, manganese can be removed from well water with a reverse osmosis system installed in the home. Septic system time has also started. {As of today}, I have permitted 7 systems. Of those 7, 4 are planned to alternative systems. Which means that we are finding limiting layers of either groundwater or clay that prevents a conventional system from being installed. This is quite unusual for Grundy County, but I believe the groundwater level is changing and we may see more of this throughout the county. I have permitted a few new wells. One was due, to the old one drying up. The other was new for farming use. I am still selling Radon test kits here in the office. If you speak to people about testing and they are interested in a test, they can pick them up from my office at the cost of \$7. That includes postage and lab fees. Other than that, things on the EH side are going well. Thank you, Carie Steinbron Sparks- Grundy County Sanitarian*

Environmental Health Job Description/Position Updates: GCPH will provided updates from County Attorney, Erika Allen, and Sparks regarding this position and other updates to be followed up at future meetings.

Recorded Meeting available via zoom for future viewing on Google Drive:

- Video link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EWLdgy5N4gY-1frh_QGU1SyodAcupfzD/view?usp=share_link
- Audio link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kkT_Zf_OKAPpE8HIztfxPWVC72f4GnuO/view?usp=share_link
- File link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1s-OP5OoZPAFStTp3M96Xe8CFWapWRUL2?usp=share_link

Meeting adjourned at 8:09am; motion by Petersen, second by Nelsestuen; carried.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 9th, 2023, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

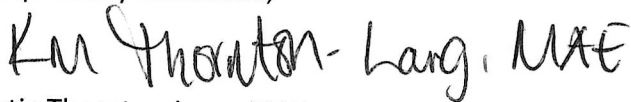
Scheduled Meeting Topics:

Partner Presentations: Black Hawk County Health Department, Allen Women's Health, Pathways Behavioral Services, Inc. (as available)

GCPH Structure Updates (as needed)

Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE

Grundy County Public Health Administrator

Lexie Hach, MA

Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson

