

Grundy County Board of Health

Tuesday, January 16th, 2024

Called to Order: 6:59am

The Grundy County Board of Health (LBOH) met on Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, 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: Tom Boheman, BS, Chairperson; Lexie Hach, MA, Vice-Chairperson. Also present in person: Carie Sparks, Grundy County Sanitarian; Erika Allen, Grundy County Attorney; Jordyn Beeghly, GCPH Program Coordinator; Lon Larsen, Lon's Plumbing and Heating; Pat Gallas, Correll, Sheerer, Benson, Engels, Galles and Demro, PLC; 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: Barbara Smith, Grundy County Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Environmental Health Possible Action Regarding Lon's Plumbing & Heating: Appealing license suspension became effective November 15, 2023. Sanitarian, Sparks discussed the depth of the distribution box (Dbox) of 48 inches; due to the depth of the Dbox, it does not meet the 36 inch code for the leach lines. A pump system should have been installed to avoid issue. A drawing was shared from attorney, Galles, created by Sparks, which attorney states that meets Iowa code; this was shared with the board via copies/pictures. Larsen states that property lines also have to be considered and were not included on the drawing. Details of tanks and system requirements shared by Larsen. The property home seller contacted the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) via phone and was told that dbox does not dictate septic system, but lateral lines determine such; was also told that this issue should be a non-matter. Nothing provided in writing, only by phone. Galles read citation issued by Sparks in regards to failure to comply with county codes. Larsen states that he did not refuse to put in a pump system, but preferred to put gravity flow system which is what he was taught. Inquiry as to how gravity flow system works; stated that box is on a hill to allow the gravity flow system to work properly. Larsen explained how gravity flow system works and with dbox. Attorney, Allen, states that drawing will be exhibit 1. It was also noted that this is not a final map and not submitted: another map was amended and shared with the board; Erika submits that drawing as exhibit E. Shared exhibits A-D and went over each form. Sparks discussed septic system process in Grundy County, then discussed process of this system and contacting DNR for additional guidance, as well as the fact that DNR can fine county for not following state codes. Emails from DNR will be shared by Sparks to board. Allen recommends to board keeping record open until emails are shared and

additional information can be included in this appeal process. Initial October 9th, signed October 17th, from Sparks to Larsen's was shared. Approximately a month was given before license suspension to fix system. On October 4th there was communication via email to Lon's, Sparks and LBOH/GCPH from Cory Frank with DNR. Hach feels there is other evidence and it may be premature to have decision today. Decision by LBOH to wait until further evidence was shared/discussed and to leave record open (email chain to be shared from Sparks): motioned by Nelsestuen; seconded by Hach; carried. Galles would like ability to look at drawings and email exchanges, and converse with client about what happens with process like this. Motion to continuation of hearing deadline, next Tuesday 7:00am, 1/23/24 by Hach; seconded by Nelsestuen; carried.

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

- Video link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/131PO6tEuq1ygoxXMYWaSJx2ZailrnV7T/view?usp=sharing>
- Audio link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PB5z0aw0HBmiZIN2j7iGYu4jFGIMY3OU/view?usp=sharing>
- Chat link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PuJl3eLMY91yHX9nDT7t16qkcZF1K3LC/view?usp=sharing>
- File link:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1CBykbjOyqNbMqoEj8AnOf4POH3qE0g9p?usp=sharing>

Meeting adjourned at 8:56am; motion by Hach, second by Nelsestuen; carried.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 12th, 2024, 7:00am, Grundy County Annex Building Conference Room/Zoom/Phone Conference

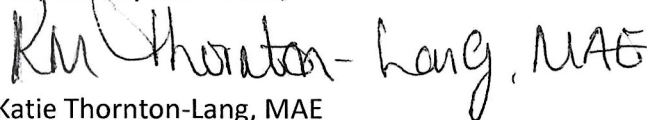
Scheduled Meeting Topics:

Grant Discussion

GCPH Structure Updates (as needed)

Policy Updates (as needed)

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Thornton-Lang, MAE

Grundy County Public Health Administrator



Tom Boheman, BS

Grundy County Local Board of Health Chairperson