

Grundy County Board of Health

Monday, September 12th, 2023

Called to Order: 7:01am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Monday, September 12th, 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 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 from 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; Crystal Petersen, RDN, LD, Vice Chairperson, LBOH Medical Provider; Tom Boheman, BS. Also present in person: Carie Sparks, Grundy County Sanitarian; Joan Blair, Wellness Committee and MRC Volunteer; and Thornton-Lang. Appointed board members present via zoom/conference call: Mike Nelsestuen, ARNP, LBOH Medical Provider; and Julie Johnson, PsyD, LMHC. Also present via zoom: Amanda Kirchoff, WIC; Traci Smith and Brenda Rieken, Black Hawk County Public Health; and Giuliana Rokke-Smith, University of Iowa College of Public Health Intern.

The minutes from July 11th, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Boheman; seconded by Petersen; carried. The minutes were approved as written. Minutes were signed by Chair, Hach, and will be submitted to IowaGrants.gov following meeting.

Operation Threshold/WIC: Amanda Kirchoff presented updates from services provided to Grundy County. Attachment was shared with board prior to meeting, which was not correct; Thornton-Lang will reach out to Kirchoff for correct information shared and email to board. Inquiry from board: do you have to be a resident of Grundy County to count for that data? Yes, services go by address of residence. Inquiry: is this information shared to local providers/clinics/hospital? Data is not shared unless they attend other stakeholder meetings, not given directly to healthcare partners; income guidelines are given to them.

Black Hawk County Health Department: Traci Smith and Brenda Rieken presented on updates provided to Grundy County, with attachment shared with board prior to meeting along with an infograph that Smith will share with Thornton-Lang to send out to board and connect to other Grundy County clinics/providers. 1st Five: Inquiry of any connections we can help with via clinics/providers/etc.? Yes, suggestion to share infograph with clinic/providers. ISmile: Inquiry of if written/verbal consent for program is available at school registrations? Yes, they are sent home with packets/information at this time and there is another consent following needed that is contacted for. Inquiry if partnership with childcare centers if needed? Yes, Thornton-Lang will send information to email listserv, with Rieken cc'd on email.

GCPH Structure Changes/Updates: GCPH discussed the office coordinator position with the board, to which Michelle has resigned from. Motion to approve resignation by Nelsestuen; seconded by Boheman; carried. In the interim of hiring new, backup for Thornton-Lang for disease outbreak investigations will be state EPI and for other public health matters will be Hach. Motion to create/utilize subcommittee, consisting of Boheman and Johnson, for updating job description and handling hiring process with Thornton-Lang by Petersen; seconded by Nelsestuen; carried.

Iowa Health and Human Services (IHHS) Merger/Alignment Updates: GCPH updated board on the IHHS merger/alignment and will continue to email information as it becomes available. Recently, surveys were distributed and completed as part of alignment project. At this juncture, we still have no concept of how structure will be managed.

Landfill Commission Updates: No updates available currently. Following meeting, representative Ryan Bingman did email Thornton-Lang to let know that is receiving emails and will be attending upcoming meeting.

Environmental Health Updates: County Sanitarian/Environmental Health Specialist, Carie Sparks, provided department updates, with attachment shared with board prior to meeting. Sparks has been promoting programs available via signage at DOT office, which has gathered interest/inquiry. Hach suggests for future intern assistance with promotional programming and to work with GCPH social media and email listserv to get the word out about services available.

Public Health Report for July/August 2023:

Local Public Health Services (LPHS) Grant

- 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). For specific updates on any of these collaborative matters, please contact GCPH Administrator. GCPH Administrator, Thornton-Lang, has been on Grundy Family YMCA Advisory Board for last few years. Due to changes with Branch services, representation will be from GCPH in correlation with CHNA-HIP.
- Internships: GCPH currently hosts an undergraduate intern from the University of Iowa College of Public Health. Intern will introduce herself (via zoom) and discuss current objectives and goals for internship, including plans to possibly work on curriculum and education to extend the Healthy Habit All-Stars program offered to local kindergarten classes in the county.
- Disease Outbreak Updates
 - Previous state EPI visit this past May; passed visit with no issues
 - 2 cases of Campylobacter (campy) were identified during reporting period. The state is following up on these cases, but they are still being reported to GCPH. GCPH may be asked to follow-up on some cases.

- An isolated case of E. coli and Salmonella was identified on 7/21/23. No additional cases identified from source; closed on 7/27/23.
- An isolated case of Cryptosporidiosis (crypto) was identified on 7/28/23. No additional cases identified from source; closed on 7/31/23.
- An isolated case of E. coli was identified on 8/10/23. No additional cases identified from source; closed on 8/15/23.
- Diseases of Interest = information shared with local healthcare partners/stakeholders via email, as available: C. auris, Wildfire Smoke Exposure, Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Antifungal-resistant Ringworm Infections, Malaria.
- Household Sharps Program
 - Received 11 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)
 - Nationally certified child passenger safety technician, Thornton-Lang, was contacted by a local family in need of a “loaner seat.” In previous years (prior to pandemic), a loaner program was discussed, and seats were purchased for such. After more research and the pandemic, it was decided not to have the program due to not knowing what will happen to seat (accidents, not installed properly, possibly communicable disease issues, etc.). A seat from this not implemented program was given to the family.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): No updates as of this report.
- Annual Jail Inspection: GCPH conducted the annual jail inspection on 7/18/23. No issues reported.

Immunization (I4) Grant

- An LTBI patient was identified from the state on 8/18/23. Medication/education was distributed on 8/23/23.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): No updates as of this report.

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant

- LifeSkills teaching scheduling has begun. Most teaching is being requested for Spring 2024 for this year only.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Grant

- PHEP meetings have been held via zoom.
- 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 24 volunteers.

6YR Preparedness Grant

- There will be no more reporting on this matter in read-ahead reports, except for updates in diseases of interest section, due to response ending.

Opioid Settlement Funding

- No updates

Social Media Stats

- Reporting period July/August 2023: 11,967 individuals reached via Twitter. Facebook and Instagram stats were not available for reporting period.

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

- Video link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J_O3Ds9cx_y-ofARvJToeon_RCIKRk0I/view?usp=sharing
- Audio link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KCYqiQpkvojuqF2-cMfsHIWJyh9HI1aP/view?usp=sharing>
- Chat link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KDAfssWI3LwbJPsysTpOYQ1us1ymio2f/view?usp=sharing>
- File link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1U5KbpRII5jrdQ-wBpQw0UR7iIGeDsR-z?usp=sharing>

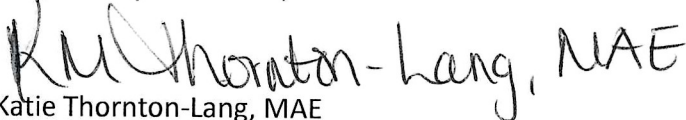
Meeting adjourned at 8:20am; motion by Petersen, second by Boheman; carried.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 14th, 2023, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Scheduled Meeting Topics:

Yearly Budget Meeting
Member/Officer Terms
Landfill Commission Representative
Meeting/Presentation Schedule Discussion
Partner Presentations: Environmental Health Annual Report, Landfill Commission Report and NEI3A (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