

Grundy County Board of Health

Monday, November 14th, 2023

Called to Order: 7:00am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Monday, November 14th, 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. Also present in person: Carie Sparks, Grundy County Sanitarian; Barb Smith, Board of Supervisors (BOS); 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: Heather Bombei, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (IHHS) Regional Consultant; Erika Allen, Grundy County Attorney.

The minutes from September 12th, 2023, were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Nelsestuen; 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.

Environmental Health Possible Action Regarding Lon's Plumbing & Heating: Sparks explained situation to board members. Allen will check on status of appeal and get information to Sparks. LBOH can request classes/trainings/certificates/etc. in order to get licensure returned in these instances. Next steps for LBOH: can pick a regular scheduled date or a different date; decided on another date same timeframe on January 16th.

Environmental Health Yearly Report/Department Updates: Sparks presented yearly report for Grundy County, which was emailed to LBOH prior to meeting. Sparks states that bacteria in water is an issue lately; not sure why and working on figuring out while using regular mitigation measures. Additional three inspected and three scheduled since report provided; November is a busy time before winter comes. Thornton-Lang will work with Sparks on radon awareness month in January.

Local Board of Health Membership Updates: Board discussed term expirations that are upcoming, offering suggestions going forward to BOS, as well as discuss chair/vice-chair positions to be decided upon in January, 2024.

Program Coordinator Updates/Possible Action for Hiring/Employment Department Policy:

LBOH subcommittee will discuss progress for program coordinator position, as well as possible department policy for hiring/employment to be approved by board. Hiring policy approved by Johnson & Sex Abuse Background check can be done free; criminal background check \$15/each, Heart & Solutions (H&S) can do with reimbursement, which LPHS can reimburse county for such. Policy/Procedure created for H&S to conduct as needed; Johnson will work with Thornton-Lang on process. Approval of discussion/procedures by Johnson; seconded by Nelsestuen; carried. Job description finalized by Thornton-Lang. Subcommittee is comfortable with process and we will get posted as soon as possible, including sent to all board members. Johnson will vet applications.

Iowa Health and Human Services (IHHS) Merger/Alignment Updates: GCPH updated board on the IHHS merger/alignment, including emails previously sent to board.

Landfill Commission Updates: Smith states it's been busy with household waste and other matters. Construction debris has been brought out, but not always sure if can take due to location coming from and if full. Regulators allowed to change sampling of 12 times a year to five, trying to get an environmental covenant; still need to write them up. Current LBOH representative, Ryan Bingman, will not be able to serve in the future. LBOH can appoint representative and have asked Smith to do so; will vote on at January meeting.

Public Health Report for September/October 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), and Grundy Family YMCA Advisory Board. For specific updates on any of these collaborative matters, please contact GCPH Administrator. LPHS Collaborative: took place on 9/14/23 to which Thornton-Lang was on the steering committee to facilitate grant required collaborative. Thornton-Lang will be on steering committee for an additional year.
- Preventing Childhood Injury Conference: Thornton-Lang attended on 9/19/23 in Des Moines. Thornton-Lang was approached by IHHS previous contact for Healthy Habit All-Stars curriculum (concussion/bike safety) for possible future partnership with University of Iowa Injury Prevention Center. With Community Partners, has instituted National Injury Prevention Day to take place in Grundy County on 11/18/23 with BOS support; #gogreen
- Internships: GCPH still hosting an undergraduate intern from the University of Iowa College of Public Health.
- Disease Outbreak Updates
 - Previous state EPI visit this past May: passed visit with no issues

- 1 case of Campylobacter (campy) was 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 tularemia was identified on 9/27/23. No additional cases identified from source; closed on 10/3/23.
- Diseases of Interest = information shared with local healthcare partners/stakeholders via email, as available: RSV; Avian Flu in multiple counties in Iowa, not in Grundy County as of 10/28/23
- Household Sharps Program
 - Received 5 containers during reporting period.
 - Sharps box was emptied for Waste Management by County Custodian on 9/22/23; this is the 2nd empty since policy updates in fall of 2022
 - 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 as of this report.
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Presentations to local kindergarteners began during October, 2023 and will conclude at the end of November, 2023.

Immunization (I4) Grant

- Immunization Audits
 - Schools were completed by 10/24/23 (required to be completed by 10/31/23)
 - GCPH audited 2299 certificates
 - 100% of certificates were valid
 - Childcare Centers were started in September, 2023 (required to be completed by 1/31/24)
- Healthy Habit All-Stars (HHAS): Presentations to local kindergarteners began during October, 2023 and will conclude at the end of November, 2023.

Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) Grant

- LifeSkills teaching begins in November. 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.

Opioid Settlement Funding

- No updates

COVID Bridge Access Program

- New grant funding to help with promotion of COVID-19 programs and vaccines

➤ Through December, 2024 = \$11,986

Social Media Stats

➤ Reporting period September/October 2023: 6618 individuals reached via Facebook, X/Twitter and Instagram.

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

- Video link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OOLYw-uiJL6088WmafzNCc5-5JnBestP/view?usp=sharing>
- Audio link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/18t8kOIEHSZYFWBLLlbwX_NBE8dET07br/view?usp=sharing
- Chat link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1M_wcGjHnfcNI6CXpm8OQ-0xoh3cKIWQ3/view?usp=sharing
- File link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZCUwVSeYcER6kDEp6Sr2FAhT0yn23LM?usp=sharing>

Meeting adjourned at 8:20am; motion by Hach, second by Nelsestuen; carried.

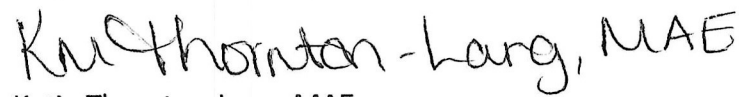
FY25 Budget Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 12th, 2023, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 9th, 2024, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

Scheduled Meeting Topics:

- Yearly Budget Discussion
- Member/Officer Terms/Approval
- Meeting/Presentation Schedule Discussion
- GCPH Structure Updates (as needed)
- Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,


Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE
Grundy County Public Health Administrator



Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson